A One-Text Print

of

Chaucer's Troilus and Criseyde.
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of

Chaucer's

Troilus and Criseyde

FROM

THE CAMPSALL MS. OF MR. BACON FRANK,

COPIED FOR HENRY V. WHEN PRINCE OF WALES.

PUT FORTH BY

F. J. FURNIVALL, M.A., Hon. Dr. Phil.,

FOUNDER OF THE EARLY ENGLISH TEXT, CHAUCER, WYCLIF, BALLAD,
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To the Memory

of

BENOIT DE SAINTE-MORE,

Author of

"LE ROMAN DE TROIE,"

A.D. 1184.
FOREWORDS.

The One-Text Print of each of Chaucer's Poems ought to be that of the best MS. of it, for an Editor or Student to work at as his basis-Text. And when I started printing Mr. Bacon Frank's Campsall MS. of the Troilus, I thought it held its own so well with the Harleian 2280, edited by Dr. Richard Morris in his Aldine Poetical Works of Chaucer, that I yielded to the temptation of ordering the handsomer of the two MSS. to be cast as the One-Text Print of the Troilus; and I markt it with signs showing how much of Chaucer's work was due, in whole or in part, to Boccaccio's Filostrato: this from Mr. W. M. Rossetti's quarto Comparison of the two Poems for our Society.

The Campsall MS. must, too, have been handled by Shakspere's hero, him of Agincourt, Henry V, when Prince of Wales, and no doubt when King as well. It was copied for him, as his arms at the foot of its first leaf show.

Moreover, it avoids some of the provincial forms of the Harleian 2280, like sla, II. 66/459, p. 56; III. 186/1301, p. 149; while, IV. 160/1199, p. 209; for which it reads sle and while. It has fewer instances of ich for I; and in other spellings and readings has some preferable forms and words.

But as I workt on at both MSS., and found the Campsall (among other things) spoiling the description of Criseyde under Troilus's hands, III. 179/1247, 1251, p. 147, then reading afterward for estward in III. 203/1419, p. 153, &c. &c.—besides prior mistakes—I began to regret

1 Of these side-marks, | means 'englisht from Boccaccio's Filostrato, tho' not word for word'; | means 'having a general likeness to the Filostrato'; | means 'having a slight likenes to it.'
2 See these Arms on the opposite page.
that I had not followd my friend Dr. Morris in taking the Harleian 2280 as the basis-text. And my recollection of the final impression on me when the Parallel-Text was completed is, that the Harleian is the better MS. 

Still, there was the Campsall MS. side-markt and cast. It had to be issued. So here it is in print. It is a good MS., if not the best, and 'will serve.' Save the three in our Parallel-Text, I have not come across any good MS. of the Troilus. And yet the poem must have been popular in Chaucer's days, and those after his death. The incomplete Additional MS. 12,044, I had copied, but then refraind from printing, as I thought it not good enough for type. Still, it can be produced if men of authority call for it.

The careful study which Prof. Child's friend is making of the Troilus MSS., will tell our Members all about them, and excuses me from further work at them now, for which indeed I have no time. This Essay from the States is nearly finisht, and is promist for next year.

Shakspere's debasing of the Cressid story, after Chaucer's sympathetic treatment of it, was not due, in my belief—at any rate not solely due—to the feeling which made Ascham denounce the Arthur Romances as 'bold bawdry.' Shakspere's 86th Sonnet shows that he was jealous of the 'countenance' which Herbert gave to 'the proud full sail' of Chapman's 'great verse' in his translation of Homer. And I cannot doubt that this made Shakspere deliberately strip the Greek and Trojan heroes of their halo of romance, and vulgarise the Cressid associated with them by mediæval poets. That he did some service to mankind by his realistic treatment, I do not dispute; but the lover of Chaucer owes him a grudge for it.

1 November, 1888.

3 St. George's Square, N.W.
Chancer's Troilus.

[The Campsall MS., vellum, before 1413 (done for Hen. V. when Prince of Wales, as shown by his arms on leaf 2), leaf 2.]

[The final f, g, k, and t have very small tags, not given here.]

(1) (Proem)
The double sorwe of Troylus to tellen. 1
That was pe kyng Priamus sone of Troye.
In louynge how hise Auentures fallen.
Fro wo to wle and after out of Ioye. 4
My purpos is er þat I parte froye.
Thesiphone þow helpe me for tendite.
This woful vers! þat wepen as I write. 7

(2) (Invocation)
To þe clepe I þow goddesse of torment. 8
Thow cruel furie sorwyng euere yn peyne.
Help me that am the sorwful Instrument.
That helpeth louers as I kan to pleyne. 11
For wel sit it the sothe for to seyne.
A woful wight to han a drery feere.
And to a sorwful tale / a sory cheere. 14

(3)
For I þat god of loues seruauntʒ serue. 15
Ne dar to loue for myn vnliklynesse.
Preyen for speed al sholde .I. þerfor sterue.
So fer am [I] fro his help in derknesse. 18
But natheles if þis may don gladnesse.
Vn to ony louere and his cause auayle.
* Haue he my þank / and myn be his traualye. 21

TROILUS. B CAMPSALL
(4)

- But ye loueres þat baten in gladnesse.
- If ony drope of pite in yow be.

Remembre yow on passed heuynesse.
That ye han felt. and on þe aduersite.
Of other fok. and þenketh how þat ye.
Han felt þat loue dorst yow displesse.
Or ye han wonne hym with to gret an ese.

(5)

And preyeth for hem þat ben yn the cas.
Of Troylus. as ye may after here.
That loue hym brynge yn heuene to solas.
And ek for me preyeth to god so dere.
That I haue myght to shewe in som manere.
Swych peyne and wo. as loues. folk endure.
In Troylus vnsely aventure.

(6)

And byddeth ek for hem þat ben desespeyred.
In loue / þat neuerere nyl recouered be.
And ek for hem þat falsely ben apeyred.
Thorugh wykked tonges be it he or she.
Thus biddeth god for his benignite.
So graunte hem soone out of þis world to pace.
That ben desespeyred out of loues grace.

(7)

And biddeth ek for hem that ben at ese.
That god hem graunte ay goode perseueraunce.
And sende hem myght hire loues for to plesse,
That it to loue / be worship and plesaunce.
For so hope I my soule best auaunce.
To preye for hem þat loues seruaunt; be.
And write hire wo / and lyue in charite.

CAMPSALL
And for to haue of hem compassioun.  
As though I were here owene brothe deere.  
Now herkeneth with a goode entoncioun.  
For now wol I gon streyght to my matere.  
In whiche ye may the double sorwes here.  
Of Troylus in louyng of Criseyde.  
And how that she forsoke him er she deyde.  

T is wel wist how that the Grekes stronge.  
In armes with a thousand shippes went.  
To Troyewardes and pe Cite longe.  
Assegden neigh ten yer er pei stente.  
And in diuerse wyse and oon entente.  
The raueshyng to wreken of Eleyne.  
By Parys don pei wroughten al hire peyne.  

Now fil it so pat in pe toun peir was.  
Dwellyng a lord of gret auctorite.  
A gret Deuyn pat cleped was Calkas.  
That in science so expert was pat he.  
Knew wel pat Troye sholde destroyed be.  
By answere of his god pat high pus.  
Daun Phebus or Apollo Delphesus.  

So whanne this Calkas knew by Calkulynge.  
And ek by answere of this Appollo.  
That Grekes sholden swych a peple brynge.  
Thorugh which pat Troye moste ben for-do.  
He caste anoon out of pe town to go.  
For wel wyst he by sort pat Troye sholde.  
Destroyed ben ye wolde who-so nolde.

CAMPSALL
(12)

- For which for to departen softly.
- Took purpos ful pis forknowyng wyse.
- And to pe Grekes ost ful pryely.
- He stal a noon / and pey in curteys wyse.
- Hym deden bothen worship and seruyse.
- In trust pat he hath konnyng hem to rede.
- In euery peril which pat is to drede.

(13)

- The noyse vp ros whanne it was first aspied.
- Thorugh al pe town / and generally was spoken.
- That Calkas traytor fals fled was and allyed.
- With hem of Grece / and casten to ben wroken.
- On hym pat falsly hadde his feith so broken.
- And seyden he and al his kyn at onys.
- Ben worthi for to brennen fel and bones.

(14)

- Now hadde Calkas left in pis meschaunce.
- Al vnwist of pis fals and wikked dede.
- His douhter which pat was in gret penaunce.
  For of hire lyf sche was ful sore in drede.
  As she pat nyst what was best to rede.
- For bothe a wydowe was she and allone.
  Of ony frend to whom she dorst make hire mone.

(15)

- Criseyde was pis lady name al right.
- As to my dome in al Troyes cyte.
  Nas noon so faire for-passyng euery wyght.
- So angelyk was here natyf beaute.
- That lyk a ping inmortal semed she.
  As doth an heuenysh parfit creature.
  That down were sent in scornyng of nature.
This lady which at alday herde at ere.
Hire fadres shame / his falsnesse / and tresoun.
wel nygh out of here wit for sorwe and fere.
In widewes habit large of samyt broun.
On knees she fil byforn Ector a doun.
with pitous voys and tendrely wepynge.
His mercy bad / here selue excusynge.

Now was pis Ector pitous of nature.
And saw pat she was sorwfully bigon.
And pat she was so fair a creature.
Of his goodnesse he gladed her' anoon.
And seyde lat youre fadres treson gon.
Forth with mischaunce / and ye youre self in Ioye.
Dwelleth with vs whil yow good lyst in Troye.

And al thonour pat men may don yow haue.
As ferforth as youre fader dwelled here.
Ye shul han and youre body shal men saue.
As fer as I may ought enquere or here.
And she hym ponked with ful humble chere.
And ofter wolde and it hadde ben his wylle.
and toke hire leue home / and held hire stille.

And in hire hous she abod with swych meyne.
As to hire honour nede was to holde.
And whil she dwelled yn pat Cite.
Kept here estat. and bothe of yong and olde.
Ful wel beloued / and wel men of here tolde.
But wheper pat sche hadde children or noon.
I rede it nought / perchore I late it goon.
(20)

- The jinges fallen as pei don of werre.
- Bitwixen hem of Troye and Grekes ofte.
- For som day boughten they of Troye it derre.
- And ofte pe Grekes founden no thing softe.

The folk of Troye and þus fortune on lofté.
And wonder ofte gan hem to weylen bothe.
After hire cours / ay whil þei were wroþe.

(21)

- But how þis toun com to destrucció.
Ne falleth nought to purpos me to telle.
For it were a long disgression.
Fro my matere and yow to longe to dwelle.
But the Troiane gestes as þei felle.
In Omer of yn Dares or in Dite.
* who-so þat kan may rede hem as þei write.

(22)

- But þough þat Grekes hem of Troye shetten.
- And hire Cite bisedede al a boute.
- Hire old vsage wolde þei not letten.
- As for to honoure hire goddes ful deuoute.
- But aldermost yn honour out of doute.
- Thei hadde a relyk hight Palladion.
- That was hire stryst a bouen euerichon.

(23)

- And so bifeH whan come was þe tyme.
- Of Aperil whan cloped is þe mede.
- with newe grene of lusti ver þe pryme.
- And swoot smellen floures white and rede.
- In sondry wyses shewed as I rede.
- The folk of Troye hire observaunces olde.
- Palladions feste for to holde.
(24)

- And to be temple yn al here goodly best wyse. 162
- In general pere went many a wight. 163
- To herkenen of Palladion pe seruyse. 165
- And namely so many a lusti knyght. 165
- So many a lady fresch and mayden bright.
  Ful wel arayed bothe meene meste and leste.
  Ye bope for the seson and for pe feste. 168

(25)

- Among pese opere folk was Criseyda. 169
- In widewes habite blak but napelles.
  Right as oure first lettre is now an .a. 171
- In beaute first so stode she makeles. 172
- Hire goodly lokyng gladede al pe prees.
  Nas neuere yet ping seyn to ben presed derre.
  Nor vnder cloud blak / so bright a sterre. 175

(26)

As was Criseyde as folk' seyde euerichone. [leaf 4, back] 176
That here bihelden yn here blake wede.
- And yet she stood ful lowe and stille allone.
  Byhynden opere folk/ in litel brede. 179
- And neigh pe dore / ay vnder shames drede.
- Symple of a-tyr / and debonaire of chere.
  with ful assuryd lokyng and manere. 182

(27)

- This Troilus as he was wont to gyde. 183
- His yonge knyghtes ladde hem vp and doun.
- In pilke large temple on evary syde.
- Byholdyng ay pe ladies of pe toun. 186
- Now here now pere for no deuocioun.
- Hadde he to noon to reuen hym his reste.
- But gan to preyse and lakken whom hym leste. 189
(28)

- And yn his walk ful fast he gan to wayten. 190
- If knyght or sqyer of his companie. 193
- Gan for to sike or lete his eien beyten.
- On ony woman þat he koude aspye.
- He wolde smyle and holden it folye.

And sey hym þus god wot she slepeth softe.
For loue of þe whan þou tornest ofte.

(29)

I haue herd told pardieux of youre lyuynge. 197
Ye louers / and youre observaunces.
And swych labour as folk han yn wynnynge.
Of loue / and yn þe kepyng which doutaunces. 200
And whan youre preye is lost woo and penaunces.
O. verrey loues nice and blynde be ye.
Ther nys not oon kan war by oþer be.

(30)

And with þat word he gan cast vp þe browe. 204
Ascaunces lo is þis nought wysly spoken.
- At which þe god of loue gan to loken rowe.
- Right for despit. and shop for to ben wroken. 207
- And kyd a-noon his bowe nas not broken.
- Ful sodeynly he hit hym at þe fulle.
- And yet as proud a pekok can he pulle.

(31)

- Þe blynd world .o. blynd entencion]. [leaf 5] 211
- How ofte falleth al þeþect contraire. 214
- Of Suriquidrie and foul presumpcion.
For caught is proud and caught is debonaire.
This Troylus is clomben on þe staire.
And litel weneth þat he moste descend. 217
But alday falleth þyng þat foles ne wenden.

CAMPSALL
As proud bayard gynneth for to skyppe.

Out of þe wey / so priketh hym his corn.

Til he a lassh hane of þe long whippe.

Than þenketh he þough I praunce al by-forn.

First yn þe trays ful fat and newe shorn.

Yet am I but an hors and horses lawe.

I moot endure and with my felawes drawe.

So ferd it by þis fers and proud knyght.

Though he a worthi kynges some were.

And wende no þing hadde had swych myght.

A-yens his wil þat sholde his herte dere

yet with a lok his hert wax a fere.

That he þat now was most in pride a-boue.

wax sodeynly most subget vn to loue.

For þi ensample taketh of þis man.

Ye wyse proude and worthi folkes alle.

To scornen loue which þat so soone kan.

The fredom of your e hertes to hym þralle.

For euere it was / and euere it shal bifalle.

That loue is he þat alle þing may bynde.

For may no man for-do þe lawe of kynde.

That this be soth hath preued1 and doth yet. [1 ? MS. a]

For this trowe I ye knowne alle or some.

Men reden not þat folk han gretter wit.

Than þei þat han be most with loue y-name.

And strengest folk ben þerwith ouercome.

The worthiest and grettest yn degre.

This was and is / and yet men shal it se.
(36)

And trewelych it sit wele to be so.
For alderwisest han þer with ben plesed.
And þei þat han ben addermost in wo.
with loue han ben conforted most and esed.
And ofte it hath þe cruel herte apesed.
And worthi folk maad worthier of name.
And causen most to dreden vice and shame.

(37)

Now sith it may not goodly be withstonde.
And is a thyng so vertuous yn kynde.
Refuseth not to loue for to be bonde.
Syn as hym seluen lyst he may yow bynde.
The yerde is bet þat bowen wole and wynde.
Than þat / þat brest / and þerfor .I. yow rede.
To folwen hym þat so wel kan yow lede.

(38)

But for to tellen forth yn special.
Of þis kynges sone of which I tolde.
And letten oþer þing collateral.
Of hym þenk I my tale for to holde.
Boþe of his Loyes and of his cares colde.
And al his werk as touchyng þis matere.
For I it gan I wil þer-to refere.

(39)

- With-Inne þe temple he went hym forth pleynge.
- This Troylus and euery wyght aboute.
- On þis lady and now on þat lokynge.
  where so she were of towne or of with oute.
- And vp on cas bifel þat þorugh a route.
- His eye procede / and so depe it wente.
- Til on Criseyde it smot and þere it stente.
And sodeynly he wax per-with astoned.
And [gan] hire bet biholde yn thrifty wyse.
O mercy god poughte he wher' hastow woned.
That art so fair and goodly to deuyse.
And per-with his hert gan to sprede and ryse.
And softe sighed lest men myghte hym here.
And caughte a-yen his firste pleynge chere.

She nas not with the lest of here stature.
But alle here lymes so wel answerynge.
weren to womanhode pat creature.
was neuer lasse mannyssh in semynge.
And ek pe pure wyse of here meuynge.
Shewed wel pat men myght yn here gesse.
Honour estat and wommanly noblesse.

To Troylus right wonder wel with alle.
Gan for to lyke here menyng and here chere.
which somdel deynous was for she leet falle.
Here look a lite a-side in swych manere.
Ascaunces what may I not stonden here.
And after pat here lokyng gan she lyghte.
That neuere pought hym seen so fair a sighte.

And of here look yn hym per gan to quyken.
So gret desir' and such affecioun.
That in his hertes botme gan to stiken.
Of here / his fixe and depe impressioun.
And pough he erst hadde poured vp and doun.
He was po glad his hornes yn to shrynke.
Vnnepes wyst he how to loke or wynke.
1. To he pat lect hym seluen so konnynge. 302
2. And scorned hem pat loues peynes dryen.
3. was ful vnwar pat loue hadde his dwellynge.
4. with-Inne pe subtile stremes of here eyen.

That sodeynly hym poughte pat he sholde dyen.
Right with hire look pe spirit yn herte.
Blyssyd be loue pat kan pus folk' converte.

She pis in blak lykynge to Troylus. 309
Ouer al pyng he stood to byholde.
Ne his desir ne whefor he stod pus.
He neiuer chere ne made ne word tolde.
But from a fer his maner for to holde.
On oper ping his look som tyme he caste.

And eft on here while pat pe seruise laste. 315

And after this not fullyche al a-whaped. 316
Out of pe temple al esilyche he wente.
Repentynge hym pat he hadde euere y-Iaped.
Of loues folk. lest fully pe descente.
Of scorn fille on hym self. but what he mente.
Lyst it were wysst on any maner side.
His wo he gan dissimulen and hide.

Whan he was fro pe temple pus departed. 323
He streyght anoon / vn to his paleys turneth.
Right with here look' purgh shoten & purgh darted.
Al feyneth he yn lust pat he soiorneth.
And al his speche and cher also he borneth.
And ay of loues servauntz euery while.
Hym-self to wre at hem her gan to smyle.
(48)

And seyde lord so ye lyue al yn lyst. 330
Ye loueres / for pe konnyngest of yow.
That serueth most ententiflych and best.
Hym tyt as often harme þer-of as prow. 333
Youre hire is quyt a-yeyn ye god wot how.
Nought wel for wel. but scorn for good service.
In feith youre ordre is ruled in good wyse. 336

(49)

I noun certeyn ben alle youre obseruaunces. 337
But it a sely fewe poynetes be.
Ne no þing asketh so grete attendaunces.
As doth youre lay and þat knowe alle ye. 340
But þat is not þe worste as mot .I. the.
But tolde I yow þe worste poynþ I leue.
Al seyde I soth ye wolden at me greue. 343

(50)

But tak þis þat ye loueres ofte eschuwe. 344
Or elles don of good entencioun.
Ful ofte þi lady wole it mys construe.
And deme it harm yn hire opinyoun. 347
And yet yf she for other enchesoun.
Be wroth þan shalt þow han a groyn a-noon.
Lord wel is hym þat may be of yow oon. 350

(51)

But for al þis whanne he say his tyme. 351
[leaf 7]
He held his pes noon oþer bote hym gayned.
For loue bygan his fetheres so to lyme.
• That wel vnneþe vn-to his folk he feyned. 354
• That oþere besye nedes hym destrayned.
For wo was hym þat what to done he nyste.
• But bad his folk to gon wher þat hym lyste. 357

CAMPSALL
(52)

- And whan pat he yn chaumbre was allone. 358
- He down vp on his beddes feet hym sette.
- And first he gan to syke and to grone.
- And poughte ay on here so with-outen ony lette. 361
- That as he sat and wok his spirit mette.
- That he here saw a temple and al þe wyse.
- Right of hire loke / and gan it newe auyse. 364

(53)

Thus gan he make a myrrour of his mynde. 365
- In which he saugh alle holly hire figure.
- And that he wel koude yn his herte fynde.
- It was to him a right good auenture. 368
- To loue swych on and yf he dede his cure.
- To seruen here yet myght he falle in grace.
- Or elles for on of hire seruauntʒ pace. 371

(54)

- Ymagynyng þat trauylle nor grame. 372
- Ne myghte for so goodly on be lorn.
- As she, ne hym for his desir no shame.
- Al were it wist but yn prys and vp born. 375
| Of alle louers wel more þan byforn.
- Thus argumented he yn his gynnyngge.
- Ful vnauysed of his wo comynge. 378

(55)

- Thus toke he purpos loues craft to suwe. 379
- And poughte he wolde werken priuely.
- First to hide his desir yn muwe.
- From euery wyght y-born al outrely. 382
| But he myght ought recovered be þerby.
- Remembrying hym þat loue to wyde y-blowe.
- Yelt bittre fruyt þough swete be sowe. 385
(56)

- And ouer aft pis yet muche more he soughte. [7, bk] 386
- For what to spoken and what to holden Inne.
- And what to arten hire hire to loue he soughte.
- And on a song a-noon right to bygynne. 389
- And gan loude on his sorwe for to wynne.
- For wip good hope he gan fully assente.
- Criseyde for to loue and nought repente. 392

(57)

And of his song nought only pe sentence. 393
As writ my Auctor called Lollyus.
But pleynly saue oure tonge deference.
I dar wel sayn yn al pat Troylus. 396
Seyde yn his song / lo every word right pus.
As .I. shal seyn. and who lyst it to hire.
Lo next pat vers he may it fynden here. 399

(58) (Troilus's Song, from Petrarch's 88th Sonnet.)

- Yf loue is o god what fele .I. so. 400
- And if loue is. what fyng and what is he.
- yf loue be good from whens cometh my wo.
- If it be wykke a wonder penketh me. 403
- whenne every torment and aduersite.
- That cometh of hym may me so goodly .ynke.
  For ay .urst I pe more pat I it drynke. 406

(59) (From Petrarch.)

- And yf pat at myn owene lust I brenne. 407
- Fro whennes cometh my walyng and my pleynye.
- If harme agree me wher-to pleyne I .panne.
  I not. ne whi vnweri pat I Feynte. 410
- O quyke deth o swete harme so queynte.
- How may of [pe] yn me swiche quantite.
- But if pat I consente pat it so be. 413
(60) (From Petrarch.)

- And if pat I consente .I. wrongfully. 414
- Compleyne .I.-wys pus possed to and fro.
- Al sterles with-Inne a bot am .I.
- A-myd pe see by-twen wyndes two. 417
- That yn contrarye stonden euere mo.
- Allas what is pis wonder maladye.
- For hete of cold for cold of hete I deye. 420

(End of Troilus's Song from Petrarch's 88th Sonnet.)

(61)

- And to the god of loue pus seyde he. [leaf 8] 421
- with pitous voys .o. lord now youres is.
- Mi spirit which pat aught youre be.
- Yow jank I lord pat han me brought to pis. 424
- But whejer godesse or womman .I.-wys.
- She be / I not which pat ye do me serue. But as here man .I. wole ay leue and sterue. 427

(62)

- 3e stonden yn hire eyen myghtily. 428
- As yn a place vn-to your vertu digne.
- wherfore my lord if my seruyse or .I.
- May lyke yow so beth to me benygne. 431
  For myn estal royal here I resigne.
  In-to hire hond and with ful humble chere.
  By-come here man as to my lady dere. 434

(63)

- In hym ne deynede sparen blood royal. 435
- The fyr of loue pe wherfro god me blyssse.
- Ne hym forbar in no degre for al.
- His vertu or his excellent prowesse. 438
- But hold hym as his jral lowe yn distresse.
- And brend hym so in sondry wyse ay newe.
  That sixty tyme a day he loste his hewe. 441
So muche day by day his owene bought.
For lust to here gan quyken and encrise.
That every oþer charge he sett at nought.
For þi ful ofte his hote fyr to cesse.
To seen here goodly look he gan to prese.
For þerby to ben esed wel he wende.
And ay þe ner he was þe more he brende.

For ay þe ner þe fyr þe hotter is.
This trowe I knoweth al þis companye.
But were he fer or neer I dar seye this.
By nyght or day for wysdom or folye
His hert which þat is his brestes eye.
Was ay on hire þat fairest was to sene.
Than euere was Eleyne or Polixene.

Ek of þe day ther passed nought an houre.
That to hymself a þousand tymes he seyde.
Good goodly to whom serue I and laboure.
As I best kan. now wolde god Criseyde.
Ye wolden on me rewe er þat I deyede.
My dere herte allas / myn hele and hewe.
And lyf is lost / but ye wolde on me rew.

Alle opere dredres weren from hym fled.
Bothe of þe assege and his saluacioun.
Ne yn hym desir doon opere fownes bredde.
But argument; to þis conclusioun.
That she on hym wolde han compassioun.
And he to be here man whil he may dure.
Lo here his lyfþ and from þe deth his cure.
The shoures sharpe fille of armes preue. 470
That Ector and his e oper brepere diden.
Ne made hym oonly þer-foræ ones meue.
And yet was he wher-so men wente or riden.
Founde oon þe best and lengest tyme a-byden.
Ther peril was / and dide eke such traual.
In armes þat to þenke it was meruayle.

But for none hate he to þe Grekes hadde.
Ne also for þe rescous of þe town.
Ne made hym þus yn armes for to madde,
But oonly lo for þis conclusioun.
To lyken hire þe bet for his renoun.
Fro day to day yn armes so he spedde.
That þe Grekes as þe deth hym dredde.

And fro þis forth þo refte hym loue his sleep.
And made his mete his foo / and ek þis sorwe.
Gan multeplie / þat ho-so took keep.
It shewed in his hewe bothe euene and morwe.
Thefor a title he gan hym for to borwe.
Of oper syknesse / lest of hym men wende.
That þe hote fyr of loue hym brende.

And seyde he hadde a feuer and ferd amys. 491
But how it was certayn kan I not seye.
If þat his lady vnderstod not þis.
Or feyned here she nyste oon of þe tweye.
But wel I rede þat by no maner weye.
Ne semed it þat she of hym roughte.
Nor of his peyne. or what so euere he poughte.
(72)

- But Æanæ felt þis Troylus such wo. 498
- That he was wel neiñ wood for ay his drede. 501
- was this. þat she som wyght hadde loued so.
- That neuer of hym she wolde haue taken hede. For such hym þought he felt his herte blede.
- Ne of his wo ne dorst he not bygynne. To telen it. for al þis world to wynne. 504

(73)

- But whanne he hadde a space fro his care. 505
- Thus to hym self ful ofte he gan to pleyne.
- He sayde o fool now art þow yn þe snare. 508
- That whilom Iapedest at lones peyne. Now artow hent now gnaw þin owene cheyne.
- Thow were ay wont eche louere reprehende. Of þing fro which þow kanst þe nought defende. 511

(74)

- What wole now euery louer seyn of þe. 512
- If þis be wist but euere yn thyn absence. 515
- Laughen yn skorn and seyn lo þere gooth he. That is þe man of so gret sapience. That held vs loueres lest yn reuerence.
- Now thonked be god he may goon in þe daunce. Of hem þat loue lyst febely for to auuance. 518

(75)

- But .o. þow woful Troylus god wolde. 519
- Syn þow most leue þurgh þy destene. 522
- That þow beset were on swych oon þat sholde. But al so cold yn loue towards þe.
- Knowe al þi wo al hakkede here pite. Thi lady is / as frost yn wynter mone.
- And þow fordon as snow yn fyr is soone. 525
(76)

- God wolde I were a-ryued In þe port.  
- Of deth to which my sorwe wil me lede.  
- A lord to me it were gret comfort.  
- Then were I quyt of langwysshying yn drede.  
- For by myn hed / sorwe I-blowe on brede.  
- I shal by-taped ben a þousand tyme.  
- More þan þat fol of whos folye men ryme.

(77)

- But now help god and ye swete for whom.  
- I pleyne .I. caught yet neuere wyght so faste.  
- O mercy dere hert and help me from.  
- The deth. for I whil þat my lyf wolde laste.  
- More þan my-self wolue yow to my laste.  
- And with som freundly look gladeth me swete.  
- þough neuere more þyng ye me by-hete.

(78)

- This wordes and ful manye an ōer to.  
- He spak† and called euere yn his compleynte.  
- Hire name. for to tellen hire his woo.  
- Tyl neigh þat he in salte teres dreente.  
- Al was for nought she herd nought his pleynyte.  
- And whan þat he bïought on þat folye.  
- A þousand fold his wo gan multeplie.

(79)

- By-waylyng yn his chambre þus allone.  
- A frend of his þat called was Pandare.  
- Com onys yn vnwar and herd hym grone.  
- And sey his frend yn swych distresse and care.  
- Allas quod he who causeth al þis fare.  
- O mercy god what vnhap may þis meene.  
- Han now þus soone Grekes maad yow lene.
(80)

Or hastow remors of conscience.
And art now fallen yn som denocioun.
And waylest for þi synne and þyn offence.
And hast for ferd caught attricioun.
God saue hem þat by-seged han oure toun.
And so kan leye oure Iolyte on presse.
And bryng oure lusty folk to holynesse.

(81)

These wordes seyde he for þe nones alle.
That with swych þing he myghte hym angry make.
And with an angre don his wo falle.
As for þe tyme and his corage awaken.
But wel he wiste as fer as tonges spaken.
Ther nas a man of grettere hardinesse.
Than he ne more desirede worthinesse.

(82)

• What cas quod Troylus or what aventure.
• Hath gided þe to se my langwysshynge.
  That am refus of euery creature.
• But for þe loue of god at my preyinge.
• Go hens a-way for certes my deyinge.
• wol the dishese / and I mot nedes deye.
  Ther-for go wey þer is no more to seye.

(83)

• But if þou wene I be þus sike for drede.
• It is not so and þer-for scorne nought.
• Ther is a noþer þing I. take of hede.
  wel more than ought þe Grekes han wrought.
• which cause is of my deth for sorwe and þought.
• But þough þat I now telle þe it ne lest.
• Ne be þow nought wroth I hide it for þe beste.
This Pandare 
neigh malt for sorwe and routhe.  
Ful often seyde allas what may pis be.  
• Now frend quod he yf euere loue or troupe.  
• Hath ben or is by-twixen pe and me.  
• Ne do pou neuere such a cruelte.  
• To hide fro pi frend so gret a care.  
wostow nought wel pat it am I Pandare.  

I wole parten with pe al pyn peyne.  
• If it be so I do pe no comfort.  
• As it is frendes right soth for to seyne.  
• To entrepar ten wo as glad desport.  
• I haue and shal for trewe or fals report.  
• In wrong and right I-loued pe al my lyue  
Hyd not pi wo fro me but telle it blyue.  

Than gan this Troylus sorwfully to syke.  
[leaf 10, back]  
And seyde him pus god lene it be my beste.  
• To telle it pe for sith it may pe lyke.  
• Yet wole I telle it powh myn herte breste.  
• And wel wot I pow mayst don me no reste.  
• But lest pow deme I trust not to pe.  
Now herke frende for pus it stant with me.  

Loue a-yens pe which who-so defendeth.  
• Hym-seluen most hym alder-lest auayleth.  
with desespeir so sorwfully me offendeth.  
That streyght vn to pe deth myn herte flayleth.  
• Ther-to desir so brenynly me assaylleth.  
• That to ben slayn it were a grettere Ioye.  
To me pan Kyng of Grece ben and Troye.  

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· Suffiseth pis my fulle frend Pandare. 610
· That I haue seyd for now wostow my wo.
· And for pe loue of god my cold care.
· So hyd it wel .I. telle it neuere to mo. 613
· For harmes myghte folwen mo pan two.
· If it were wyst but be thou in gladnesse.
· An lat me sterue vnknowe of my distresse. 616

(89)
· How hastow þus vnkyndely and longe. 617
· Hid þis fro me. þow fool quod Pandarus.
· Paraunter þow myght after swych on longe.
· That myn auys a-noon may helpen vs.
· This were a wonder þyng quod Troylus.
· Thow koudest neure yn loue þyn seluen wysse.
· How deuel maystow bryngen me to blysse. 623

(90)
· Ye Troilus now herke quod Pandare. 624
| Though .I. be nyce it happeth ofte so.
| That on þat excesse doth ful yuele fara.
· By good counseyl kan kepe his frend þer-fro. 627
· I haue my-self ek seyn a blynd man go.
· Ther as he fel þat coude loke wyde.
| A fool may ek ofte a wys man gide. 630

(91)
A wheston is no keruyng Instrument. [leaf 11] 631
And yet it maketh sharpe keruyng tolys.
And þere þow wost þat I haue out myswent.
Eschewe þou þat. for swych þyng to þe scole is. 634
Thus ofte wyse men ben war by folys.
If þou do so þi wit is wel by-wared.
By eche contrarie is every þing declared. 637
For how myght euere swetnesse haue be knowe. 638
To hym pat neuere tasted bitternessse.
Ne no man may be inly glad I trowe.
That neuere was yn sorwe or som distresse. 641
Ek whit by blak by shame ek worthinesse.
Eche set by oþer more for other semeth.
As men may se and so þe wyse it demeth. 644

Sith þus of two contraries is a lore. 645
I þat haue yn loue so ofte assayed.
Grenauences ought konne and wel þe more.
Counsayllen þe of þat þow art amayed. 648
Ek þe ne oughte not ben yuel apayed.
Thow I desir with þe for to bere.
Þyn heuþ charge / it shal þe lasse dere. 651

I wot wel [þat] it fareth þus by me. 652
As to þi broþer Parys an hierdesse.
which þat I-cleped was Oenone.
wrot yn a compleynt of hire heuynesse. 655
Ye say þe lettre þat she wrot y gesse.
Nay neuere yet ywis quod Troylus.
No quod Pandare / herkene it was þus. 658

(Oenone's Letter to Paris. 1 st.) (95)

Phebus þat first fond art of medecyne. 659
Quod she. and koude yn euery wyghtes care.
Remede and red by erbess she knew fyne.
Yet to hym self his konnynge was ful bare. 662
For loue hadde hym so bounde yn a snare.
Al for þe doughter of þe kynge Amete.
That al his craft / ne koude al his sorwe bete. 665
Ryght so fare, I. vnhappily for me.
I love one best and that smerteth sore.
And yet paraunter kan I rede the.
And not my self repreue me no more.
I haue no cause I wot wel for to soore.
As doth an hauk that lysteth for to pleye.
But to þyn help yet somewhat kan I seye.

And of o þyng right siker maystow be.
That certayn for to deye yn þe peyne.
That I shal neuere more discoueren þe.
Ne by my troupe I kepe not restreyne.
The fro þi loue þey þat it were Eleyne.
That is þi broþeres wyf if ich it wyste.
Be what she be / and loue hire as þe liste.

Therfore as a frend fullych yn me assure.
And telle me plat what is þyn enchesoun.
And finally cause of wo þat ye endure.
For douteth no þyn myn entencioun.
Nys nought to yow of reprehencion.
To speke as now for no wygh may bireue.
A man to loue til þat hym lyst to leue.

And weteth wel þat bothe two ben vices.
Mystrusten alle or elles alle leue.
But wel wot I the meene of it no vice is.
For to trusten sum wight is a preue.
Of troupe. and for-þi wolde I fayn remeue.
Thy wrong conceyte. and do þe som wyght tryste.
Thi wo to telle. and telle me yf þow lyste.
Thise wyse seyth wo hym pat is allone.
For and he falle he hath noon helpe to ryse.
And sith pou hast a felawe tel thi moone.
For pis nys not yn certeyn pe next wyse.
To wynnen lone as techen vs pe wyse.
To walwe and wepe as Niobe pe queene.
whos terys yet yn marbel ben y-scene.

Lat be thi wepyng and thi drerynesse.
And lat vs lyssen wo with oper speche.
So may pis woful tyme seme lesse.
Delite not in wo pi wo for to seche.
As doon pese foles pat hire sorwes eche.
with sorwe when pey han mysauenture.
And lysten nought to sechen oper cure.

Men seyn to wrecche is consolacioun.
To haue an other felawe yn his peyne.
That ought wel ben oure opynyoun.
For bope pow and I of loue we pleyne.
So ful of sorwe am I soth for to seyne.
That certaynly nomore harde grace.
May sitte on me. for-whi per is no space.

If god wole pou art not agast of me.
Lest I wold of pi lady pe bygyle.
Thow wost pi-self/ whom pat I loue parde.
As I best kan. gon sithen longe while.
And sithe pow wost I do it for no wyle.
And sipen I am he yn whom pou tristest most.
Tel me sumwhat syn al my wo pow wost.
(104)

Yet Troylus for al þis no word seyde. 722
But longe he lay [as] stylle as he ded were.
And after þis with sikynge he a-breyde.
And to Pandarus voys he lente his eere. 725
And vp his eyes caste he / þat in feere.
was Pandarus. lest þat in frenesye.
He sholde falle or elles some dye. 728

(105)

And cride a-wake ful wonderly and sharpe. 729
what slombrestow as yn a lytargie.
Or artow lyk an asse to þe harpe.
That hereth soun when men þe strenges plye. 732
But yn his mynde of þat no melodye.
May synk yn hym to glade / for þat he.
So dul is of his bestialite. 735

(106)

And wip that Pandare of his wordes stente. [leaf 12, back] 736
But Troylus yet hym no word answerede.
For-why to telle nat not his entente.
To neuer man for whom þat he so ferde. 739
For it is seyd man maketh ofte a yerde.
with which þe makere is hym self beten.
In sondry maneres as þis wyse treten. 742

(107)

And namely yn his counseyl tellyng. 743
That toucheþ loue þat ought be secre.
For of hym self it wolde not ought sprynge.
But-yf þat it the bet gouerned be. 746
Ek som tyme it is a craft to seme fle.
Fro þyngþ which yn effect men hunte faste.
Al þis gan Troylus yn his herte caste. 749

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But napeles when he had herd hym crye. 750.
A.-wake: he gan to syke wonder sore.
And seyde frend pough pat I stille lye.
I am not def / now pes and cry no more.
For I haue herd pi wordes and pi lore.
But suffre me my myschef to by-wayle.
For pi prouerbes may me nought auayle.

Nor ojer cure canstow noon for me. 757
Eke I nyl not be cured I wol deye.
what knowe I of pe queene Niobe.
Lat be pyne olde ensaumples I pe preye.
No quod po Pandarus perfore I seye.
Such is delit of foles to by-wepe.
Here wo. but seken bote pei ne kepe.

Now knowe I pat reson yn pe fayleth. 764
But telle me yf I wyst what she were.
For whom pat pe al pis mysaunter ayleth.
Dorrestow pat I telle in hire eere.
Thi wo. sith pow darst not pi-self for feere.
And hire by-sought on pe to han som roupe.
why nay quod he by god and bi my troupe.

What not as bisily quod Pandarus. 771
As pough myn owen lyf lay on pis nede.
No certes / broper quod pis Troylus.
And why / for pat pow sholdest neuere spede.
woxtow pat wel / ye pat is out of drede.
Quod Troylus / for al pat euere ye konne.
She nyl not to no swych wrecche be wonne.
Quod Pandarus alias what may pis be.
That pow desespered art pus causeles.
what lyueth not pi lady benedicite.
How wostow so pat pow art graceles.
Such yuel is not alwey boteles.
why put not Impossible pus pi cure.
Syn tyng to come is ofte yn auenture.

I graunte wel pat pow endurest wo.
As sharp as doth pe Ticius yn helle.
whos stomak foughles tireu euer mo.
That highte volturis as bokes telle.
But I may not endure pat pow dwelle.
In so vnskilful an opynyoun.
That of pi wo is no curacioun.

But ones nyltow for pi coward herte.
And forbyn ire and folessli wilfulnesse.
For wantrust tellen of pi sorwes smerte.
Ne to byn owen help do bysynesse.
As meche as speke a resoun more or lasse.
But lyk as he pat lest of no tyng recche.
what womman wolde loue such a wrecche.

What may she deme ofer of pi deth.
If pow pus deye / and she not whi it is.
But pat for fere is yolden vp pi breth.
For Grekes han bysegd vs y-wys.
Lord which a ponk pehn shaltow han of pis.
Thus wol she seyn and al pe toun at ones.
The wrecche is ded the deuel haue his bones.
(116)

Thow mayst alone here wepe and crie and knele. [113, bk] 806
But loue a woman that she wot it nought.
And she wole quyte that thou shalt not fele.
Vnknowe vnkyst and lost that is vn-sought. 809
what many a man hath loue ful dere ybought.
Twenty wynter that his lady wyste.
That neuere yet his lady mouth yet kyste. 812

(117)

What shulde he prefore fallen yn despeyr. 813
Or be recreaunte of his owene tene.
Or slen hym self al be his lady feyr.
Nay. nay. but euere yn oon be fresssh and grene. 816
To serven and loue hys dere hertes queene.
And peyk it is a guerdoun hire to serue.
A powsand fold more pan he kan deserue. 819

(118)

Of that word toke hede Troylus. 820
And wrought a-noon what folye he was Inne.
And how that hym soth seyde Pandarus.
That for to slen hym self myght he not wynne, 823
But bope doon vnmanhod and synne.
And of his deth his lady nought to wyte.
For of his wo god knoweth ful lyte. 826

(119)

And with that bought he gan ful sore syke. 827
And seyde allas what is me best to do.
To whom Pandare answered yf pe lyke.
The best is that pow telle me al pi wo. 830
And haue my trowpe but pow it fynde so.
I be pi bote or that it be ful longe.
To pieces do me drawe and sithen honge. 833

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(120)

3e so þow seyst quod Troylus þo allas.  834
But god wot it is not þe rærer so.
Ful hard were it to helpen yn þis cas.
For wele fynde I þat fortune is my fo.  837
Ne alle þe men þat ryden konne or go.
May of here cruel whiel þe harm wiþstonde.
For as here lyst she pleyeth wiþ free and bonde.  840

(121)

Quod Pandarus than blamestow Fortune.  [leaf 14]  841
For þow art wroth now at erst I se.
wostow nat wel þat fortune ys commune.
To eueri maner wight yn som degree.  844
And yet þow hast þis comfort lo parde.
That as here Ioyes moten ouer gone.
So mote hire sorwes passen euerychone.  847

(122)

For yf here whiel stynte any þyng to torne.  848
Thanne cessed she fortune anoon to be.
Now sith here whiel by no wey may soirone.
what wostow of here mutabilite.  851
Ryght as þi seluen lyst wol don by þe.
Or þat she be not fer fro þyn he[1]pynge.
Paraunter þow hast cause for to synge.  854

(123)

And þerfore wostow whan I þe beseche.  855
Lat be þi wo and turnyng to þe grounde.
For who-so lyst haue helpyng of his leche.
To hym byhoueth first vnwre his wounde.  858
To Cerberus yn helle ay be I bounde.
• were it for my suster al þi sorwe.
• By my wil she sholde al be þyn to morwe.  861
(124)

Loke vp I seye and telle me what she is. 862
A-noon þat I may goon aboute þin nede.
Knowe Ich here ought for my loue telle me þis.
Thenne wolde I hopen þe ræpere for to spede.
Tho gan þe veyne of Troylus to blede.
Fo[r] he was hit and wax al red for shame.
A ha quod Pandare here bygynneth game.

(125)

And with þat word he gan hym for to shake. 869
And seyde þef þow shalt here name telle.
But þo bigan sely Troylus for to quake.
As þough men sholde han lad hym in to helle. 872
And seyde allas of al my wo þe welle.
Than is my swete fo called Crisyde.
And wel neygh wip þe word for fere he deyde.

(126)

And whan þat Pandare herde here name neuene. [leaf 14, back]
Lord he was glad and seyde frend so dere.
Now fare a right for Ioue name yn heuene.
Loue hath beset þe wel be of good chere.
For of good name and wysdom and manere.
She hath y-nough and ek of gentilesse.
If she be fayr þow wost þi-self I gese.

(127)

Ne neuere saw a more bounteuous. 883
Of here estat. ne a gladder. ne of speche.
A frendliour na more gracious.
For to do wel ne lasse hadde nede to seche.
what for to doon and al þis bet to eche.
In honour to as fer as she may streeche.
A kynges herte semeth by hire a wrecche.
And also penk and þer-with glade the.

That sith þy lady vertuous is al.
So folweth it þat þere is som pite.
Amonges alle þese ðere in general.
And for-þy se þat þow yn special.
Requere not þat is a-yen hire name.
For vertue streccheþ not hym self to shame.

But wel is me þat euere I was born.
That þou biset art yn so good a place.
For by my troupe yn loue I dorþ haue sworn.
The sholde neuere a tyd so fayr a grace.
And wostow whi for þow were woned to chace.
At loue yn scorn, and for despit hym calle.
Seynt Idyot / lord / of þese foles alle.

How ofte hastow mad þi nyce Iapes.
And seyd þat loues servauntz euerychone.
Of nycete ben verray goddes Apes.
And some wolþe mucche here mete allone.
Lyggyng' a bedde and hem for to grone.
And som þow seydest hadde a blanche feuere.
And preyedest god he sholde neuere keuere.

And som of hem toke on hem for þe colde.
More þan y-nough so seydestow ful ofte.
And some han feyned ofte tyme and tolde.
How þat they wake whan þei slepen softe.
And þus þei wolþen han brought hem self a loftte.
And napeles were vnder at þe laste.
Thus seidestow and Iapedest ful faste.
(132)

Ye seydestow for þe more part.
These loueres wolden speke in general.
And þought it was a siker art.
For faylyng for to assayn ouer al.
Now may I iape of þe if þat I shal.
But naþes þough þat I sholde deye.
That þow art none of þo þat dorst I seye.

(133)

Now beat þi brest and seye to god of loue.
Thi grace lord for now I me repente.
If I mys spak / for now my-self I loue.
Thus sey with al thyn hert yn good entente.
Quod Troilus a lord I me consente.
And pray to þe my Iapes þow for-yeue.
And I shal neuere more whil I leue.

(134)

Thow seyst wel quod Pandarus and now I hope.
That þow þe goddes wrapþe hast al apesed.
And siþen þat þow hast wopen many a drope.
And seyd swych þyng wher-with þi god is plesed.
Now wolde neuere god but þow were esed.
And þynk wel she of whom rist al þi wo.
Here after may þi comfort be al so.

(135)

For þilke ground þat bereth þe wedys wykke.
Bereth eke þese holsome herbes al ful ofte.
Next þe foule netle rough and þikke.
The rose waxþ swote and smothe and softe.
And nexst þe valey is þe hil a-lofte.
And nexst þe derk nyght þe glade morwe.
And also Ioye is nexst after sorwe.
(136)

Now loke þat a-tempre be þy brydel.  
And for þe beste ay suffre to þe tyde.  
Or elles alle oure labour is on ydel.  
He hastþ wel þat wysly kan a-byde.  
Be diligent and trewe and ay wel hide.  
Be lusty fre perseuere yn þyn seruyse.  
And al is wel if pow werk yn þis wyse.

(137)

But he þat departed is yn every place.  
Is no wher hool as writen clerkes wyse.  
what wonder is that such on haue no grace.  
Ek wostow how it fareþ on som seruice.  
As plaunte a tre or herbe yn sondry wyse.  
And on þe morwe pulle it vp as blyue.  
No wonder is pow it mowe neuere þrieue.

(138)

- And sith þat god of loue hath þe bystowed.  
- In place digne vn [to] þi worþynesse.  
- Stond fast for to good port hastow rowed.  
- And of thy self for any heuynesse.  
- Hope alwey wel / for but if drerynesse.  
- Or ouer-haste oure boþe laboure shende.  
- I hope of þis to make a good ende.

(139)

And wostow whi I am þe lasse a-fered.  
Of þis matere with my Nece trete.  
- For þis haue I herd seyd of wyse y-lered.  
- was neuere man ne woman yet bygete.  
- That was vnapt to suffren loues hete.  
Celestial. or elles loue of kynde.  
For þi som grace I hope yn here fynde.
(140)

And for to speke of here yn special.
Hire beaute to by-pynke and hire youpe.
It sit hire nought to be Celestial.
And yet pough þat hire lyste bope and koupe.
But trewly it sat here wel right nowpe.
A worthy knyght to loue and cherice.
And but she do I holde it for a vice.

(141)

Wherfore I am and wolde be ay redy.
To peyne me to do yow þis seruyse.
• For bope yow to plese þus hope I.
• Her-afterward for ye beth bope wyse.
• And konne it counseyl kepe yn such a wyse.
• That no man schal of it þe wiser be.
And so we may be gladed alle þe.

(142)

For be my trowpe I haue right now of þe.
A good conceyt yn my wit as I gesse.
And what þat is I wol now þat pow se.
I þenke. sith þat loue of his goodnesse.
Hath þe converted out of wikkednesse.
That þow shalt be þe best post I leue.
Of al his lay / and most his e foos to greue.

(143)

Ensample whi. se ye þese wyse clerkes.
That erren aldermost a-yen þe lawe.
And ben converted from hire wykkede werkes.
Thorugh grace of god þat lyst hem to hym drawe.
Than arn þei folk þat han most god yn aue.
And strengest seþed ben I vnderstonde.
And konne an errour alder best wipstonde.
Whanne Troylus had herd Pandare assentyd. To ben his help yn louyng of Criseyde.

wex of his wo as who seyth vntormentid. But hotter weex his loue and þus he seyde.

with sobre chere al-pough his herte pleyde. Now blysful Venus help er þat I sterue.

Of þe Pandare I may som þank deserue. 1008

But dere frend how shal myn wo ben lesse. 1009

Til þis be don and good eke telle me þisse.

How wyltow seyn of me and my destresse.

Lest she be wroth þis drede I most I-wysse. 1012

Or nyl not heren or trowen how it ysse.

Al þis drede I. and ek for þe manere.

Of þe here Em she nyl no swych þyng here. 1015

Quod Pandarus þou hast a ful grete care. 1016

Lest þat þe Cherl wolde falle out of þe mone.

whi lord I hate of þe þi nyce fare.

whi entremete of þat þow hast to done. 1019

For goddes lone I bydle þe a bone.

So lat me allone. and it shal be þi beste.

whi frend quod he / now do riþt as þe leste. 1022

But herke Pandare o word for I nolde. 1023

That þow in me wendest so gret folye.

That to my lady I desiren sholde.

That toucheþ harm or ony vileneþe. 1026

For dredles me were leuere dye.

Than she of me ought elles vnderstode.

But þat / þat myght sownen yn to gode. 1029
Tho lough pis Pandare & a-noon answered. And I pi borw / fy / no wyght doth but so. I rought nought pough pat she stode and herde. How pat pow seyst. but farewell I wolde go. A dieu / be glad / god spede vs bope two. yeue me pis labour and pis besynesse. And of my sped be pyn al pat sweetnesse.

But Troylus gan doun on his knees to falle. And Pandare yn his armes hent faste. And seyde now fy on pe Grekes alle. yet parde god shal helpe vs at pe laste. And dredles yf pat my lyf may laste. And god to-forn / lo som of hem shal smerte. And yet me of-pynketh pat pis auuunt me a-sterte.

Now Pandare I kan no more seye. But pow wys / pow wost / pow mayst / pow art al. My lyf / my deth / hool yn thyn hond I leye. Help now quod he / yis by my troupe I shal. God yelde pe frend and pis yn special. Quod Troylus / pat pou me recomaunde. To here pat to pe deth me may comaunde.

This Pandarus tho desirous to serue. His fulle frend þenne seyde yn þis manere. Farwel and þenk I wolde þi þank deserue. Haue here my trouthe and þat þou shalt wel here. And went his wey þenkyng on þis matere. And how he myght here besche of grace. And fynde a tyme þer to and a place.
(152)

For every wyght that hath an hows to founde. 1058
Ne renneth nought pe werk for to bygynne.
with rakel hond / but he wolde byde a stounde.
And send his hertes lyne out fro with Inne.
Alderfirst his purpos for to wynne.
Al þis Pandare yn his herte þoughte.
And caste his werk ful wysly or he wroughte. 1064

(153)

But Troilus lay þo no lengere down. 1065
But vp a-noon vp on his stede bay.
And yn þe feld he pleyde þo lyoun.
who was þat Grek þat wiþ hym mette þat day. 1068
And yn þe town his manere þo forþ ay.
So goodly was / and gat hym so yn grace.
That eche hym louede þat loked on his face. 1071

(154)

For he by-come þe frendlyeste wyght. 1072
The gentileste and ek þe most fre.
The þriftieste and oon þe beste knyght.
That yn his tyme was or myghte be. 1075
Dede were his Iapes and his cruelte.
His heigh port and his manere estraunge.
And ech of þo gan for a vertu chaunge. 1078

(155)

Now late vs stynte of Troylus a stounde. 1079
That fareth lyk a man þat hurt is sore.
And is somdel of akynge of his wounde.
Ilyssed wel / but heled no del more. 1082
And as an esy pacient þe lore.
Abit of hym þat gop aboute his cure.
And þus he drieth forth his auenture. 1085

Explicit liber primus.

Campsall
Hic Incipit Liber Secundus.

(1) (Proem)

wt of þese blake wawes for to sayle.  
O wynd o wynd þe weder gynneth clere.  
For yn þis see þe bot hath swych trauaylle.  
Of my comynge that vnnejje I it stere.  
This see clepe I þe tempestous matere.  
Of desper þat Troylus was Inne.  
But now of hope þe kalendes bygynne.

(2) (Invocation)

O lady myn þat called art Cleo.  
Thow be my sped fro þis forth and my muse.  
To ryme wel þis book til I haue do.  
Me nedeth here noon art to vse.  
For-whi to euery louere I me excuse.  
That of no sentement I þis endite.  
But out of latyn in my tunge it write.

(3)

Wherfore .I. nel haue neþer þank ne blame.  
Of al þis werk but pray yow mekely.  
Disblameth me yf ony word be lame.  
For as myn auctor seyde so sey .I.  
Ek þough I speke of loue vnfelyngly.  
No wonder is / for it no þyng of newe is.  
A blynd man ne kan Iuggen wel yn hewys.
Ye knowe ek þat in forme of speche is chaunge.

with-Inne a thousand yer / and wordes tho.

That hadden prys. now wonder nyce and straunge.

Vs thenketh hem / and yet þey spak hem so.

And sped as wel yn loue as men now do.

Ek for to wynne loue yn sondry ages.

In sondry londes ' sondry ben vsages.

And for-thi yf it happe yn ony wyse.

That here be ony louere yn þis place.

That herkeneth as þe story wole deuyse.

How Troylus com to his lady grace.

And þenketh so nold I not loue purchace.

Or wondreth on his speche and his doyng.

I not but it is me no wonderynge.

For every wyght whiche that to rome went.

Halt nat al o path or alwey o manere.

Ek yn some lond were al þe game shent.

If þei ferd yn loue as men don here.

As þus in opyn doyng or yn chere.

In vysitynge in forme or seyde hire sawes.

For-þi men seyth eche contre hath hise lawes.

Ek skarsly ben þere yn þis place þre.

That han yn loue seyd lyk and don yn al.

For to þi purpos þis may lyken þe.

And þe right nought yet al is seyd or shal.

Ek som men graue in tre some in ston wal.

As it bitit. but syn I haue begonne.

Myn Auctorshal I folwe if I konne.

Explicit prohemium secundi libri.
Incipit liber. Secundus.

(8)

In may pat moder is of monethes glade.
That fresshe floures blew and white and rede.
Ben quyke a-gayn pat wynter dede made. \[\text{\textit{t altered to f}}\]
And ful of bawme is fletynge euery mede.
When Phebus doth his bryghte bemes sprede.
Right yn pe white bole so it bytydде.
As I shal synge on mayes day pe pridde.

(9)

That Pandarus for al his wyse speche.
Felt ek his Part of loues shotes kene.
That koude he neuer so wel preche.
It made his hewe a day ful ofte grene.
So shop it pat hym felt pat day a tene.
In loue for which yn wo to bedde he wente.
And made er it was day ful many a went.

(10)

The swalwe proigne with a sorwful lay.
whan morwe com. gan make here weymentynge.
whi she forshapen was / and euere lay.
Pandare a bedde half yn a slomerynge.
Til she hym so neigh made here cheterynge.
How Tireux gan forth hire suster take.
That with pe noyse of here he gan a-wake.

(11)

And gan to calle and dresse hym vp to ryse.
Remembrynge hym his erand was to done.
From Troylus and ek pe gret emprise.
And cast and knew yn good plyt was pe mone.
To don viage and tok weye soone.
Vn to his neces Paleys pe by syde.
Now Ianus god of entre thow hym gyde.
Whan he was come vn to his Neces place.
wher is my Lady vn to hire folk seyde he.
And þey hym tolde, and he yu forth gan pace,
And fond two ðopere ladyes sette and she.
wiþ-Inne a paued parlour / and þei þre.
Herden a mayden reden hem þe gest.
Of þe sege of þeþes while hem leste.

Quod Pandarus ma dame god yow see.
with al yowre faire bok & al þe companye.
Ey vnclé myn welcome y-wys / quod she.
And vp she ros / and by þe hond yn hye.
She tok hym fast / and seyde þis nyght þrie.
To good mot it turne of yow I mette.
And with þat word she doun on bench hym sette.

Je nece ye shal fare wel the bet.
If god wolde al þis yer quod Pandarus.
But I am sory I haue yow let.
To herken of youre book ye preysen þus.
For goddes loue what seith it telle it vs.
Is it of loue som good ye me lere.
Vnclide quod she youre maystresse is not here.

With þat þei gonnen laughe and she seyde.
This romaunce is of Thebes þat we rede.
And we han herd how þat the kyng Layus deyde.
Thurgh Edyppus his sone and al þat dede.
And here we stenten at þese lettres rede.
How þe bisshop as þe bok' kan telle.
Amphiorax fyl þurgh þe ground to helle.
(16)
Quod Pandarus al ājis knowe I my selue.
And al āpe assege of Thebes and al āpe care.
For herof ben āpere maked bokes twelue.
But lat be ājis and telle me how ye fare.
Do wey youre barbe and shewe youre face bare.
Do wey youre book rys vp and late vs daunce.
And lat vs don to may som observance.

(17)
A god forbede quod she be ye mad.
Is āpat a wydewes lyf so god you saue.
By god ye make me right sore a-dräd.
Ye ben so wylde it semeth āpat ye raue.
It sat me wel bet ay in caue.
To bydde and rede on holy seyntes lyues.
Lat maydens gon to daunce and yonge wyues.

(18)
As euere I ārue quod Pandarus.
Yet kowde I telle a āfng: to don yow pleye.
Now vnclere / quod she tel it vs.
For goddes loun is āpan āpe assege a-wye.
I am of Grekes so ferd āpat I deye.
Nay nay quod he as euere mot I āryue.
It is a āfng: is worth such fyue.

(19)
Ye holy god quod she what āfng: is that.
what bet āpan swych fyue .I. nay I-wys.
For al ājis world ne kan I reden what.
It sholde ben / som Iape I trowe is ājis.
And but youre seluen telle what it is.
My wit is for to arede it al to lene.
As help me god I not not what ye mene.

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(20)
And I youre bourgh ne neuere shal for me.  
This ping be tolde to yow as mote I pryue.  
And why so vncle myn why so quod she.  
By God quod he / that wole I telle as blyue.  
For prouder woman were þere noon on lyue.  
And ye it wyste yn al þe toun of troye.  
I iape nought as euere haue I Ioye.  

(21)
Tho gan sche Iape more þan byforn.  
A þousand fold. and doun hire eyen caste.  
For neuere sith þe tyme þat she was born.  
To knowe þyngs desired she so faste.  
And with a syk she seyde hym at þe laste.  
Now vncle myn I nyl yow nowght displesse.  
Nor axen more þat may do yow disese.  

(22)
So after þis with many wordes glade.  
And frendly tales and with mery chere.  
Of þis and þat þey pleyede and gunnen wade.  
In many an vnkouþe glad and depe matere.  
As frendes don whanne þei ben met y-fere.  
Til she gan axen hym how Ector ferde.  
That was þe townes wal and grekes yerde.  

(23)
Ful wel I þanke god quod Pandarus.  
Saue yn his arm he hath a litel wounde.  
And ek his fresshe broþer Troylus.  
The wyse worþi Ector þe secunde.  
In whom þat al vertu lyst abounde.  
As alle trowþe and al gentillesse.  
wysdom / honour / fredom / and worþinesse.  

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161
(24)

_In good feyth Em quod she pat lyketh me._

They faren wel / god saue hem bothe two.
For trewly I hold it grete deynte.
A kynges sone yn armes wel to do.
And ben of good condicions þer to.
For grete power and moral vertu here.
_Is seelde y-seye yn o persone y-fere._

(25)

_In good feyth þat is soth quod Pandarus._

But be my trouþe þe kyng hath sones tweeþe.
That is to mene Ector and Troylus.
That certaynly þough þat I sholde deye.
They ben as voyde of vices dar I seye.
As ony men þat lyeþe vnder þe sonne.
_Hire myght is wyde y-knowe and what þey konne._

(26)

_Of Ector nedeth it no more for to telle._

In al þis world ner nys a bettre knyght.
Than he þat is of worthinesse welle.
And he wel more vertu hath þat myght.
This knoweth many a wys and worthi wyght.
The same prys of Troilus I seye.
God help me so I knowe not swych tweye.

(27)

_Be god quod she of Ector þat is soth._

_Of Troylus þe same þing trowe .I._
_For dredles men tellen þat he doth._
_In armes day by day so worþily._
_And bereth hym here at hom so gentilly._
_To every wight þat alle prys hath he._
_Of hem þat me were leuest preyseþ be._
(28)
Ye sey right soth y-wys quod Pandarus.
For yesterday who-so hadde with hym ben.
He myght haue wondred vp on Troylus.
For neuere yet so pike a swarm of ben.
Ne fleygh as Grekes gone fro hym flen.
And porough þe feld in euery wightes ere.
Ther nas no cry but Troylus is þere.

(29)
Now here now þere he huntede hem so faste.
Ther nas but Grekes blod and Troylus.
Now hem he hurte and hem alle down he caste.
Ay where he wente it was arayed þus.
He was here deth and lyf and sheld for vs.
That al þat day þere dorste noon with-stonde.
whil þat he held his blody swerd yn honde.

(30)
Therto he is þe frendlyest man.
Of grete estat þat euere I saw my lyue.
And wher þat hym lyst best felawship kan.
To suche as hym þenketh able for to thryue.
And with þat word þo Pandarus as blyue.
He tok his leue and seyde .I. wol go henne.
Nay blame haue I myncle quok she þenne.

(31)
What eyleth yow to be þus wery soone.
And namelych of womman wol ye so.
Nay sitteth down by god I hane to done.
with yow to speke of wisdom er ye go.
And euery wight þat was a-boute hem two.
That herd þat gan fer a-wey to stonde.
whil þat þey hadde al þat hem liste yn honde.
When that here tale al brought was to an ende.
Of here estat and of here gouernaunce.
Quod Pandarus now is tyme I wende.
But yet I seye aryseth and lat vs daunce.
And cast youre wydwes habit to myschaunce.
what lyst yow þus yow self to disfigure.
Sith yow it tyd þus faire an auenture.

A wel bipought for lone of god quod she.
- Shal I not wete what ye mene of þis.
No þyng axeth layser quod he.
And eke me wolde muche greue I-wys.
If .I. it tolde and ye it toke amys.
yet were it bet my tongue for to stille.
Than sey a soth þat were a-yens youre wylle.

For Nece by þe goddesse Mynerue.
And Iuppiter þat maketh þe ponder rynge.
And by þe blysful Venus þat I serue.
ye be th[e] womman in þis world lyuynge.
with-oute paramours to my wytynge.
That I best lone and lõpest am to greue.
And þat ye wete wel yow self I leue.

Ywys vncl quod she grant mercy.
Youre frendship haue I founden euere yet.
I am to no man holden trewely.
So muche as yow and haue so litel quynt.
And with þe grace of god emforth my wit.
As yn my gilt I shal you neuere offende.
And yf I haue er þis I wol amende.
But for þe loue of god I yow beseche.
As ye ben he þat I most loue and truste.
Lat be youre friendly manere speche.
And sey to me youre Nece what yow lyste.
And with þat word here vnkle a-noon here he keste.
And seyde gladly leue Nece dere.
Tak it for goud þat I shal seye yow here.

With þat she gan hire eyen down to caste.
And Pandarus to koghe gan a lyte.
And seyde Nece lo alwey to þe laste.
How-so it be þat som men hem delite.
with subtil art hire tales for to endite.
Yet for al þat in here entencioun.
Hire tales is al for som conclusioun.

And sith þe ende is of every tales strengþe.
And þis matere is so by-houely.
what sholde I poynte or drawen it on lenghthe.
To yow þat ben my frend so feithfully.
And with þat word he gan right Inwardly.
Byholden here and loke on hire face.
And seyde on suche a mirour good grace.

Thanne þoughte he þus yf I my tale endite. [leaf 21, back]
Ought hard or make a proces ony while.
She shal no sanaur han þer-yn but litel.
And trowe I wold hire yn my wyþ bygile.
For tendre wittes wenen al be wyle
There as þey kan not pleynly vnderstonde.
For þi here wit to seruen wol I fonde.

TROILUS. E CAMPSALL
And loked on here yn a besy wyse 274
- And she was war that he byheld here so.
- And seyde lord so ye me auyse.
- Sey ye me neuere er now what sey ye no.
- Yes yes quod he and bet wole er I go.
  But be my trowpe I sought now yf ye.
  Be fortunat. for now men shal it se. 280

For to euerie wight som goodly auenture. 281
Som tyme is shape if he it kan receuyuen.
  And yf that he wole take of it no cure.
  whan that it cometh but wyffully it weylen. 284
  Lo neyper cas nor fortune hym deseyuen.
  But right his verray sloupe and wrecchednesse.
  And swych wyght is for to blame I gesse. 287

Good aventure o bele Nece haue ye. 288
Ful lightly founden if ye konne it take.
  And for pe loue of god and ek of me.
  Cache it a-noon lest auenture slake.
  what sholde I lengere proces of it make.
  Yif me youre hond for yn pis world is noon.
  If that you lyst a wyght so wel begon. 294

And sith I speke of good entencioun. 295
As I. to yow haue told wel here toforn.
  And loue as wel youre honour and renoun.
  As creature yn al pis world y-born. 298
  By alle pe opes that I haue to yow sworne
  And ye be wroth þerfore and wene I lye.
  Ne shal I neuere seen yow eft with eye. 301
Beth nought a-gast ne quaketh not wher to. Ne quaketh not for fere so youre Hewe.
For hardly þe werste of þis is do
And þough my tale as now be to yow newe.
Yet trist alwey ye shal me fynde trewe.
And were it þyng þat me poughte vsisittynge.
To yow nold I no suche tales brynge.

Now good Em for goddes loue I prey.
Quod she / com of / and telle me what it is.
For boþe I am agast what ye wolde seye.
And ek me longeth it to wyte y-wys.
For wheþer it be wel or be amys.
Sey on lat me not yn þis fere dwelle.
So wol I don / now herkeneth I shal yow telle.

Now nece myn þe kynges dere sone.
The good / wyse / worthi / fresshi / and fre.
which alwey for to do wel is his won.

The noble Troilus so loueth þe.
That bot ye helpe it wol his bane be.
Lo here is al what sholde I more seye.

But yf þow late hym deye I wolde sterue.
Haue here my trouþe Nece I nel not lye.
Al sholde I with þis kynþ myn owene throte kerue.
with þat þe teres brast out of his eyen.
And seyde yf þat ye doon vs boþe dyen.
Thus giltles þan haue ye fysshed faire.
what mende ye though þat we boþe aþeyre.
(48)

Alias he whiche þat is my lord so dere.
That trewe man þat noble gentil knyght.
That nought desireth but youre friendly chere.
I se hym deye þere he goth vp right.
And hastþ hym with al his fulle myght.
For to be slayn yf fortune wolde assente.
Alias þat god yow swich a beaute sente.

(49)

If it be so that ye so cruel be. [leaf 22, back]
That of his deth yow lyst nought to recche.
That is so trewe and worþi as ye se.
No more þan of a Iapere or a wrecche.
If ye be swych youre beaute may not strecche.
To make amendes of so cruel a dede.
Auysement is good by-fore þe nede.

(50)

Wo worth þe faire gemme vertules.
wo worth þat herbe also þat doth no bote.
wo worth þat beaute þat is rópelees.
wo worth þat wight þat tret eche vnderfote.
And ye þat ben of beaute crop and rote.
And þerwith-al in you þere be no rouþe.
Than is it harm þat ye lyuen by my trouþe.

(51)

And also þenk wel þat þis is no gaude.
For me were leuere þow and I and he.
were hanged þan I sholde be his baude.
As heyghe as men myghte on vs alle y-se.
I am þyn Em þe shame were to me.
As wel as þe yf þat I sholde assente.
Thorough myn abet þat he þyn honour shente.
Now vnderstonde for I yow nought requer.
To bynde yow to hym porugh no behest.
But oonly pat ye make hym bettre chere.
Than ye han don er pis and more feste.
So pat his lyf be saued at pe leste.
This al and som and playnly oure entente.
God helpe me so I neuere ower mente.

Lo pis request is not but skyle y-wys.
Ne doute of reson parde is pere noon.
I sette pe worste pat ye dredden pis.
Men wolden wondren to se hym come or gon.
Ther a-yenis answere I pis a-noon.
That euery wyght but he be fel of kynde.
wol deme it loue of frenship yn his mynde.

Who Wolfe deme pough he se a man.
To temple go pat he pe ymages eteth.
Thenk ek how wysly pat he kan.
Gouerne hym self pat he no pyng foryeteth.
That wher he cometh he prys and pank hym geteth.
And ek þer-to he shal come here so selde.
what fors were it pough al þe town behelde.

Swych loue of frendes regneth al pis town.
And wre yow yn þat mantel euere mo.
And god so wys be my saluacioun.
As I haue seyd youre beste is to do so.
But alwey good nece to stynte his wo.
So lat youre daunger sucred ben a lyte.
That of his deth ye be nought to wyte.
(56)

Criseyde which \(\hat{p}at\) herd hym yn \(\hat{p}is\) wyse.
Thought I shal fele what he mene\(y\)-wys.
Now Em quod she what wole ye deuyse.
what is youre red I shal don of \(\hat{p}is\).
That is wel seyd quod he certayn best is.

That ye hym loue a-yen for his louynge.
As loue for loue is skylful guerdonynge.

(57)

- Thenk ek how elde wasty\(s\) euery houre.
- In eche of yow a partie of beanute.
  And \(\hat{p}er\)fore er age \(\hat{p}e\) deuoure.

Go loue. for olde / \(\hat{p}er\) wil no wight of \(\hat{p}e\).
Lat \(\hat{p}is\) prouerbe a lore vn-to yow be.
To late y-war quod beaute whan it paste.
  And elde daunteth daunger at \(\hat{p}e\) laste.

(58)

The kynges fool is woned to cryen lowde.
whan that hym \(\hat{p}enketh\) a woman bereth here heighe.
So longe mot ye lyue and alle prowde.
Til crowes feet ben growen vnder youre eye.
And sende yow \(\hat{p}anne\) a myrrour yn to prye.
In which ye may se youre face a morwe.
Nece I bidde wisshe yow no more sorwe.

(59)

With \(\hat{p}is\) he stente and caste a-down \(\hat{p}e\) hed.
And she bygan to brest a wep a-noon.
And seyde allas for wo why nere I ded.
For of \(\hat{p}is\) world \(\hat{p}e\) feyth is al agon.
Allas what shulde straunge to me don.
when he \(\hat{p}at\) for my best frend y wende.
Bet me to loue and shold it me defende.
(60)

Alias I wold han trusted douteles. 414
That yf pat I purgh myn disauenture.
Had loued ojer hym or Achilles.
Ector or ony mannes creature. 417
Ye nold han had no mercy ne mesure.
On me. but alwey had me in repreue.
This false world alias who may it leue. 420

(61)

What is pat al pe Ioye and al pe feste. 421
Is pis your red is pys my blysful cas.
Is pis pe verray mede of your behest.
Is al pis peynted proces seyd alias.
Right for pis fyn O lady myn pallas.
Thow yn pis dredful cas for me purueye.
For so astonyed am I pat I deye. 427

(62)

With pat she gan ful sorwfully to syke. 428
Ay may it be no bet quod Pandarus.
By god I shal nomore com here pis wyke.
And god to-forn pat am mystrusted pis.
I se ful wel pat ye sette life of vs.
Or of oure deth.allas I woful wrecche.
Might he yet lyue of me is nought to recche. 434

(63)

O cruel god .o. dispitous Marte. 435
O furyes þre of helle on yow I crye.
So lat me neuere out of þis hous departe.
If pat I mente harm or ony vylonye. 438
But sith I se my lord mot nedes dye.
And .I. with hym here I me shryue and seye.
That wikkedly ye don vs bope deye. 441
(64)
But sith it lyketh yow \( \hat{p} \)at. I. be ded. [leaf 24] 442
By Neptunus \( \hat{p} \)at god is of \( \hat{p} \)e se.
Fro \( \hat{p} \)is forth shal I neuere eten bred.
Til I myn owen herte blod may se. 445
For certaynly I wole deye as sone as he.
And vp he sterte and on his weye he raughte.
Til she hym a-gayn by \( \hat{p} \)e lappe caughte.

(65)
Criseyde which \( \hat{p} \)at wel neigh starf for fere. 449
So as she was \( \hat{p} \)e ferfulleste wyght.
That myght be and herde ek with here ere.
And saw \( \hat{p} \)e sorwful ernest of \( \hat{p} \)e knyght. 452
And in his preyere eke saw noon vnright.
And for \( \hat{p} \)e harm \( \hat{p} \)at myghte ek fallen more.
'She gan to rewe / and dradde hire wonder sore.

(66)
And poughte \( \hat{p} \)us vnhappes falles \( \hat{p} \)ikke. 456
Alday for loue and in such manere cas.
As men ben cruel yn hem self and wykke.
And yf \( \hat{p} \)is man sle here hym self allas. 459
In my presence / it wyl be no solas.
what men of hit wold deme I kan not seye.
It nedeth me ful sleyly for to pleye.

(67)
And with a sorwful syk she seyde \( \hat{p} \)rie. 463
A lord what me is tyd a sory chaunce.
For myn estat now lyth in Iupartie.
And ek myn Emes lyf lyth yn balaunce. 466
But napelles with goddes gouernaunce.
I shal don so myn honour shal I kepe.
And ek his lyf and stynte for to wepe.

Campsall
Of harmes two þe lesse is for to chese. 470
Yet haue I leuere maken hym good chere.
In honour / þan myn Emes lyf to lese.
ye seyn. ye no þyng elles me require. 473
No y-wys quod he myn owene Nece dere.
Now wel quod she and I wol don myn peyne.
I shal myn herte a-yens my lust constreyne. 476

But that .I. nyl not holden hym yn honde. [leaf 24, back] 477
Ne loue a man ne kan I not ne may.
A-yens my wil but elles wol I fonde.
Myn honour sauf plesen hym fro day to day. 480
Ther-to nold I nought onys haue seyd nay.
But þat I drede as yn my fantasye.
But cesseþ cause ay cesseth maladye, 483

And here I make a protestacioun. 484
That yn þis proces yf ye deppere go.
That certaynly for no saluacioun.
Of yow. þough þat ye sterue boþe two. 487
Though al þe world on o day be my foo.
Ne shal I neure on hym han other rouþe.
I graunte wel quod Pandarus by my trouþe. 490

But may I trust wel þer-to quod he. 491
That of þis þyng þat ye han hight me here.
Ye wol it holden trewlly vn-to me.
Ye doutles quod she myn vnclere dere. 494
Ne þat I shal han cause in þis matere.
Quod he to pleyne, or ofter yow to preche.
why no par de / what nedeth more speche. 497
(72)
Tho fillen þei yn othere tales glade.
Til at þe laste o good Em quod she þo.
For his loue which þat vs boþe made.
Tel me how first ye wysten of his wo.
Tham noon of hit but ye he seyde no.
kan he wel speke of loue quod she I preye.
Tel me / for I þe bet me shal purueye.

(73)
Tho Pandarus bygan for to smyle.
And seyde by my trouþe I shal yow telle.
This oþer day nought go ful longþ while.
In with þe paleys gardyn by a welle.
Gan he and I wel half a day to dwelle.
Right for to speken of an ordenaunce.
How we þe Grekes myghte disauaunce.

(74)
Soone after that bygonne we to lepe.  
And casten with oure dartes to and fro.
Til at þe laste he seyde he wolde slepe.
And on þe gres a-down he leyde hym þo.
And I þer after gan rome to and fro.
Til þat I herd as þat I welkþ allone.
How he bygan ful wofully to grone.

(75)
Tho gan I stalke softly hym by-hynde.
And sikerly þe soþe for to seyne.
As I kan clepe ayen now to my mynde.
Right þus to loun he gan hym for to pleyne.
He seyde lord haue rouþe on my payne.
Al haue I ben rebel yn myn entente.
Now. mea culpa. lord I me repente.
O god āt at āt disposicioun. 526
Ledest āe fyn by Iuste purueyaunce.
Of euer wyght my lowe confessioun.
Accepte in gre / and sende me swych penaunce. 529
As liketh āe but from desesperaunce.
That may my gost departe a-wey fro āe.
Thow be my sheld for āp by benignite. 532

For certes lord so sore hath she me wounded. 533
That stod in blak wyth lokyng of here eyen.
That to myn hertes it is I-sounded.
Thorough which I wot āt āt mot nedes deyen.
This is āe worste I dar me not by-wryen.
And wel āe hottere ben āe gledes rede.
That men hym wrien with asshe pale and dede. 539

Wip āt he smot a-down his hed a-noon. 540
And gan to motre I not what trewey.
And I a-wey wip āt stille gan to gon.
And let āe-of as no thyng wyst hadde I. 543
And come a-yen a-noon and stod hym by.
And seyde a-wake ye slepen al to longe.
It semeth not āt loue doth yow longe. 546

That slepen so that no man may yow wake. 547
who sey euere or āpis so dul a man.
Ye frend quod he ye de yowre hedes ake.
For loue / and lat me lyuen as I kan. 550
But pough āt he for wo was pale and wan.
yet made he āp as fressh a contenaunce.
As pough he shulde haue led āe newe daunce. 553
This passede forth til now þis oper day. 554
- It fel þat I come romyne al allone.
- Into a chaunbre and fond how þat he lay.
- Vp on his bed but man so sore grone.
Ne herd I neuere and what þat was his mone.
Ne wyst I nought for as I was comynge.
Al sodeynly he lefte his compleynynge. 560

Of which I toke somewhat suspacion. 561
- And ner I come and fond he wepte sore.
And god so wys be my saluacioun.
As neuere of þyling ne hadde I rouþe more. 564
For neiþer with engyn ne with no lore.
Vneþes myght I fro þe deth hym kepe.
That yet fele I myn hert for hym wepe. 567

And god wot neuere sith þat I was born. 568
was I so bysy no man for to preche.
Ne neuere to wyght so depe was I-sworn.
Or he me tolde who myght ben his leche. 571
But now to yow rehersen al his speche.
Or alle hise woful wordes for to sowne.
Ne byd me not but ye wol do me swone. 574

But for to saue his lyf and elles nought. 575
And to noon harm of yow þus am I dreuen.
And for þe love of god þat hath vs wrought.
Swych chere hym doth that he and I may lyuen. 578
Now haue I plat to yow myn herte schryuen.
And syn ye wot þat myn entent is clene.
Tak hede þer-of for I noon yuel mene. 581
And right good thryft I pray to god haue ye. [leaf 26] 582
That han swych on y-caught with-oute net.

And be ye wys as ye ben faire to se.

wel yn pe ryng/ pan is pe ruby set. 585
There were neuere two so wel I-met.

whanne ye ben his al hool as he is youre.

Ther myghty god yet graunte vs se pat ooure. 588

Nay þerof spak I not quod she. 589
As helpe me god ye shenden euery del.
O mercy dere nece a-noon quod he.
what so I spak I mente nought but wele. 592
By mars þe god þat helmed is of stel.
Now beth nought wroth my blod my nece dere.

Now wolde I quod she / foryeuen be it here. 595

With þis he tok his leue and home he wente. 596
And lord he was glad and wel bygon.

Criseyde a-ros no lengere she ne stente.

But straught in to hire closet went a-noon. 599
And sette here down as stille as ony ston.

And euery word gan vp and down to wynde.

That he hadde seyd as it come here to mynde. 602

And was somdel astonyed yn here þought. 603

Right for the newe cas / but whanne þat she.
was ful avised tho fond she right nought.

Of peril why she ought a-ferd be. 606
For man may loue of possibilite.

A womman so his herte may to-breste.
And she nought loue a-yen but yf here lestc. 609
But as she sat allone and poughte þus.
Ascry aros at skarmyssh al with oute.
And men cryede in þe strete se Troyllus.
Hath right now put to flyght þe Grekes route.
with that gan al here meyne for to shoute.
A go we se. cast vp þe yates wyde.
For þurgh þat strete he mot to palays ryde.

For oþer weye is þer to the yate noon.
Of Gardanus þer vp on is þe cheyne.
with þat come he and al his folk a-noon.
An esy pas rydynge yn routes tweyne.
Right as his happy day was soth to seyne.
For which men say may nought disturbed be.
That shal by-tyden of necessite.

Thus Troyllus sat on his bay stede.
Al armed saue his hed ful richely.
And wounded was his hors and gan to blede.
On whiche he rod a pas ful softly.
But swych a knyghtly sight trewely.
As was on hym was nought wip-outen faile.
To loke on mars þat god is of batayle.

So lyk a man of armes and a knyght.
He was to sen fulfild of heigh prowesse.
For boþe he hadde a body and a myght.
To don þat þyng as wel as hardynesse.
And eke to sen hym yn his gere hym dresse.
So fressh / so yong / so weldy semed he.
It was an heuene vp-on hym for to se.
His helm to-hewe was yn twenty places.  
That by a tissew heng his bak byhynde.  
His sheld to-dasshed was with swerdes and maces.  
In which men myghte many an arwe fynde.  
That prilled hadde horn and nerf and rynde.  
And ay pe peple cryede here comepoure Ioye.  
And nextrhis brother, holdere vp of Troye.  

For which he wex a litel red for shame.  
whan he pe peple vp-on hym herde cryen.  
That to biholde it was a noble game.  
How sobrelyche he caste doun his eyen.  
Cryseyde gan al his chere aspien.  
And let it so softe yn hire herte synke.  
That to hire seluen she seyde who yaf me drynke.  

For of here owene pought she wex al red.  
Remembrynge here right pus lo pis is he.  
which pat myn vnclcwswereth he mot be ded.  
But I on hym haue mercy and pite.  
And wip pat pought for pure a shamed she.  
Gan yn here hed to pulle and pat as faste.  
whil he and al pe peple forth by paste.  

And gan to casten and rollen vp and down.  
with-Inne here pought his excellent prowesse.  
And his estat and also his renoun.  
His wit [his] shap and ek his gentillesse.  
But most hire fauour was for his distresse.  
was al for here / and pought it was a rouhe.  
To slen swych on yf pat he mente troupe.
(96)

Now myghte som enuyous Iangle þus. 666
This was a sodeyn loue how myght it be.
That she so lyghtly louede Troylus.
Right for þe firste syght ye parde. 669
Now who so seyth so mot he neuere þe.
For euery þyng a gynnyng hath it nede.
Er al be wroght with-outen ony drede. 672

(97)

For I sey nought þat she so sodeynly. 673
Yaf hym here loue / but þat she gan enclyne.
To lyke hym first and I haue told yow why.
And after þat his manhod and his pyne. 676
Made loue with-Inne hire for to myne.
For which by proces and by good servicie.
He gat here loue and in no sodeyn wyse. 679

(98)

And also blisful Venus wel arayed. 680
Sat in here seuenethe hows of heuene þo.
Disposed wel and wiþ aspectes payed.
To helpen sely Troilus of his wo. 683
And soth to seyn she nas not al a fo.
To Troilus in his natíuyte.
God wot that wel þe sonner spedde he. 686

(99)

Now lat vs stynte of Troylus a þowe. [leaf 27, back] 687
That rideth forth and late vs tourne faste.
Vn-to Criseyde þat heng here hed ful loue.
Ther as she sat allone. and gan to caste. 690
wher on she wolde a-poynt hire at þe laste.
If it so were hire Em ne wolde cesse.
For Troilus vp-on here for to presse. 693

CAMPSSALL
And lord so she yn pought gan to argue.  
In pis mater. of which I haue yow told.  
And what to done best were & what eschue.  
That plitede she ful ofte in many folde.  
Now was hire herte warm now was it colde.  
And what she poughte somwhat shal I write.  
As to myn Auctor lysteth for to endite.

She pought wel pat Troylus persone  
She knew by sight and ek by gentillesse  
And thus she seyde al were it nought to done.  
To graunte hym loue / yet for his worpynesse.  
It were honour with pley and with gladnesse.  
In honeste / with swych a lord to dele.  
For myn estat / and also for his hele.

Ek wel wot I my kynges sone is he.  
And sith he hath to se me swych delit.  
If I wolde vttirly his sight fle.  
Paraunter he myght haue me yn dispit.  
Thurgh which I mygh stonde in worse plyt.  
Now were I wys me hate to purchace.  
with-outen nede þere I may stonde in grace.

In euery þyng I wot þere lith mesure.  
For þough a man forbede dronkenesse.  
He nought for-bet þat euery creature.  
Be drynkles / for alwey as I gesse.  
Ek for me sith I wot is al his distresse.  
I ne ought not for þat þyng hym despise.  
Sith it is so he meneth in good wyse.
Eke .I. knowe of long tyme a-gon.  
Hise pewes goode and þat she is not nyse.  
Ne aauanter certeyn seyth men is he non.  
To wys is he to do so gret a nyse.  
Ne als I nel hym neuere so cherishe.  
That he may make avaunt by Iust e cause.  
He shal me neuere bynde yn swich a clause.

Now set a cas þe hardest is wys.  
Men myghten deme þat he loueþ me.  
what dishonour were it vn-to me þis.  
May I hym lette of þat why nay parde.  
I knowe also and alday here and se.  
Men louen a woman al bysyde hire leue.  
And whanne hem lease nomore lat hem byleue.

I þenk ek how he able is to haue.  
Of al þis ilke noble town þe prytiest.  
To ben his loue so she here honour saue.  
For out and out he is þe worpiest.  
Saue only Ector which þat is þe best.  
And yet his lyf al lyth now in my cure.  
But swych is loue and ek myn auenture.

Ne me to loue a wonder is it nought.  
For wel wot I my self so god me spede  
Al wolde I þat noon wyste of þis pought.  
I am one þe fairest out of drede.  
And goodlyest who-so taketh hede.  
And so men seyn yn al þe town of Troye.  
what wonder is it þough he of me haue Ioye.\(1\)
I am myn owene woman wel at ese.
I penk it god / as after myn estat.
Right yong and stond vntyd in lusty lese.
with-out Ialousye or swych debat.
Shal non hosbonde seyn to me chekmat.
For eiper pey ben ful of Ialousye.
Or maisterful or louen nouellerye.

What shal .I. do to what fyn lyue thus.
Shal I nat louen in cas yf pat me lyst.
What par dieux I am not religious.
And pough pat I myn herte sette at reste.
Vpon pis knyght pat is pe worpieste.
And kep alwey myn honour and my name.
By al right it may do me no shame.

But ryght as whanne pe sonne shyneth bright.
In Marche pat chaungeth ofte tyme his face.
And pat a cloud is put with wynd to flyght.
which ouer-sprat pe sonne as for a space.
A cloudy pought gan pough hire soule pace.
That ouer-spradde here brighte poughtes alle.
So pat for fere almost she gan to falle.

That pought was pis allas syn I am fre.
Sholde I now loue and put yn Iupartie.
My sikernesse and prallen liberte.
Allas how dorste I penken pat folye.
May I nought wel in oper folk aspie.
Hire dreadful Ioye here constreynt and here peyne.
There loueth noon pat she nath weye to pleyne.
(112)

For loue is yet þe meste stormy lyf.
Right of hym self þat euere was by-gonne.
For euere som mytrust or nyce stryft.
Ther is in loue som cloud is ouer þat sonne.
Ther-to we wrecched wommen. no þyng konne.
whan vs is wo but wepe and sitte and þynke.
Oure wreche is þis oure owene wo to drynke.

(113)

Also þese wikkede tonges ben so prest.
To speke vs harm / ek men be so vntrewe.
That right a-noon as sesed is here lest.
So cesseth loue and forth to loue an newe.
But harm I-don / is don who-so it rewe.
þFor fough þese men for loue hem ferst to-rende.
Ful sharp bygynnyngþ: breketh ofte at þe ende.

(114)

How ofte tyme hath it knowe be.
The treson þat to womman hath be do.
To what fyn is swych loue I kan not se.
Or wher bycompþ it whenne it is go.
Ther is no wyght þat wot I trowe so.
wher it bycometh lo no wyght on it sporneth.
That erst was no þyng in-to nought it torneþ.

(115)

How bysy if I loue ek most I be.
To plesen hem þat Iangle of loue and dremen.
And coye hem þey sey noon harm of me.
For fough þere be no cause yet hem semen.
Al be for harm þat folk here frendes quemen.
And who may stoppe euery wykked tungan.
Or sown of belles whanne þat þei be rungen.
(116)

And after þat here þought bygan to clere. 806
And seyde he which þat no þyng vnder-taketh.
No þyng ne acheueth be hym loth or dere.
And with an oper þought hire herte quaketh. 809
Than sle.pe hope and after dred a-waketh.
Now hot now cold / but þus by-twixen tweye.
She rist here vp / and went here for to pleye. 812

(117)

Adoun þe steyre a-noon right þo she wente. 813
In to þe gardeyn with here neces þre.
And vp and doun þere made many a wente.
Flexippe she Tharbe and Antigone. 816
To pleyen þat it Ioye was to se.
And ðepere of here wommen a gret rowte.
Here folieweden yn þe gardeyn al a-bowte.

(118)

This gardeyn was large and rayled all þe aleyes. 820
And shadwede with bowes blosmy and grene.
And benched newe and sended alle þe weyes.
In which she walketh arm yn arm by-twene. 823
Til at þe laste Antigone þe shene.
Gan on a Troian song to synge clere.
That it an heuene was hire voys to here. 826

(119) (Antigone’s Song of Love. St. 1.)

She seyde .O. loue to whom I haue and shal. [ff 29, bb] 827
Ben humble subgit trewe yn myn entente.
As I best kan to yow lord yeue ych al.
For euere more myn herte lust to-rente. 830
For neuere yet þi grace no wyght sente.
So blysful cause. as me my lyf to lede.
In al Ioye and surete out of drede. 833

CAMPSSL
(120)  (Antigone's Song of Love. St. 2.)

Pe blisful god han me so wel beset.
In loue y-wys pat al pat bereth lyf.
ymagynen ne kowde how to ben bet.
For lord with-outen Ialousye or stryf.
I loue oon which is most ententyf.
To seruen wel vnwery or vnfeyned.
That euere was and lest with harm distreyned.

(121)
As he pat is pe welle of worpinessse.
Of troupe ground myrour of goodlyhed.
with Appollo ston of Secrenesse.
Of vertu rote / of luf fyndere and hed.
Thurgh which is al sorwe fro me ded.
I-wys I loue hym best so doth he me.
Now good pryft haue he wher pat he be.

(122)
Whom sholde I panke but yow god of loue.
Of al pis blysse yn which to bape I gynne.
And ponked be ye lord for pat I loue.
This is pe right lyf pat I am Inne.
To flemen alle manere vice and synne.
This doth me so to vertu for to entende.
That day by day I yn my wil amende.

(123)
And who-so seyth pat for to loue is vice.
Or praldom pough he fele yn it distressse.
He ouper is enuyous or right nyce.
Or is vnmyghty for his shrewednesse.
To louen. for swych maner folk I gesse.
Defamen loue. as no pyng of it knowe.
They speken but pey bente neuere his bowe.
What is the sonne wers of kynde right. Though pat a man for feblesse of his eyen. May nought endure on it to se for bryght. Or loue þe wers pough wrecches on it crien. No wele is worth þat may no sorwe dryen. And for-þi he þat hath an hed of verre. Fro cast of stones war hym yn þe werre.

But I with al myn hert and al my myght. As I haue seyd wol loue vn-to my laste. My dere herte and al myn owene knyght. In which myn herte is growen so faste. And his in me. þat it shal euere laste. Al dreddde I first to loue hym to bygynne. Now wote I wel þere is no peril Inne.

[End of Antigone's Song of Love.]

And of hire song right with þat word she stynte. And þerwith-al now nece quod Criseyde. who made þis song with so good entente. Antigone answerde a-noon and seyde. Ma dame I-wys þe goodlyeste mayde. Of gret estat in al þe town of Troye. And led here lyf in most honour and Ioye.

Forsotho so it semeth by hire song. Quod þo Criseyde and gan þer-with to syke. And seyde lord is þere such blysse among. These louers as þey konne faire endite. Ye wys quod fressh Antigone þe white. For alle þe folk þat han or ben on lyue. Ne konne wel þe blysse of loue dyscriue.
(128)

But wene ye pat euery wreche wot. 890
The parfit blysse of loue why nay y-wys.
They wenen al be loue yf oon be hoot.
Do wey do wey pey wot no pyng of pis. 893
Men moste axe of seyntes if it is.
Aught faire yn heuene whi for pey konne telle.
And axen of fendes / is it ful yn helle. 896

(129)

Criseyde vn-to pat purpos nought answerede.  [leaf 30, back] 897
But seyde y-wys it wole be nyght as faste.
But euery word which pat she of here herde.
She gan to prenten yn here herte faste. 900
And ay gan loue hire lasse for to agaste.
Than it dide erst and synken yn hire herte.
That she was somwhat able to convuerte. 903

(130)

The dayes honour and pe heuenes heighe. 904
The nyghtes fo al pis clepe I pe sonne.
Gan westren faste and downward for to wrye.
As he pat hadde his dayes cours y-ronne. 907
And white pynges waxen dymme and donne.
For lak of lyght and sterres for to appere.
That she and here folk in went y-fere. 910

(131)

So whan it liked hire to gon to reste. 911
And voyded were pey pat voyden oughte.
She seyde pe pat to slepe wel hire lest.
Hire wommen soone til hire bed here broughte. 914
whan al was hust panne lay she stille and poughte.
Of alle pis pyng pe manere and pe wyse.
Reherce it nedeth nought for ye ben wyse. 917
A nyghtyngale vpon a cedre grene.  
Vpon pe chambre wal pe re as she lay.  
Ful loude sang a-yen pe mone shene.  
Paraunter yn his bryddes wyse a lay.  
Of loue pat made hire herte fressh and gay.  
That herkened she so longe yn good entente.  
That at pe laste pe dede sple hire hente.  

And as she sple a-noon right po here mette.  
How pat an Egle fepered whit as bon.  
Vnder hire brest his longe clawes sette.  
And out hire herte he rente and pat a-noon.  
And dide his hert in to hire brest to goon.  
Of which she nought a-gros ne no þing smerte.  
And forth he fleygh with herte left for herte.  

Now late here sple and we oure tales bolde.  
Of Troylus þat is to palays ryden.  
Fro þe skarmuch of þe whiche I tolde.  
And yn his chambre sit and hath a-byden.  
Til two or þre of his messages yeden.  
For Pandarus and sought hym ful faste.  
Til þey hym founde and brought hym at þe last.  

This Pandarus come lepyng in at ones.  
And seide þus who hath ben wel y-bete.  
To day with swerdes. and with slyng stones.  
But Troylus þat hath caught hym now an hete.  
And gan to Iape and seyde lord so ye swete.  
But rys and late vs soupe and go to reste.  
And he answered hym do we as þe leste.
With al haste goodly pat pey myghte.  They spedde hem fro souper vn-to bedde.  And euery wyght out at pe dore hym dyghte.  And wher hym lyst vpon his wey he spedde.  But Troilus poughte his herte bledde.  For wo til pat he herde som tydynge.  He seyde frend shal I now wepe or synge.  

Quod Pandarus ly stille and late vs slepe.  And don þyn hod thi nedes sped be.  Chese if pow wolt synge or daunce or lepe.  At short wordes pow shalt trowe me.  Sire my Nece wole do wel by þe.  And londe þe best by god and by my troupe.  But lat of pursuyte make it in sloupe.  

For thus ferforth I haue þi worke bygonne.  Fro day to day til þis day by þe morwe.  Here loue of frendship haue I to þe wonne.  And also hath she leyd hire feyth to borwe.  Algate a fot is hameled of þi sorwe.  what sholde I lengere sermon of it holde.  As ye han herd byfore al he hym tolde.  

But right as floures thorough þe colde of þe nyght.  Yclosed stoupen on hire stalk lowe.  Redressen hem a-yen þe sonne bryght.  And spreden on hire kynde cours by Rowe.  Right so gan tho his eyghen vp to prowe.  This Troylus / and seyde o Venus dere.  Thi might þi grace y-hered be it here.  

Campsall
And to Pandarus he held vp bope his hondes. And seyde lord al þyn be þat I haue. For I am hol al brosten ben my bonden. A þousand Troians who so þat me yaue. Eche after oþer god so wys me saue. Ne myyte me so gladen. lo myn herte. It spredep so for Ioye it wol to-sterte.

But lord how shal I don how shal I lyuen. whanne shal I nexst my dere herte se. How shal þis longe tyme a-wey ben y-dreuen. Til þat þow be ayen at here fro me. Thow mayst answere a-byd a-byd but he. That hangeth by þe nekke soth to seyne. In grete dishese a-bydep for þe peyne.

Al esily now for þe loue of marte. Quod Pandarus for euer þyng hath tyme. So longe a-byd til þat þe nyght departe. For al so syker as þow lyst here by me. And god toforn I wolde þere at Pryme. And for þi werk somwhat as I shal seye. Or on som other wyght þis charge leye.

For parde god wot I haue euere yet. Ben redy þe to serue and to þis nyght. Haue I nought fayned but emforth my wit. Don al þi lust and shal wip al my myght. Do now as I shal seye and do a ryght. And if yow nylt / wyte al þi self þy care On me ys nought y-long þin yuel fare.
I wot þat thow wysere art þan .I. A þousand fold but if .I. were a[s] þow. God helpe me so as I wolde outrely. Of myn owene hond write here right now. A lettre in which I wolde here telle how. I ferd a-mys and here beseeche of roupe. Now help þi self and leue it not for sloupe.

And I myn self wil þer-with to here gon. And whanne þow wost þat I am with here þere. worth vp on a courser right a non. Ye hardyly yn þi beste gereg. And ryd forth by þe place as nought ne were. And þow shalt fynde vs yf I may sittynge. At som wyndowe yn to þe strete lokynge.

And þe lyke from maystow vs saluwe. And vp-on me make þi contenaunce. But by þi lyf be war and faste eschuwe. To taryen ought god shilde vs fro myschaunce. Ride forth þi wey and hold þy gouernaunce. And we shal speke of þe som what I trowe. Than þow art goon to do þyne eeres glowe.

Towchyng þi lettre þat þow art wys ynowli. I wot þow nylt it digneliche endite. As make it with þise argumentus towh. Ne scryuenyssh or craftily þow it wryte. Be-blotte it with þi teeris eke a lyte. And yf þow write a goodly word al softe. Though it be good reherce it not to ofte.
For fough pe best harpoure vpon lyue.  
1030
wolde on pe best sounded Ioly harpe.  
That euere was with aH hise fyngres fyue.  
1033
Touche ay o strengh or ay o werbul harpe.  
were hise nayles poynted neuere so sharpe.  
It shulde make every wyght to dulle.  
To here his gle and of hise strokes fulle.  
1036

Ne Iompre ek no discordaunt ping y-fere.  
[leaf 32, back] 1037
As pus to vsen termes of Phisyk.  
In loues / termes / hold vp py matere.  
The forme alwey / and do pat it be lyk.  
1040
For yf a peyntour wolde peynte a pyk.  
with asses feet and hede it as an ape.  
It cordeth nought / so were it but a lape.  
1043

This counseyl liked wel vn-to Troylus.  
1044
But as a dredful louere he seyde pis.  
Allas. my dere Bropher Pandarus.  
I am a-shamed for to write y-wys.  
1047
Lest of myn Innocence I seyde a mys.  
Or that she nolde for despit receyue.  
Thanne were I ded pere myght it no thing weyue.  
1050

To pat Pandare answered yf pe lyst.  
1051
Do pat I seye and lat me perwith gon.  
For by hym that formede Est and west.  
1054
I hope of it to brynge answere anoon.  
Of here hond and yf pat pow nylt non.  
Lat be. and sory mot he ben his lyue.  
A-yens pi lust pat helpep pe to pryue.  
1057
Quod Troylus depardieux I assente.  
And blysful god I pray with good entente.  
The viage an þe lettre I shal endite.  
So spede it. and þow Mynerua þe white.  
Yef þow me wit my lettre to deuyse.  
And set hym down and wrot ryght yn þis wyse.

Fyrst he gan his right lady calle.  
His hertes lyf / his lust his sorwes lece.  
His blysse. and ek þis opere termes alle.  
That yn such cas alle þese loueres seche.  
And yn ful humble wyse as in his speche.  
He gan hym recomaunde vn-to here grace.  
To telle al how it axeth muche space.

To be nought wroth þough he of his folye.  
So hardy was to hire to write and seyde.  
That loue it made or elles moste he dye.  
And pitously gan mercy for to crye.  
And after þat he seyde and ley ful loude.  
Hym self was lytel worth and lesse he koude.

And þat she wold han his konnyng excusèd.  
That litel was and ek he dredde hire so.  
And his vnworþynesse he ay acused.  
And after þat þan gan he telle his wo.  
But þat was endeles with-outen ho.  
And seyde he wolde yn trouþe alwey hym holde.  
And radde it ouer and gan þe lettre folde.

(End of Troilus's Letter.)
(156)

| And with his salty teres gan he bathe. | 1086 |
The ruby yn his signet and it sette. |
Vpon þe wex delyuerlyche and rape. |
Ther-with a þousand tymes er he lette. |
• He cussed þo þe lettre þat he shette. |
• And seyde / lettre / a blysful destene. |
| The shapen is my lady shal þe se. | 1092 |

(157)

• This Pandarus tok þe lettre and þat by tyme. | 1093 |
• A morwe and to his Neces paleys sterte. |
And faste he swor þat is was passed pryne. |
And gan to Iape and seyde y-wys myn herte. | 1096 |
So fressh it is al-pough it so smerte. |
I may not slepe neuere a Mayes morwe. |
I haue a Ioly wo / a lusty sorwe. | 1099 |

(158)

• Criseyde whan þat she here vnkle herde. | 1100 |
with dredful herte and desirous to here. |
The cause of his comynge þus answerede. |
| Now by youre feyth myn vnkle quod she dere. | 1103 |
what maner wyndes gydeth yow now here. |
Tel vs youre Ioly wo and youre penaunce. |
How ferforth be ye put yn loues daunce. | 1106 |

(159)

By god quod he I hope alwey by-hynde. [leaf 33, back] 1107
And she to laughe it pought here herte brest. |
Quod Pandarus lok alwey ye fynde. |
Game in myn hod but herkeneth yf yow lest. | 1110 |
Ther is right now y-come in to towne a geste. |
A griek espie and telleth newe þynges. |
For which I am come to telle yow newe tidynges. | 1113 |

CAMPSALL
(160)
In to þe gardyn go we and ye shal here. 1114
Al preuely of þis a long sermon.
with þat þey wente arm in arm y fere.
In to þe gardeyn from þe chaumbre doun. 1117
And whan þat he so fer was þat þe soun.
Of þat þey spoke. no man here myghte.
He seyd here þus and out þe lettre plighte. 1120

(161)
Lo he þat is al holly yours fre. 1121
Hym recomaundeth lowly to youre grace.
And sent you þis lettre here by me.
Auiseth you on it whan ye han space. 1124
| And of som goodly answere yow purchace.
| Or helpe me god so pleynly for to seyne.
| He may not longe lyuen for his peyne. 1127

(162)
• Ful dredfully þo gan she stonde stille. 1128
• And tok it nought but al here humble chere.
• Gan for to chaungþ and seyde scryt ne bille.
  For loue of god þat toucheþ þis matere. 1131
• Ne bryngþ me noon, and also vnclþ dere.
• To myn estat haue more reward I preye.
• Than to his lust what sholde I more seye, 1124

(163)
• And loketh now yþ þis be resonable. 1135
  And letteth nought for fauour ne for slouthe.
• To sey a soth now were it couenable.
• To myn estat by god and by youre trouþe. 1138
• To taken it or to han of hym routhè.
• In harmyng of my-self or yn reproue.
• Ber it a-yeyn for hym þat ye on leue. 1141

CAMPSALL
This Pandarus gan on here for to stare. And seyde now is pis þe grettest wonder. That euere I sey lat be þis nyce fare. To deth mot I be smet with þonder. If for þe Cite whiche þat stondeth yonder. wold I a lettre vn-to yow brynge or take. To harm of yow what lyst yow þus to make.

But þus ye faren wel nyh al and some. That he þat most desireth yow to serue. Of hym ye recche lest wher he bycome. And wheper þat he lyue or elles sterue. But for al þat / þat euere I may deserue. Refuse it nought quod he and hent here faste. And yn here bosom þe lettre doun he þraste.

And seyde here now cast it a-way or noon. That folk may sen and gaueren on vs tweye. Quod she I kan a-bye til þey be gon. And gan to smyle and seyde Em I preye. Swych answere as yow lyst yow self purueye. For trewely I wole no lettre write. No þanne wole I quod he so ye endite.

Therwith she lough and seyde go we dyne. And he gan at hym-self to Iape faste. And seyde Nece I haue so gret a pyne. For loue þat every oper day I faste. And gan hise beste Iapes forth to caste. And made here so to laughe at his follye. That she for laughter wende for to dye.
And whanne þat she was comen in to halle.  1170
Now Em quod she we wole go dyne a-noon.
And gan som of hire women to hire calle.
And streygh[þ] in to here chaumbre gan she gon.  1173
But of hire bysynesse þis was on.
A-monges opere þynges out of drede.
| Ful preuyly þis lettre for to rede.  1176

Auysed word by word yn euery lyne.  [leaf 34, back]  1177
And fond no lak she poughte he koude good.
And vp it putte and went hire yn to dyne.
And Pandarus þat yn a study stood.
Er he was war she took by þe hood.
And seyde ye were caught er ye wysste.
I vouche sauf quod he do what yow lyste.  1183

Tho wesshen þey and sette hem doun & etc.  1184
And after noone ful slely Pandarus.
Gan drawe hym to þe wyndowe nexst þe strete.
And seyde Nece who hath arayed þus.
The yonder hous þat stant a-forn yeyn vs.
which hous quod she. and gan for to byholde.
And knew it wel / and whos it was hym tolde.  1190

And fillen forth yn speche of þynges smale.  1191
And seten yn þe wyndowe bope tweye.
whan Pandarus sawe tyme to his tale.
And saw wel þat here folk weren a-weye.
Now Nece myn tel on quod he I seye.
How liketh yow þe lettre þat ye wot.
Kan he þer-on for by my trouþe I not.  1197
(172)  
• Therwith al rosy hewed wax she.  
  And gan to humme and seyde so I trowe.  
  A-quyte hym wel for goddes loue quod he.  
  My-self to medes wole pe lettre sowe.  
  And held his e honde vp and sat on knowe,  
  Now goode Nece be it neuer so lyte.  
  Yif me þe labour it to sowe and plyte.  

(173)  
• Ye for I kan so write quod she þo.  
  And ek I not what I sholde to hym seye.  
  Nay Nece quod Pandare sey not so.  
  Yet at the leste þanketh hym I preye.  
  Of his good wil and doth hym not to deye.  
  Now for þe loue of me my Nece dere.  
  Refuseth not at þis tyme my preyere.  

(174)  
• Depar dieux quod she god leue al be wel.  
  God helpe me so þis is þe firste lettre.  
  That euer I wrote ye al or ony del.  
  And in to a closet for to auyse here bettre.  
  She wente allone and gan hire herte vnfettre.  
  Out of disdayns prison but a lyte.  
  And sette here doun and gan a lettre write.  

(175)  
• Of which to telle in short is myn entente.  
  Theffect as fer as I kan vnderstonde.  
  She þonked hym of al þat he wel mente.  
  Towards hire / but holden hym in honde.  
  She wolde nought ne make hire-self bonde.  
  In loue. but as his suster hym to plese.  
  She wolde fayne to don his herte an ese.  

CAMPSALL
(176)
She shette it and to Pandarus gan gon.  
There as he sat and loked in to a strete.  
And doun she sette here by hym on a ston.  
Of Iaspre. vp-on a quysshon gold y-bete.  
And seyde as wysly helpe me god þe grete.  
I neuere dide a þing with more payne.  
Than write this to whiche ye me constreyne.  

(177)
And tok it hym he þonked here and seyde.  
God wot of þing ful ofte loth bygonne.  
Cometh ende good / and Nece myn Criseyde.  
That ye to hym of hard now be y-wonne.  
Oughte he be glad by god and yonder sonne.  
For whi men seyth impressions lyghte.  
Ful lyghtly ben ay redy to þe flyghte.  

(178)
But ye han played tyrantaunt neigh to longe.  
And hard was it youre herte for to graue.  
Now stynte þat ye no longere on it honge.  
Al wolde ye þe forme of daunger saue.  
But hast þþ yow to don hym Ioye haue.  
For trusteth wel to longe don hardnesse.  
Causeth despit ful often for distresse.  

(179)
And right as he declamed this matere.  
Lo Troylus right at þe stretes ende.  
Com rydyng with his tenþe some yfere.  
Al softly / and þederwardes gan bende.  
Ther as þey sete as was his wey to wende.  
To paylayward. and Pandarus hym aspyde.  
And seyde Nece y-se who cometh here ryde.
(180)

O fle not yn / he seyth vs I suppose.
Lest he may jynke pat ye hym eschuwe.
Nay nay quod she / and waxe as red as pe rose.
with pat he gan hire humbly to saluwe.
with dredful chere and ofte his hewes muwe.
And vp his look debonairly he caste.
And bekked on Pandare and forth paste.

1254

(181)

God wot yf he sat on his hors a right.
Or goodly was beseyn pat ilke day.
God wot whe[r] he was lyk a manly knyght.
what sholde I. drecche or telle of his aray.

1264

Criseyde which pat aH these jynges say.
To telle yn short hire lyked al yfere.

1267

His persone his aray his look his chere.

(182)

His goodly manere and his gentillesse.
So wel pat neuere sith pat she was born.
Ne hadde she swych a roupe of his distresse.
And how so she hath hard ben here byforn.

1271

To god hope I she hath nowe caught a porn.
She shal not pulle it out pis nexst wyke.
God sende mo swich pornos on to pyke.

1274

(183)

Pandare which pat stod hire faste by.
Felt Iren hot and he by-gan to smyte.
And seyde Nece I pray yow hertely.
Telle me pat I shal axen yow a lyte.

1278

A womman pat were of his deth to wyte.
with-outen his gilt but for hire lakked routhe.
were it wel don / quod she nay by my trouthe.

CAMPSALL
(184)

God helpe me so quod he ye sey me soth. [leaf 36] 1282
Ye felen wel youre self þat I not lye.
Lo yend he ritt / quod she so he doth.
wel quod Pandare as I haue told yow þrye. 1285
Lat be youre Nice shame and youre folye.
And spek with hym in esyng of his herte.
Lat Nicete not do yow boþe smerte. 1288

(185)

But þer-on was to heuen and to done. 1289
Considered aþ þyng it may not be.
And whi for shame / and it were ek to soone.
To graunten hym so gret a liberte. 1292
For playnly hire entent as seyde she.
was for to loue hym vnwist if she myghte.
And guerdone hym with no þyng but with sighte. 1295

(186)

But Pandarus þoughte it shal not be so. 1296
Yf þat I may this nyce opinioun.
Schal not be holde fully yeres two.
what sholde I make of þis a long sermoun. 1299
He moste assente on þat conclusioun.
As for þe tyme and whanne þat it was Eue.
And al was wel / he ros and toke his leue. 1302

(187)

| And on his wey ful faste homward he spedde. 1303
And right for Ioye he felte his herte daunce. |
| And Troylus he fond a-lone a-bedde. 1306
That lay as doth þese loueres yn a traunce.
By-twixen hope and derk desesperaunce.
But Pandarus right at his in-comynge.
He song as who seyth sumwhat I brynge. 1309

CAMPSALL
And seyde who is in his bed so soone.

Y-buryed pus / it am I frend quod he
who Troylus / nay helpe me so þe mone
Quo[d] Pandarus þow shalt ryse and se.
A charme þat was sent right now to þe.
The which kan helen þe of pyn accesse.
yf þow do forth with al þi besynesse.

Ye thorugh þe myght of god quod Troylus. [leaf 36, back]

And Pandarus gan hym þe lettre take.
And seyde Par de god hath holpen vs.
Haue here a lyght and loke on al þis blake.
But ofte gan þe herte glade and quake.
Of Troylus whil þat he gan it rede.
So as þe wordes yaf hym hope or drede.

But fynally he tok al for þe beste.
That she hym wrot for sumwhat he byheld.
| On which hym poughte he myghte his herte reste.
| Al couered she þe wordes vnder sheld.
| Thus to þe more worði part he held.
| That what for hope and Pandarus byhest
| His grete wo foryede he at þe leste.

But as we may alday oure seluen se.
Thorough more wode and col þe more fyr.
Right so encres of hope of what it be.
Therwith ful ofte encresseth ek desir.
Or as an ok cometh of a litel spir.
So thorugh þis letre which þat she hym sente.
Encressen gan desir of which he brente.

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(188)

(189)

(190)

(191)
(192)

Wherefore I seye alwey þat day and nyght. 1338

This Troylus gan to desiren more.

Than he dede erst þurgh hope and dide his myght.

To pressen on as by Pandarus lore. 1341

And written to hire of his sorwes sore.

Fro day to day he leet it not refreyde.

That by Pandare he wrot somwhat or seyde. 1344

(193)

And dide also his opere observaunces. 1345

That to a louere longeth yn þis cas.

And after þat þese dees turnede on chaunces.

So was he outhere glad or seyde allas. 1348

And held after his gistes ay his pas.

And aftir swych answeres as he hadde.

So were his dayes sory outhere glade. 1351

(194)

But to Pandarus alwey was his recours. [leaf 37] 1352

And pytously gan ay til hym to pleyne.

And hym bysoughte of red and som socours.

And Pandarus þat sey his wod peyne. 1355

wex wel neigh ded for rupe soth to seyne.

And bysily with al his herte caste.

Som of his wo to slen and þat as faste. 1358

(195)

And seyde lord and frend and broþer dere. 1359

God wot þat þi dishese doth me wo.

But woltoþ stynten al þis woful chere.

And by my trouþe or it be dayes two. 1362

And god to-forn yet shal I shape it so.

That þou shalt come in to a certayn place.

There as þow mayst þi self hire preye of grace. 1365

CAMPSCALL
And certaynly I not yf pow it wost.  1366
But þo þat ben expert yn loue it seye.
It is oon of þe þynges þat furþereth most.
A man to haue a leyser for to preye.  1369
And syker place his wo for to bywreye.
For yn good herte it mot som rouþe impresse.
To here and se þe gît[1]es in distresse.  1372

Paraunter þenkestow þough it be so.  1373
That kynde wolde don here to bygynne.
To han a manere rouþe vp-on my wo.
Seyth daunger nay þow shalt me neuere wynne.  1376
So reuleþ here hire hirtes gost with-Inne.
That þough she bende yet she stant on rote.
That in effect is þis vn-to my bote.  1379

Thenk here a-yens whan þat þe sturdy ok.  1380
On which men hakketh ofte for þe nones.
Receyued hath þe happy fallyng strok.
The grete sweigh doth it to come al at onys.  1383
As doth þese rokkes or þese myl-stones.
For swyfter cours cometh þyng þat is of wighte.
whan it descendeth þan don þynges lyghte.  1386

And ried þat boweth doun for every blast.  [leaf 37, back]  1387
Ful lightly cesse wynde it wold a-ryse.
But so nyl not an ok whan it is cast.
It nedeth me nought þe longe to forbyse.  1390
Men shal reioyssen of a gret emprise.
Acheued wel and stant with-outen doute.
Al han men ben þe lengere þer aboute.  1393
But Troylus yet telle me yf þe lyste. A þing now which þat I shal axen þe. which is þi broþer þat þow louest best. As yn þi verray hertes preuyte. I-wys my broþer deyphbus quod he. Now quod Pandare er owres twyes twelue. He shal þe ese vnwyst of it hym selue.

Now lat me allone and werken as I may. Quod he. and to Deiphebus wente he þo. which hadde his lord and gret frend ben ay. Saue Troylus no man he loued so. To telle in short with-outen wordes mo. Quod Pandarus I pray yow þat ye be. Frend to a cause whiche þat touche þ me.

Yis parde quod Deiphebus wel þow wost. In al þat euere I may and god to-forn. Al nere it but for man I loue most. My broþer Troylus but sey wherfore. It is / for sith þat day þat I was bore. I na / ne neuere mo to ben I þenke. A-yeyns a þyng þat myght þe for-thynke.

Pandare gan hym þonke and to hym seyde. Lo sire I haue a lady yn þis town. That is my nece and called is Criseyde. which som men wolden do oppressioun. And wrongfully haue hire possesioun. wherfor I of youre lordship yow byseche. To ben oure frend with-oute more speche.
Deiphebus hym answerde o is not pis.  
That pow spekest of to me so straungely.  
Criseyda my frend / he seyde yis.  
Thanne nedeth quod Deiphebus hardly.  
Nomore to speke for truste wel pat I.  
wol be hire champioun with spore and yerde.  
I rought nought pough alle here foos it herde.  

But telle me pow pat wost alle pis matere.  
How I myght best auaylen now lat se.  
Quod Pandarus yf ye my lord so dere.  
wolden as now don pis honour to me.  
To prayen here to morwe. lo pat she.  
Com vn-to yow here pleyntes to deuyse.  
Hire aduersaries wolde of hit agryse.  

And yf I more dorste prey yow as now.  
And chargen yow to haue so gret trouayyle.  
To han som of youre breferen here with yow.  
That myghten to here cause bet auayle.  
Than wot I wel she myght neuere fayle.  
For to be holpen what at youre Instaunce.  
what with here opere frendes gouernaunce.  

Deiphebus wh[i]ch pat comen was of kynde.  
To al honour and bounte to consente.  
Answered it shal be don / and I kan fynde.  
Yet grettere help to pis yn myn entente.  
what wolt pow seyn yf I for Eleyne sente.  
To speke of pis I trowe it be pe beste.  
For she may ledyn Paris as here lest.  

Campsall
Of Ector which \textit{pat} is my lord my bro\textit{fer}. 1450
It nedeth nought to prey hym frend to be.
For I haue herd hym o tym\textit{e} ek and o\textit{per}.
Speke of Criseyde swich honour \textit{pat} he. 1453
May seyn no bet swych hap to hym hap she.
It nedeth nought his helps for to craue.
He shal be swych right as we wole hym haue. 1456

(209)
\textit{Spek} \textit{pow} pi-self also to Troylus. [leaf 38, back] 1457
On myn byhalue and pray hym with vs dyne.
Sire al \textit{pis} shal be don quod Pandarus.
And toke his leue. and neuere wolde he fyne. 1460
But to his Neces hous as streyt as lyne.
He com. and fond here fro \textit{pe} mete a-ryse.
And sette hym down. and spak right in \textit{pis} wyse. 1463

(210)
\textbf{He} seyde o veray god. so haue I ronne. 1464
Lo Nece se ye nought how I swete.
I-not whe\textit{fer} ye me \textit{pe} more \textit{pankete} konne.
Be nought war how fals Polyphete. 1467
Is now abowte eft soones for to plete.
And bryng on yow aduocacies newe.
I no quod she and chaunged al here hewe. 1470

(211)
\textbf{What} is he more aboute me to drecche. 1471
And don me wrong what shal I do allas.
Yet of hym self no \textit{pyng} nold I recche.
Nere it for Antenor and Eneas. 1474
That ben his frendys yn swych manere cas.
But for \textit{pe} loue of god myn vncl\textit{e} dere.
No fors of \textit{pat} late hym haue al y-fere. 1477
With-outen þat I haue y-nowh for vs.  
Nay quod Pandare it shal no þyng be so.  
For I haue ben right now at Deiphbus.  
And Ector / and myne opere lorde mo.  
And shortly made eche of hem his fo.  
That by my thryft he shal it neuere wynne.  
For ought he kan whan þat so he bygynne.  

And as þey casten what was best to done.  
Deiphbus of his owene curtasye.  
Come hire to preye yn his propre persone.  
To holde hym on þe morwe companye.  
At dyner. which she wolde not denye.  
But good gan to his preyere obeye.  
He þonked hire and wente vp-on his weye.  

Whanne þis was don þis Pandare vp a-noon.  
To tellen in short and forth gan for to wende.  
To Troilus as stille as ony ston.  
And al þis þing he told hym word and ende.  
And how þat he Deiphbus gan to blende.  
And seyde hym now is tyme if þat þow konne.  
To bere þe wel to morwe and al is wonne.  

Now spek / now prey / now pitously compleyne.  
Lat not for Nice shame or drede or slouþe.  
Som tyme a man mot telle his owene peyne.  
Bileue it and she shal han on the rouþe.  
Thow shalt be saued by þi feyth in trouþe.  
But wel wot I yow art now yn drede.  
And what it is I leye I kan arede.
Thow pinnest now how sholde I don al þis.
For be my cheres mosten folk a-spye.
That for hire loue is þat I fare a-mys.
That hadde I leuere vnwyst for sorwe dye.
Now þenk not so for þou dost gret folye.
For right now haue I founden o manere.
Of sleyghte. for to coueren al þi chere.

Thow shalt gon ouer nyght and þat blyue.
Vn-to Deiphebus hous as þe to pleye.
Thi maladye a-wey þe bet to dryue.
For-why þou semest syk soth for to seye.
So after þat doun in þi bed þe leye.
And sey þow mayst no lengere vp endure.
And lye right þere and byde þyn auenture.

Sey þat þi feuer is wont þe for to take.
The same tyme and lasten til a morwe.
And lat se now how wel þow kanst it make.
For par de syk is he þat is in sorwe.
Go now fairewel and Venus here to borwe.
I hope and þow þis purpos holde ferme.
Thi grace she shal þere fully conferme.

Quod Troylus y-wys now nedeles.
Counseylest me that syklyche I me feyne.
For I am syk yn ernest douteles.
So þat wel neygh I sterue for þe peyne.
Quod Pandarus þow shalt þe betre pleyne.
And hast lasse nede to countrefete.
For hym men demen hot þat men seen swete.
Lo holde the at þi tryste clos and .I.  
Shal wel the der vn-to þi bowe dryue.  
Therwith he tok his leue softeley.
And Troylus to Palays wente blyue.  
So glad ne was he neuere yn al his lyeue.
And to Pandarus reed gan al assente.
And to Deiphebus hous at nyght he wente.

What nedeth yow to tellen al þe chere.
That Deiphebus vn-to his broþer made.
Or his accesse or his syklyche manere.
How men gan hym with cloþes for to lade.
Whanne he was leyd and how men wolde hym glade.
But al for nought he held forth ay þe wyse.
That ye han herd Pandare er þis deuyse.

But certeyn is / er Troylus hym leyde.
Deiphebus had hym prayed ouer nyght.
To ben a frend and helpyng to Criseyde.
God wot þat he it grauntede a-noon right.
To ben here fulle frend with al his myght.
But swych a nede was to prey hym þenne.
As for to bydde a womman for to renne.

The morwen com and neyhen gan þe tymne.
Of meltid. þat þe faire queene Eleyne.
Shapt here to ben an owre after þe pryame.
with Deiphebus to whom she nold not feyne.
But as his suster homly for to seyne.
She com to dyner yn here playn entente.
But god and Pandare wyst what al þis mente.
Come ek Criseyde al Innocent of this. 

Antigone hire sister Tarbe also.
But fle we now prolixite best is.

For loue of god and lat vs faste go.
Right to pe effect with-oute tales mo.

whi al pis folk assembled in pis place.
And late vs of here saluynges pace.

Gret honour dide hem Deiphebus certeyn.
And fedde hem wel with al pat myghte like.
But euere more allas was his refreyn.

My goode broper Troylus the syke.
Lyth yet. and perwith-al he gan to syke.

And after pat he peyned hym to glade.
Hem as he myghte and chere good he made.

Compleyned ek Eleyne of his sykenesse.
So feythfully pat pite was to here.
And euery wight gan waxen for accesse.

A leche a-noon and seyde in pis manere.
Men curen folk pis charme I wole yow lere.
But pere sat oon / al lyst here nought to teche.
That pought best cowede I yet ben his leche.

After compleynt hym gonnen pei to preyse.
As folk don yet whan som wyght hath by-gonne.

To preyse a man. and with prys hym reyse.

A pousand fold yet hyer pan pe sonne.
He is / he kan / pat fewe lorde konne.
And Pandarus of pat he wolde afferme.
He not for-gat here preysyng to conferme.
(228)

Herde al þis þyng Criseyde wel y-nowh. 1590
And every word gan to noteifye.
For whiche with sobre here here herte lowh.
For who is þat ne wold here glorifye. 1593
To mowen swych a knyght lyue or dye.
But al passe I lyst ye to longe dwelle.
For for o fyn is al þat euere I telle. 1596

(229)

The tyme come fro dyner for to ryse. 1597
And as hem oughte aryse everychon.
And gonne a while of þis and þat deuyse.
But Pandaras brak al þis speche a-noon. 1600
And seide to Deiphebus wolde ye gone.
If youre wille be as I yow preyde.
To speke here / of þe nedes of Criseyde. 1603

(230)

Eleyne whiche þat by þe hond here held. 1604
To first þe tale and seyde go we blyne.
And goodly on Criseyde she by-held.
And seyde Ioues lat hym neuere þryue. 1607
That doth yow harm and bryng hym soone of lyue.
And yeue me sorwe but he shal it rewe.
If þat I may / and alle folk be trewe. 1610

(231)

TeH yow þi Neces cas quod Deiphebus. 1611
To pandarus / for þow kanst best it telle.
My lordys and my ladyes it stant þus.
what sholde I lengere quod he do yow dwelle. 1614
He rong hem a proces lyk a belle.
Vp-on here fo þat highte poliphete.
So heynous þat men myghte on it spete. 1617
(232)
Answere of pis eche worse of hem þan oþer. 1618
And Poliphete þey gonnen þus to waryen.
An-honged be swych on were he my broþer.
And so he shal for he ne may not varyen. 1621
what sholde I lengere yn þis tale taryen.
Pleynly al at ones þey here hyghten.
To ben hire helpe yn al þat euere þey myghten. 1624

(233)
Spak þan Eleyne and seyde Pandarus. 1625
woot ought my lord my broþer þis matere.
I mene Ector or wot it Troylus.
He seyde ye but wolde ye now here. 1628
Me þenketh þis / sith þat Troylus is here.
It were good. If þat ye wolde assente.
She told here self / hym al þis er she wente. 1631

(234)
For he wolde haue þe more here grief at herte. [leaf 41] 1632
By cause / lo / þat she a lady ys.
And by youre leue I wolde but right yn sterte.
And yow wete and þat a-noon y-wys. 1635
If þat he slepe. or wolde ought here of þis.
And yn he lepte and seyde hym in his ere.
God haue þi soule I-brought haue I þe bere. 1638

(235)
To smylen of þis gan þo Troylus. 1639
And Pandarus with-oute rekenynge.
Out wente a-noon to Eleyne and Deiphebus.
And seyde hem so þere be no taryinge. 1642
Ne more pres he wolde wel þat ye brynge.
Criseyda my lady þat is here.
And as he may endure he wolde here. 1645
(236)

But wel ye wot þe chaumbre is but lite.  
And fewe folk lightly may make it warm.  
Now loke ye for I wole haue no wyte.  
To bryng yn pres þat myghte don harm.  
Or hym dishesen for my bettre arm.  
wher it be bet she byde til eft sones.  
Now loke ye þat knoweth what to don is.

(237)

I sey for me best is as I kan knowe.  
That no wight yn ne wente but ye tweye.  
But it were I for I kan yn a þowe.  
Reherce here cas vnylyk þat she kan seye.  
And after þis she may hym ones preye.  
To ben good lord yn short and take here leue.  
This may not mechel of his ese hym reue.

(238)

And ek for she is straunge he wole for-bere.  
His ese. which þat he þar nought for yow.  
Ek oþer þing þat toucher not to here.  
He wole me telle I wot it wel right now.  
That secret is. and for þe townes prow.  
And þey þat no þing knewe of þis entent.  
with-oute more to Troilus yn þei went.

(239)

Eleyne in al here goode softly wyse.  
Gan hym saluwe and womanly to pleye.  
And seyde ywys ye moste alweyes a-ryse.  
Now fare broþer beth al hool I preye.  
And gan here arm right ouer his sholder leye.  
And hym with al here wit to recomforte.  
As she best kowde / she gan hym disporte.
(240)
So after pis / quod she we yow byseche. 1674
My dere bro(per Deiphebus and .I. 
For love of god and so doth Pandare eke. 
To ben good lord and frende right hertely. 
Vn-to Criseyde which that certeynly. 
Receyneth wrong/ as wot wel here Pandare. 
That kan here cas wel bet pat I declare. 1680

(241)
This Pandarus gan newe his tunge affyle. 1681
And al here cas reherce and pat anoon. 
whan it was seyd / soone after in a while. 
Quod Troylus as soon as I may gon. 1684
I wole right fayn with al my myght ben oon. 
'Haue god my troupe here cause to susteyne. 
Good pryft haue ye quod Eleyne pe queene. 1687

(242)
Quod Pandarus and it youre wille be. 1688
That she may take here leue er pat she go. 
O elles god for-bede quod he. 
If that she vouche saf for to do so. 1691
And with pat word quod Troilus ye two. 
Deiphebus and my suster leef and dere. 
To yow haue I to speke of o matere. 1694

(243)
To ben auysed by youre red pe bettre. 1695
And fond as hap was at his beddes hed. 
The copye of a retes and a lettre. 
That Ector had hym sent to axen red. 1698
If swych a man was worpi to ben ded. 
woot I nought who but in a grysly wyse. 
He preyede hem a-noon on it auys. 1701
Deiphbus gan this lettre to vnfolde.
In ernest gret so dede Eleyne pe queene.
And romynge outward fast it gan byholde.
Downward a steyre in to an herber grene.
This ilke pinge pei redden hem by-twene.
And largely pei mountaunce of an owre.
Thei gon on it to rede and to powre.

Now late hem rede and turne we a-noon.
To Pandarus pat gan ful faste praye.
That al was wel and out he gan to gon.
In to pei grete chambre and pat yn hye.
And seyde god saue al peis companye.
Come Nece myn my lady queene Eleyne.¹
Abydeth yow / and ek my lordes twyne.

Rys take with yow yowre Nece Antigone.
Or whom yow lyst or no fors hardyly.
The lasse pres pei bet come forth with me.
And loke pat yei ponke humbely.
Hem alle pei and whan ye may goodly.
Youre tyme ye-se taketh of hem youre leue.
Lest we to longe of his reste hym reue.

Al Innocent of Pandarus entente.
Quod tho Crisyde go we vnclle dere.
And arm in arm Inward with hym she wente.
Auysed wel here wordes and here chere.
And Pandarus yn ernestful manere.
Seyde alle folk for goddes loue I preye.
Stynteth right here and softely yow pleye.
(248)

Avise yow what folk ben here with-Inne. 1730
And in what plit oon is god hym amende.
And Inward þus ful softly bygynne.
Nece I conjure and heighly yow defende. 1733
On his by-halue which þat vs alle sowle sende.
And in þe vertue of corounes tweyne.
Sle nought þis man þat hath for yow þis peyne. 1736

(249)

Fy on the deuel þenk which on he is. [leaf 42, back] 1737
And in what plyt he lith com of a-noon.
Thenk þat al swych taried tid but lost it nys.
That wolde ye bothe, seyn whan ye ben on. 1740
Secundelich þer yet deuyneth noon.
Vp-on yow two com of now yf ye konne.
whil folk is blent / lo al þe tyme is wonne. 1743

(250)

In titeryng and pursuyte and delayes. 1744
The folk deuyn at waggynge of a stre.
And þough ye wolden han after merye dayes.
Than dar ye nought / and why for she and she. 1747
Spak swych a word þus loked he and he.
Las tyme y-lost .I. dar not with yow dele.
Com of þefore and bryngeth hym to hele. 1750

(251)

But now to yow ye louers þat ben here. 1751
was Troylus nought in a kankedort.
That lay and myghte whysprynge of hem here.
And þought o lord ryght now renneth my sort. 1754
Fully to dye or han a-noon comfort.
And was þe firste tyme he shulde here preye.
Of loute .o. myghti god what shal I seye. 1757

Explicit Secundus liber.

CAMPSALL
[Campsall MS. leaf 42, back.]

[The tagd f, g, k, t, of the MS. are not printed in this 3rd book.]

(1)
- Blysful light of whiche þe bemes clere. 1
- Adorneth al þe pridde heuene faire. 2
- O sonnes lyef .o. Ioues daughter dere. 4
- Plesaunce of loue .o. goodly debonaire. 7
- In gentil hertes ay redy to repaire. 8
- O verray cause of hele and of gladnesse. 14
- I-heried be þi myght and þiin goodnesse. 18

(2)
- In heuene and helle in erthe and salte se. [leaf 43] 8
- Is felt þi myght of þat I Wolfe descerne. 11
- As / man / bryd / beste / fissfi / herbe and grene tre. 14
- The feld in tymes with vapour eterne. 16
- God loueth and to loue wol nough werne. 17
- And in þis word no lyues creature. 18
- with-outen loue is worth or may endure. 21

(3)
- Ye Ioues first to þilke effectes glade. 15
- Thorugh whiche þat þinges lyuen alle and be. 18
- Comeueden and amoreux hem made. 19
- On mortal þyng and as yow lyst ay ye. 20
- Yeue hym in loue ese or aduersite. 21
- And in a þousand formes doun hem sente. 21
- For loue in er þe / and whom yow lyste he hente. 21
Ye fierse Mars apeysen of his Iire. 22
And as yow lyste ye maken hertes digne. 25
Algates hem pat ye wole sette a fyre.
Thei dreden shame and vices ðei resigne.
Ye do hem corteys be fresch and benigne.
| And hye or lowe after a wyght entendeth.
The Ioyes pat he hath youre myght it sendeth. 28

Ye holden regne and hous in vnite. 29
Ye sothfast cause of frendship ben also.
Ye knowe al þilke couered qualite.
Of þing which pat folk on wondren so.
whan þey kan not constreue how it may Io.
She loueth hym or whi he loueth here.
As whi þis fïssh and nought þat cometh to were. 35

Ye folk a lawe han set in vniuersite. 36
And þis knowe I by hem þat loueres be.
That who-so stryueth with yow hath þe worse.
Now lady bryght for þi benignite.
At reuerence of hem þat seruen þe.
whos clerk I am so techeþ me deuyse.
Som Ioye of þat is felt in þis seruyce. 42

Ye in my nakede herte sentement. 43
Inhelde and do me shewe of thi sweetnesse.
Caliöpe thi voys be now present.
For now is nede sestow not my destresse.
How I mot telle a-non right þe gladnesse.
Of Troylus to Venus heriynge.
To whichi who nede hath god hym brynge. 49

Explicit prohemium. Tercii libri.

CAMPSALL
Incipit liber. Tercius.

(8)
Ay al pis mene while Troylus.
Recordynge his lesson in pis manere.
Mafey bought he pis wole I sey and pis.
Thus wole I pleyne vn-to my lady dere.
This word is good and pis shal be my chere.
God leue hym werke as he gan deuyse.

(9)
And lord so his herte gan to quappe.
Herynge here come and short for to syke.
And Pandaray pat lad here by pe lappe.
Com ner and gan at pe curtyn pyke.
And seyde god do bote on alle syke.
Se who is here yow comen to visite.
Lo here is she pat is youre deth to wyte.

(10)
Ther-with it semed as he wepte almost.
A.ha. quod Troylus so ruffully.
wher me be wo .o. myghty god yow wost.
who is al per I se nought trewely.
Sire quod Criseyde it is Pandare and .I.
Ye swete herte allas I may nought ryse.
To knele and do yow honour in som wyse.

(11)
And dressede hym vpward and she right tho.
Gan bope here hondes softe vpon hym leye.
O for pe loue of god do ye not so.
To me quod she I what is pis to seye.
Sire come am I to yow for causes tweye.
First yow to ponke and of youre mercy eke.
Continuaunce I wolde yow beseche.
This Troilus hat herde his lady preye.
Of lordship hym wax neyper quyk ne ded.
Ne myght a word for shame to it seye.
Al pough men sholde Smyte of his hed.
But lord so he wex sodeynlyche red.
And sire his lesson hat wende konne.
To preyen hire is purgh his wit y-ronne.

Cryseyde al pis aspiede wel y-nowgh.
For she was wys and louede hym neuere pe lasse.
Al nere he malapert or madé it towgh.
Or was to bold to synge a fol a masse.
But whan his shame gan somwhat to passe.
His resones as I may my rymes holde.
I yow woled telle as techen bokes olde.

An chaunged voys right for his verrey drede.
which voys ek quooke and þer-to his manere.
Goodly abayst / and now his hewes rede.
Now pale vn-to Criseyde his lady dere.
with look doun cast and humble yolden chere.
Lo þe alderfirst word that hym asterte.
was twyes mercy mercy swete herte.

And stynte a whily and whan ho myghte out brynge.
The nexte word was god wot þat I haue.
As feythfully as [I] haue had konnynga.
Ben yowres also god my sowle saue.
And shal til þat I woful wyght be graue.
And pough I dar ne kan vn-to yow pleyne.
Iwys I suffre nought þe lasse peyne.

Campsall
Thus muche as now .o. wommanlyche wyf.
I may out brynge and yf pis yow displese.
That shal I wreke vpon myn owne lyf.
Right sone I trowe and don youre herte an esc.
If with my deth youre herte may apese.
But syn pat ye han herd me som what seye.
Now recche I neuere how sone pat I deye.

Ther-with his manly sorwe to by-holde.
It myght han mad an herte of ston for to rewe.
And Pandare wep as he to watre wolde.
And poked euere his nece newe and newe.
And seyde wo bygon ben hertes trewe.
For loue of god make of pis byng an ende.
Or sle vs boфе at ones er pat ye wende.

I what quod she by god and by my trowпе.
I not nought what ye wille pat I shal seye.
I what quod he pat ye han on hym routhe.
For goddes loue and doth hym nought to deye.
Now panne пus / quod she / I wolde hym preye.
To telle me пе fyn on his entente.
Yet wyst I neuere wel what пat he mente.

What пat I mene .o. swete herte dere.
Quod Troylus .o. goodly fresshe fre.
That with пе stremes of youre eyen clere.
Ye wolde som tyme frendly on me se.
And пanne agreen пat I may ben he.
with-oute braunch of vyce yn ony wyse.
In trowпе alwey to don yow my seruyse.
As to my lady right and chief resort.
With all my wit and all my diligence.
And to han right as yow lyst comfort.
Vnder yowre yerde egal to myn offence.
As deth If pat I breke youre defende.
And pat ye digne me so muche honoure.
Me to comaunden ought yn ony owre.

And I to ben yowre verray humble trewe.
Secret. and yn myn paynes pacient.
And euere mo desire freshly newe.
To seruen and ben ay I-lyke diligent.
And with good herte al holly youre talent.
Receyuen wel how sore pat me smerte.
Lo pis mene I myn owene swete herte.

Quod Pandarus lo here an hard request.
A resonable lady for to werne.
Now Nece myn by natal Iones feste.
were .I. a god ye sholde sterue as yerne.
That heren wel pat pis man wolde no pyng yerne.
But youre honour / and sen hym almost sterue.
And ben so loth to suffren hym yow serue.

With pat she gan hire eyen on hym caste.
Ful esyly and ful debonairly.
Auysyng here and hied not to faste, with neuer a word but seyde hym softely.
Myn honour sauf I wol wel trewely.
But yn swych forme as he can now deuyse.
Receyuen hym fully to my seruyce.
By-sechyng hym for goddes loue pat he. 

wolde in honour of troupe and gentilesse.

As I wel mene eke mene wel to me.

And myn honour with wit and besynesse.

Ay kepe, and yf I may don hym gladnesse.

From hens-forth I-wys I nyl not feyne.

Now beth al hol no lengere ye ne pleyne.

But napelees this warne .I. yow quod she.

A kynges sone al-ough ye be I-wys.

Ye shul nomore haue soueraynte.

Of me in loue þan right in þat cas is.

Ne I nyl forbere yf þat ye don a-mys.

To wrathen yow / and whil þat ye me serue.

Cherycen yow right after ye deserue.

And shortly my dere herte and al my knyght.

Beth glad and draweth yow to lustynesse.

And I shal trewely with al my myght.

Youre bittre tornen al to swetnesse.

If .I. be she þat may now do gladnesse.

For euery wo ye shal recouere a blysse.

And hym in armes toke and gan hym kysse.
(28)

But ho no more now of pis matere.  
For-whi pis folk wole come vp anoon.  
That han pe lettre red / lo I hem here.  
But I coniure pe Criseyde and on.  
And two ow Troylus whan ow mayst gon.  
That at myn hows ye ben at myn warnynge.  
For I ful wel shal shape youre comynge.

(29)

And eseth pere youre hertes right y-nough.  
And lat se which of yow shal bere pe belle.  
To speke of loue a-right / per-with he lough.  
For pere haue ye a layser for to telle.  
Quod Troylus how longe shal y dwelle.  
Er pis be don. quod he whan pou mayst ryse.  
This pinge shal be right as I yow deuyse.

(30)

With pat Eleyne and also Deiphbus.  
Tho comen vpward right at pe steyres ende.  
And lord so janne gan grone Troylus.  
His brofer and his suster for to blynde.  
Quod Pandarus it is tyme pat we wende.  
Tak nece myn youre leue at alle pre.  
And late hem speke and cometh forth with me.

(31)

She toke here leue at hem ful pryftly.  
As she wel koude and pey here reuerence.  
Vn-to pe fulle here deden hardely.  
And wonder wel spaken in here absence.  
Of here in preysyng of here excellency.  
Hire gouernaunce hire wit and here manere.  
Commendeden it Ioye was to here.
Now late here wende vn to here owne place.
And torne we to Troylus a-yen.
That gan ful lyghtly of the lettre passe.
That Deiphbus hadde yn þe gardeyn seyn.
And of Eleyne and hym he wolde fayn
Delyuered ben and seyde þat hym lyste.
To slepe and after tales haue reste.

Eleyne hym kyste and toke here leue blyue.
Deiphbus ek. and hom wente every wyght.
And Pandarus as faste as he may dryue.
To Troylus þo com as lyne right.
And on a pailct al þat glade nyght.
By Troylus he lay with mery cheire.
To tale / and wel was hem þei were y-fere.

Whan every wyght was voyded but þey two.
And alle þe dores were faste y-shette.
To telle in short with-oute wordes mo.
This Pandarus with-outen ony lette.
Vp ros and on his beddes side hym sette.
And gan to speke in a sobre wyse.
To Troylus as I shal yow deuyse.

Myn alderleuest lord and broþer dere.
God wot and þow þat it sat me sore.
when I þe saw so langwysshynge to yere.
For loue of which þi wo wax alwey more.
That I with al my myght and al my lore.
Haue euere sethen do my bysynesse.
To brynge þe to Ioye out of distresse.
And haue it brought to swich plit as þow wost. [Ir 46, br.] 246
So þat thorugh me þow stondest now in weye.
To fare wel. I seye it for no bost.
And wostow whi for shame it is to seye. 249
For þe haue I a game bygonne to playe.
which þat I neuere don shal eft for ðer.
Al-þough he were a þousand fold my broþer. 252

That is to seye for þe am I becomen. 253
By-twene game and ernest swych a mene.
As maken wommen vn-to men to comen.
Al sey I nought þow wost wel what I mene. 256
For þe haue I my Nece of vices clene.
So fully mad þi gentilesse triste.
That al shal ben right as þi selue lyste. 259

But god þat alle wot take I to wyntnesse. 260
That neuere I ðis for coueytise wroughte.
But only for to a-brygge þat destresse.
For which wel nygh þow deydest as me þoughte. 263
But gode broþer do now as þe oughte.
For goddes loue. and kep hire out of blame. 266
Syn þow art wys and saue alwey here name.

For wel þow wost the name as yet of here. 267
A-mong þe peple. as who seyth alwed is.
For þat man is vnborne dar I swere.
That euere wyste she dide amys. 270
But wo is me þat I þat cause al ðis.
May þenken þat she is my Nece deere.
And I here Em / and traytor eke y-fere. 273
(40)

And were it wyst pat I prough myn engyn. 274
Hadde in my nece I put pis fantasye.
To do pi lust and holly to be pyn.
why al pe world vp-on it wolde crye. 277
And seye pat I pe worste trecherye.
Dide yn pis cas pat euere was bygone.
And she for-lost / and pow right nought wonne. 280

(41)

* Wher-fore er I ferther go a pas.  [leaf 47] 281
* Yet eft I pe by-seche and fully seye.
* That preuete go with vs in pis cas.
* That is to seye pat pow vs neuere wreye. 284
* And be nought wroth pough I pe ofte preye.
* To holden secre swych an heigh mater.
* For skylful is / pow wost wel my preyere. 287

(42)

And penk what wo per hath by-tyd er pis. 288
For makynge of auauntes as men rede.
And what myschaunce in pis world yet is.
Fro day to day right for pat wykkede dede. 291
For whiche pes wise clerkes pat ben dede.
Han euere yet prouerbed to vs yonge.
That firste vertu is to kepe tonge. 294

(43)

And nere it that .I. wilne as now tabregge. 295
Diffusioun of speche .I. koude almost.
A þousand olde stories the alegge.
Of wommen lost. þorough fals and foles bost. 298
Prouerbes kanst þy selue y-nowe and wost.
A-yens þat vice for to ben a labbe.
Al seyde men soth as often as þe[y] gabbe. 301
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(44)

O tongue alas so often here byforn. 302
Hastow made many a lady bright of hewe. 305
Seyd welawey þe day þat I was born.
And manye a maydes sorwes for to newe.
And for þe more part al is vntrewe.
That men of yelpe and it were brought to preue.
Of kyng non auauntures is to leue.

(45)

Auauontoure and a lyere al is on. 309
A[s] þus I pose a womman graunte me.
Here loue and seyth þat oþer wole she non.
And I am sworn to holde it secre.
And after I. go telle two or þre.
I.-wys I. am a-vauntour at þe leste.
And a lyere for I breke myn heste.

(46) (Much alterd in Caxton.) 316

Now loke þanne yf þey be nought to blame. [leaf 47, back]
Swych maner folk what shal I clepe hem what.
That hem auaunte of wommen and by name.
That neuer yet byhight hem þis ne þat.
Ne knewe hem no more þan myn olde hat.
No wonder is so god me sende hele.
Though womman drede with vs men to dele.

(47)

I sey þis not for no mystrust of yow. 323
Ne for no wyse men but for foles Nice.
And for þe harm þat in þe world is now.
As wel for foly ofte as for malice.
For wel wot I in wys folk þat vice.
No wommat1 drat if she be wel a-vised. [l t for n]
For wyse ben by foles [harm] chastised.

CAMPSALL
(48)
But now to purpos leue broër dere.  
Haue al þis þing þat I haue seyd in mynde.  
And kep þe clos and be now of good chere.  
For at þi day þow shalt me trewe fynde.  
I shal þi proces sette yn swych a kynde.  
And god to-forn þat it shal þe suffice.  
For it shal ben right as þow wolt deuyse.  

(49)
For wel I wot þow menest [wel] parde.  
Therfore I dar þis fully vndertake.  
Thow wost eke what þi lady graunted þe.  
And day is set þi chartres vp to make.  
Haue now good nyght I make no lengere wake.  
And byd for me syn þow art now yn blysse.  
That god me sende deth or soone lyses.  

(50)
* Who myghte telle half þe Ioye and feste.  
* whiche þat þe sowle of Troylus þo felte.  
* Herynge þe feyth of Pandarus byheste.  
* His olde wo that made his sorwe swelte.  
* Gan tho for Ioye wasten and to-melte.  
* And alle þe richesse of his sikes sore.  
* At ones fledde he felte of hem no more.  

(51)
* But right so [as] these holtes and these hayes.  
* That han in wynter ded ben and dreye.  
* Reuesten hem in grene when þat may is.  
  whan euery lusti lyketh best to pleye.  
* Right in þat selue wyse soth for to seye.  
* wax sodeynlyche his herte ful of Ioye.  
That gladder was þere neuere man yn Troye.  

Campsall
(52)

- And gan his lok on Pandarus vp caste.
  Ful sobrely and friendly for to se.
- And seyde frend yn April þe laste.
- As wel þow wost if it remembreþ þe.
| How neigh the deth for wo þow founde me.
- And how þow dedest al þi bysynesse.
- To knowe of me þe cause of my distresse.

(53)

- Thow wost how longe .I. it for-bar to seye.
- To þe þat art þe man þat I to best triste.
- And peril was it noon to þe by-wreye.
| That wyst I wel. but telle me yf þe lyste.
  Sith I so loth was þat þi selfe it wyste.
- How dorst I mo tellen of þis matere.
- That quake now and no wyght may vs here.

(54)

- But natheles by þat god I þe swere.
- That as hym lyst may al þis world gouuerne.
| And yf I lyþe Achilles with his spere.
- Myn herte cleue. al were my lyf eterne.
  As I am mortal. yf I late or yerne.
  wolde it by-wreye. or dorste. or sholde konne.
  For al þe good þat god made vnder sonne.

(55)

That ræþer deye I wolde and determyne.
As þenketh me now stokked yn presoun.
In wrecchednesse in filþe and yn vermine.
Castif to cruel kyng Agamenoun.
And þis yn alle þe temples of þis town.
Vpon þe goddes alle I wolde þe swere.
To morwe day. yf þat it lyketh here.
(56)

- And that thow hast so meche don for me. 386
- That I ne may it neuere more deserue. 387
- This knowe I wel al myghte I now for þe. A thousand tymes In a morwen stereue. 389
  I. kan no more but þat I þe wolde serue. Right as þi 1knaue whider so þow wende. [1 kn corrected]
  For euere more vn to my lyues ende. 392

(57)

- But here with al myn herte I þe byseche. 393
  That neuere in me þow deme swych folye. As I shal seyn me þowghte by þi speche
  That þis which þow me dost for companye. 396
  I sholde wene it were a baudery.
  I am nought al 2yf I lewed be. [a mad has been written over “yf” in a later hand.]
  It is not so þat wote I wel parde. 399

(58)

- But he þat goth for gold or for richesse. 400
- On swych message calle hym what þe lyst. 401
  And þis þat þow dost calle it gentilesse.
  Compassioun and felawshipe and tryst.
  Departe it so. for wyde where is wyst.
  How þat þere is dyuersite requered.
  By-twysen þynges lyk as I haue lered. 406

(59)

- And þat þow knowe I þenke nought ne wene. 407
  That þis seruise a shame be or lape.
  I haue my faire suster Polixene.
  Cassandre Eleyne. or ony of þe fraipe. 410
- Be she neuere so faire or wel I-shape.
  Tel which þow wylt of euerychone.
  To han for þyne and late me þanne allone. 413
(60)

- But syn þat thow hast don me þis seruyce.  
  My lyf to saue and for noon hope of mede.
- So for the loue of god þis grete emprise.
- Parforme it out. for now is most nede.
  For hygh and low with-outen ony drede.
  I wole alwey þyne hestes alle kepe.
  Haue now good nyght and late vs bope slepe.

(61)

- Thus held hym eche with oþer wel apayed.  
  That al þe world ne myght it bet a-mende
  And on þe morwe whan þei were arayed.
- Eche to his owene nedes gan entende.
  But Troylus þouhte as þe fyr he brende.
  For sharp desir of hope and of plesaunce.
- He not for-gat his gode gouernaunce.

(62)

- But in hym self wiþ manhod gan restreyne.
  Eche rakel dede and eche vnbredlled chere.
  That alle þo þat lyuen soth to seyne.
  Ne sholde han wyst by word or by manere.
  what þat he mente as towchynþ þis mater he.
  From euery wyght as fer as is þe clowde.
  He was so wel dissimulen he kowde.

(63)

- And al þe while whiche þat I yow deuyse.
  This was hys lyf with al his fulle myght.
- By day he was in martes highe seruyse.
  This is to seyn. in armes as a knyght.
- And for þe more part þe longe nyght.
  He lay and þoughte how þat he myght serue.
  His lady best he[re] þank for to deserue.
Nyl I nought swere al-ough he lay softe.
That in his pought he nas sumwhat dishezed.
Ne þat he tornde on his pylwes ofte.  [1 The s has been partly rubd out]
And wolde of þat hym myssed han ben 1sesed.
But yn swych cas men is nought alwey yplesed.
For ought I wot no more þan was he.
That kan I deme of possibilite.

But certeyn is to purpos for to go.
That in þis while as wretten is in geste.
He say his lady som tyme [and] also.
She with hym spak whan þat she dorste and leste.
And by hire boþe auys as it was þe beste.
Apoynteden ful warly in þis nede.
So as þey dorste how þey wolden procede.

But it was spoken in so short a wyse.  [leaf 49, back]
In swych [awayt] alwey and in swych fere.
Lest ony wyght dyuynen or deuyse.
wolde of hem two. or to it leye an eere.
That al þis world. so lef to hem ne were.
As þat Cupido wolde hem grace sende.
To make of here speche a-ryght a[n] ende.

But þilke lytel þat þey spake or wroughte.
His wyse gost tok ay of al swych hede.
It semed here he wyste what she þoughte.
with-outen word, so þat it was no nede.
To bidde hym ought to done or ought for-bede.
For which she þoughte þat loue al come it late.
Of alle Ioye hadde opned here þe yate.

CAMPSALL
And shortly of his proces for to pace.  
So wel his werk and wordes he by-sette. 
That he so ful stod in his lady grace. 
That twenty thousand tymes or she lette. 
She ponked god she euere with hym mette. 
So koude he hym gonerne in swych seruyce. 
That al þe world ne myght it bet deuyse. 

For whi she fond hym so dyscret in al.  
So secret. and of swych obeysaunce. 
That wel she felte / he was to hire a wal. 
Of stel. and sheld from euery dysplesaunce. 
That to ben in his good gouernaunce. 
So wys he was. she was no more a-fered. 
I mene as fer as oughte ben requered. 

And Pandarus to quyke alwey þe fyr.  
was euere y-lyk prest and dyligent. 
To ese his frend was set al his desir. 
He shof ay on. he to and fro was sent. 
He lettres bar whan Troylus was absent. 
That neuere man as in his frendes nede. 
Ne bar hym bet þan he with-outen drede. 

But now paraunter som man wene wolde.  
That euery word. or sonde. or lok. or chere. 
Of Troylus þat I rehersen sholde. 
In al þis while / vn-to his lady dere. 
I trowe it were a long þing for to here. 
Or of what wyght þat stont in swych disioynte. 
Hise wordes alle or euery lok to poynte. 

CAMPSALL
For sopte I haue not herd it don er pis. 498
In storie noon ne noman here I wene.
And pough I wold I koude not I-wys.
For þere was som Epistel hem by-twene. 501
That wolde as seyth myn Auctor wel contene.
Neigh half þis bok of which hym lyst not write.
How sholde I þanne a lyne of it endite. 504

But to þe grete effect þan sey I þus. 505
That stondyng in concord and in quiete.
This ilke two Criseide and Troylus.
As I haue told / and in þis tyme swete. 508
Saue only often myght þei not mete.
Ne layser haue hire speches to fulfille.
That it befel right as I shal yow telle. 511

That Pandarus þat euere dide his myght. 512
Right for þe fyn þat I shal speke of here.
And for to brynge to his hous som nyght.
His faire Nece / and Troylus y-fere. 515
There as at leyser al þis heigh matere.
Towchyng here loue were at þe fulle vp bounde.
Hadde out of doute a tyme to it founde. 518

For he with gret deliberacion). 519
Hadde euery þing þat here myghte auaylle.
Forn-cast and put in execucion).
And neiper laft for cost ne for trauayle. 522
Come yf hem lest hem sholde no þing fayle.
And for to ben in ought espied þere.
That wyst he wel an impossible were. 525
Dredles it clere was in the wynd. [leaf 50, back]  526
From euery pye and euery lette game.
Now al is wel for al þe world is blynd.
In þis matere bope fremed and tame.
This tymbre is al redy vp to frame.
Vs lakketh nought but þat we weten wolde.
A certeyn houre in whiche she comen sholde.  532

And Troylus þat al þis puruyaunce.  533
Knew at þe fulle and waytede on it ay.
Hadde here-vp-on ek made gret ordenaunce
And founde his cause. and þer-to his aray.
Yf þat he were myssed nyght or day.
Ther while he was abowte þis seruyse.
That he was gon to don his sacrifice.  539

And most at swych a temple a-lone wake.  540
Answered of appollo for to be.
And first to sen þe holy laurer quake.
Er þat Apollo spak out of þe tre.
To telle hym next whan grekes sholden fle.
And for[thi] lette hym no man god forbede.
But prey Apollo helpen in þis nede.  546

Now is þere but litel more for to done.  547
But Pandare vp and shortly for to seyne.
Right soone vpon þe chaungyng of þe moone.
whan lyghtles is þe world a nyght or tweyne.
And þat þe walkene shop hym for to reyne.
He straught a morwe vn-to his nece wente.
Ye han wel herd þe fyn of his entente.  553
Whanne he was come he gan a-noon to playe.
As he was woned and of hym self to Iape.
And fynally he swor and gan here seye.
By pis and pat she shold hym not escape.
Ne lengere don hym after here to gape.
But certeynly she moste by here leue.
Come soupen in his hous with hym at eue.

At whiche she lough and gan here faste excuse.
And seyde, it rayneth. lo how shal I gon.
Lat be quod he / stond not pis to muse.
This mot be don ye shal be þere a-noon.
So at þe laste her-of þey felle at oon.
Or elles softe he swor here in here ere.
He nolde neuere come þere she were.

Soone after þis to hym she gan to rowne.
And asked hym yf Troylus were there.
He swor here nay for he was out of town.
And seyde Nece I pose þat he were.
Yow dorste haue neuere the more fere.
For rapere þan men myght hem þere aspie.
Me were leuere a thousand fold to dye.
But natheles yet gan she hym byseche. 582
Al though with hym to gon it was no fere.
For to be war of gosylyche peple speche.
That dremen bynges whiche pat neuere were. 585
And wel anyse hym whom he brought there.
And seyde hym Em. syn I most on yow triste.
Looke al be wel and do now as yow lyste. 588

He swor yis by stokkes and by stones. 589
And by pe goddes pat in heuene dwelle.
Or elles were hym leuere soule and bones.
with pluto kyng as depe ben yn helle. 592
As Tantalus what sholde I more telle.
whan al was wel he ros and toke his leue.
And she vn-to pe souper com whan it was eue. 595

With a certayn of here owene men. 596
And with here faire Nece Antigone.
And opere of here wommen nyne or ten.
But who was glad now. who as trowe ye. 599
But Troylus pat stod / and myght it se.
Thurgh out a lytel wyndowe in a stuwe.
Ther he by-shet syn mydnyght was [in] mewe. 602

Wnwist of euery wight but of Pandare. 603
But to pe poynt. now whanne she was y-come.
with alle Ioye and alle frendes fare.
Here Em a-noon in armes hath here nome. 606
And after to pe souper alle and some.
whan tyme was ful softe pey hym sette.
God wot pe r was no deynte for to fette. 609
(88)

And after souper gonnen ðey to ryse.  
At ese wel with hertes fressh and glade.  
And wel was hym that koude best anyse.  
To like here, or laughen ðat here made.  
He song, she pleyde, he told tales of wade.  
But at ðe laste as euery ðing hath ende.  
She tok here leue, and nedes she wolde wende.

(89)

But .o. Fortune executrice of wyerdes.  
O. Influences of þise heuenes hye.  
Soth is þat vnder god ye ben oure hierdes.  
Though to vs besteþ ben the causes wrie.  
This mene I for she gan homward hye.  
But execut was al bysиде here leue.  
At the goddes wyl. for which she moste bleue.

(90)

The bente mone with hire hornes pale.  
Saturne and Ione in Cancro Ioyned were.  
That swych a rayn from heuene gan a-vale.  
That euery maner womman þat was þere.  
Hadde of þat smoky reyn a verray fere.  
At which pandare þo lough and seyde þenne.  
Now were a tyme a ladye to go henne.

(91)

But goode Nece yf I myght euere plesse.  
Yow any þing þanne prey [I] yow quod he.  
To don myn herte as now so gret an eee.  
As for to dwelle here al þis nyght with me.  
For-whi þis is youre owene hous parde.  
For be my trouthe I sey it for no game.  
To wende now it were to me a shame.
Criseyde whiche pat kowde as muche good. 638
As half a world tok\(^1\) hede of his preyer. \([1 \text{ tok corrected}]\)
And syn it ron. and al was on a flode.
She poughte as good chep may I dwelle here. 641
And graunte gladly with a frendes chere.
And haue a pank as grucche and panne a-byde.
For hom to gon it may nought wel be-tyde. 644

I woie quod she myn vnkle lef and drede. 645
Syn pat yow lyst it skile is to be so.
I am right glad with yow to dwellen here.
I seyde but a game I wolde go.
I-wys graunt mercy Nece quod he po.
were it a game or no soth for to telle.
Now am I glad syn pat yow lyst to dwelle. 651

Thus al is wel. but po by-gan a-right. 652
The newe Ioye and al he feste a-gayn.
But Pandarus yf goodly hadde he myght.
He wolde han hyed here to bedde sayn.
And seyde lord pis is an huge rayn.
This were a weder for to slepen Inne.
And pat I rede vs soone to by-gynne. 658

And Nece wot ye where I wol yow leye. 659
For pat we shul not lyggen fer a-sonder.
And for ye neiper shullen dar I seye.
Heren noyse of reynes nor of pondre. 662
By god right in my lite closet yonder.
And I wole in pat oper hous allone.
Be wardeyn of youre wommen euerychone. 665

Campsall
(96)

And in pis myddel chaumbre pat ye se. 666
Shul youre wommen slepen wel and softe.
And þere I seyde shal youre selue be. (*)
And yf ye liggen wel to nyght come ofte. 669
And careth not what weder is on loft.
The wyn a-non and whan so þat yow lest.
So go we slepe. I. trowe it be þe beste. 1

[1 Than is it tyme / for to go to reste.—Caxton, & Harl. 1293.]

(97)

Ther nys no more but here after soone. 673
The voyde dronke / and trauers drawe anoon.
Gan euery wight þat hadde nought to done.
More in þat place out of þat chaumber gon. 676
And euere mo so sternelych it ron.
And blew þer-with so wonderlyche loude.
That wel neigh no man heren oper koude. 679

(98)

Tho Pandarus here Em right as hym oughte. 680
with women swychn as were hire most a-boute.
Ful glad vn-to hire beddes syde here broughte.
And toke his leue, and gan ful lowe lowte. 683
And seyde here in þis closet dore with-oute.
Right ouer-thwart youre wommen lyggen alle.
That whom yow lyste of hem ye may here calle. 686

(99)

So whanne þat she was yn þe closet leyd. 687
And alle here wommen forth by ordenaunce.
A bedde weren. þere as I haue seyd.
There was no more to speken nor to traunce. 690
But boden go to bedde with myschaunce.
If ony wight was sterlynge ony where.
And late hem slepe þat abedde were. 693

CAMPSALL
(100)

But Pandarus that wel koude eche a del.
The olde daunce, and euery poynt þer-Inne.
whan þat he sey þat al þyng was wel.
He pought he wolde on his werk bygynne.
And gan þe stewe dore al soft vn-pynne.
And stille as ston with-outen lenger lette.
By Troylus a-down right he hym sette.

(101)

And shortly to the poynt ryght for to gon.  
Of alle þis werk he told hym word and ende.
And seyde make þe redy ryght a-noon.
Thow shalt in-to heuene blysse wende.
Now blysful Venus þow me grace sende.
Quod Troylus, for neuer yet no nede.
Hadde I er now. ne haluendel þe drede.

(102)

Quod Pandarus ne drede þe neuer a del.
For it shal ben right as þow wylt desire.
So thriue I this nyght shal I make it wel.
Or casten al þe Growel in þe fyre.
Yit blisful Venus þis nyght þow me enspire.
Quod Troylus, as wys as I. þe serue.
And euere bet and bet shal til I sterne.

(103)

An yf I hadde .o. Venus ful of murþe.
Aspectes badde. of mars or of Saturne.
Or þow Combest or let were my byrþe.
Thi fader prey al þilke harme disturne.
Of grace and þat I glad a-yen may turne.
For loue of hym þow lonedest yn þe shawe.
I mene Adoon þat with þe bor was slawe.
Ione ek for þe loue of faire Europe.
The whiche in forme of bole a-way þow fette.
Now help .o. Mars thow with þi blody cope.
For loue of Cipres þow me nought ne lette.
O phebus þenk whan dane here seluen shette.
Vnder þe bark / and laurer wax for-drede.
Yet for here loue .o. help now at þis nede.

Mercurye for þe loue of hierse ek.
For whiche Pallas was with Aglawros wroth.
Now help and ek diane I þe by-sek.
That þis viage be not to þe loth.
O fatal sustren / which er ony cloþ.
Me shapen was. my destene me sponne.
So help to þis werk þat is by-gonne.

Quod Pandarus thow wrecched mouses herte.
Art þow a-garst. so þat she wole þe byte.
whi do on þis furred cloke a-bone þi sherte.
And folowe me for I wol han þe wyte.
But byde and late me go by-fore a lyte.
And with þat word he gan vn-do a trappe.
And Troylus he brought In by þe lappe.

The sterne wynd so lowde gan to route.
That no wight oper noyse myghte here.
And þey þat lay at þe dore with-oute.
Ful sikerly þei slepten al I-fer.
And Pandarus with a ful sobre chere.
Goth to þe dore anoon wit-owten lette.
There as þey laye. and softlye it shette.
(108)

And as he come a-yenward preuely.
His Nece a-wook and asked who goth there.
My dere Nece quod he it am. I.
Ne wondreth not / ne haueth of it no fere.
And ner he com and seyde here yn here ere.
No word for loue of god I yow byseche.
Lat no wight rysen and heren of oure speche.

(109)

What which weye be ye comen benedicite.
Quod she and how vnwyst of vs alle.
Here at pis secre trappe dore quod he.
Quod po Criseyde lat me som wyght calle.
I god forbede that it sholde falle.
Quod po Pandarus pat ye swych foly wroughte.
They myght deme pyng pey neuere poughte.

(110)

It is nought good a slepyng hound to wake.
Ne yeue a wyght a cause to deuyne.
Youre wommen slepen alle I vnder-take.
So pat for hem the hous men myghte myne.
And slepen wolen til pe sonne shyne.
And whanne my tale al brought is to an ende.
Vnwist right as I cam so wole I wende.

(111)

Now Nece myn ye shul wel vnderstonde. [leaf 54]
Quod he so as ye wommen demen alle.
That for to holde in loue a man in honde.
And hym here lef and dere herte calle.
And maken hym an howue a-boue a calle.
I mene as lone an obre in pis mene while.
She doth hire self a shame and hym [a] gyle.

CAMPSALL
Now wherby ṭat I telle yow al ṭis. Ye wot your self as wel as ony wyght. How ṭat youre loue ṭat fully graunted is. To Troylus ṭe worpieste knyght. On of ṭis world and ṭer-to troupe plyght. That but it were on hym a-long ye nolde. Hym neuere falsen / while ye lyuen sholde.

Now stant it ṭus ṭat sith I fro yow wente. This Troylus right platly for to seyn. Is ṭurgh a goter by a preuy wente. In-to my chaumbre come in al ṭis reyn. Vnwyst of euyer manere wyght certeyn. Saue of my self as wysly haue I loye. And by ṭat feith I shal Pryam of Troye.

And he is come in swich peyne and distresse. That but he be al fully wod by ṭis. He sodeynly mot falle in-to wodnesse. But yf god helpe / and cause whi is ṭis. He seyth hym told is of a frend of his How ṭat ye louen sholde on ṭat hatte Horaste. For sorwe of whiche ṭis nyght shalt ben his laste.

Horaste alias and falsen Troylus.
I knowe hym not god helpe me so quod she.
Allas what wykked spirit told hym þus.
Now certes Em to more yf I hym se.
I shal þer-of as fully excuse me.
As euere dide womman yf he lyke.
And with þat word she gan ful sore syke.

O quod she so worldly selynesse.
which clerkes callen fals felicite.
y-medled is with many a bitternesse.
Ful angwysshous. than is god wot quod she.
Condicioun of veyn prosperite.
For oþer Ioyes comen nough y-fere.
Or elles no wight hath hem alwey here.

O brotel wele of mannes Ioye vnstable.
with what wyght so þow be or how þow pleye.
Oþer he wot þat þow Ioye art muable.
Other he wot it not. it mot ben on of tweye.
Now yf he wot it not how may he seye.
That he hath verray Ioye and selynesse.
That is of ignoraunce ay in derknesse.

Now yf he wot þat Ioye is transitorie.
As euery Ioye of worldly thyng mot fle.
Than euery tyme he hath in memorie.
The drede of lesyng maketh hym þat he.
May in no parfit selynesse be.
And yf to lese his Ioye he set a myte.
Than semeth it þat Ioye is worth but lyte.
Wherefore I wol deffyne in pis manere.
That trewely for ought I kan espie.
Ther is no verry ay wele in pis world here.
But o. pow wykked serpent Ialousye.
Thow mysbeleued and enuyous folye.
whi hastow mad Troylus to me vntriste.
That neuere yet agylte hym pat I wyste.

Quod Pandarus thus fallen is pis cas.
whi vncle myn quod she who told yow pis.
whi doth myn dere herte pus allas.
Ye wote ye nece myn quod he what is.
I hope al shal be wel pat is amys.
For ye may quenche al pis yf pat yow lest.
And doth right so. for I holde it pe beste.

So shal I do to morwe y-wys quod she.
And god to-forn. so pat it shal suffise.
To morwe allas. pat were a Fayre quod he.
Nay nay it may not stonden yn pis wyse.
For Nece myn pus writen clerkes wyse.
That peril is with dreechyng yn I-drawe.
Nay swych a-bodes be nought worth an hawe.

Nece al ping hath tyme I dar a-vowe.
For whan a chaumber a-fyr is or an halle.
More nede is it sodeynly to rescowe.
Than to dispute and axe a-monges alle.
How pis candele in pe straw is falle.
A benedicite for al among pat fare.
Thē harm is don. and fare wel feld-fare.
And Nece myn take it not [a]gref.
If þat ye suffre hym al nyght in þis wo.
God help me so ye hadde hym neuere lef.
That dar I seyn. now þere is but we two.
But wel I wot þat ye wole not do so.
Ye ben to wys to do so gret folye.
To putte his lyf al nyght in Iupartie.

Hadde ye hym neuere lef by god I wene.
I hadde neuere þing so lief quod she.
Now by my pryft quod he þat shal be sene.
For syn ye make þis ensample of me.
If I al nyght wolde hym in sorwe se.
For al þe tresour yn þe town of Troye.
I bidde god I neuere mot haue Ioye.

Now loke þanne yf ye þat ben his loue.
Shul putte al nyght his lyf in Iupartie.
For þing of nought now by þat god a-boue.
Nought only þis delay cometh of folye.
But of malis. if þat I shal nought lye.
what platly and ye suffre hym in distresse.
Ye neyþer bounte don ne gentilesse.

Quod þo Criseyde wole ye don o þing.
And ye þerwith shal stynte al his disese.
Haue here and bereth hym þis blewe rynge.
For þere is no þing myght hym bettre plese.
Saue I my self. ne bettre his herte a-pese.
And sey my dere herte þat his sorwe.
Is causeles þat shal ben sene to morwe.
A ryng quod he. ye haselwodes shaken. 890
Ye Nece myne þat ryng moste han a ston.
þat myhte a deede man a-lyue maken.
And swych a ryng I trowe þat ye haue non. 893
Discrecioun out of youre hed is gon.
That fele I now quod he and þat is roupe.
O tyme y-lost wel maystow cursen sloupe.

Wot ye not wel þat noble and heigh corage. 897
Ne sorweth not ne stenteth ek for lyte.
But yf a fol were in a Ialous rage.
I nold not sette at his sorwe a myte. 900
But feffe hym with a fewe wordes white.
A-nother day whan þat I myght hym fynde.
But þis þing stont al in a noþer kynde.

This is so gentil and so tender of herte. 904
That with his deth he wolde his sorwes wreke.
For trusteth wel how sore þat hym smerte.
He wolde to yow no Ialous wordes speke.
And for-þi nece er þat his herte breke.
To speke youre self to hym. of þis matere.
For with o word ye may his herte stere.

Now haue I told what peril he is Inne. 911 [leaf 55]
And his comyng vnwyst is to euery wyght.
Ne parde harm may þere be non ne synne.
I wol my self be with yow al þis nyght.
Ye knowe ek how it is youre owne knyght.
And þat by right ye moste vpon hym triste.
And I at prest to fecche hym whan yow lyste.
This accident so petous was to here.
And ek so lyk a soth at pryme face.
And Troylus hire knyght to hire so dere.
His preue comyng and þe siker place.
That þough þat she dide hym as þan ne grace.
Considered alle þinges as þey stode.
No wonder is. syn she dide al for gode.

Cryseyde answered as wysly god at reste.
My sowle brynge. as me is for hym wo.
And Em y-wys fayn wolde I do þe beste.
Yf þat I hadde grace for to do so.
But whe þer þat ye dwelle or for hym go.
I am til god me bettre mynde sende.
A' dulcarnon right at my wittes ende. [f first, A] 931

Quod Pandarus ye Nece wol ye here.
Dulcarnon called is flemynge of wrecches.
It semeth hard for wrecches wol not lere.
For verray slouþe and oþere wilful tacches.
This seyd by hym þat is not worth two facches.
But ye ben wys and þat we han on honde.
Nis neiþer hard ne skylful to withstonde,

Thanne Em quod she doth her-of as yow lyst.
But er he come I wil vp first aryse.
And for þe loue of god syn al my trist.
Is on yow two. and ye ben boþe wyse.
So wyrcheth now in so discreet a wyse.
That I honour may haue and he plesaunce.
For I am here al yn youre gouernaunce.
That is wel seyd quod he my nece dere. [leaf 56, back] 946
That thryft on þat wyse gentil herte.
But liggeth stille, and taketh hym ryght here.
It nedeth not no ferpere for hym sterte. 949
And eche of yow ese operes sorwes smerte.
For loue of god. and Venus I þe herye.
For soone hope I we shulle ben alle merye. 952

This Troylus ful sone on knes hym sette. 953
Ful sobrely ryght by here beddes hede,
And yn his beste wyse his lady grette.
But lord so she wax sodeynlych red. 956
Ne þough men sholden smyten of here hed.
She kowde nought a word a-ryght out brynge.
So sodeynly. for his sodeyn comynge. 959

But Pandarus þat so wel koude fele. 960
In euery thyng to pleye a-noon by-gan.
And seyde Nece se how this lord kan knele.
Now for youre troupe seth þis gentil man. 963
And with þat word he for a quysshon ran.
And seyde kneleth now whil þat yow lyste.
There god youre hertes brynge soone at reste. 966

Kan I not seyn. for she bad hym not ryse. 967
If sorwe it put out of here remembraunce.
Or elles yf she toke it in þe wyse.
Of duete. as for his obseruaunce. 970
But wel fynde I she dide hym þis plesaunce.
That she hym kyste al-Þough she siked sore.
And bad hym sytte a-down with-owten more. 973
Quod Pandarus now wol ye wel by-gynne.
Now doth hym sitte now gode Nece dere.
Vpon youre beddes side þere with-Inne.
That eche of yow þe bet may ofer here.
And with þat word he drow hym to þe fyre.
And tok a lyght and fond his contenaunce.
As for to loken vp-on an old romaunce.

Criseyde that was Trowlus lady right.
And cler stod on a ground of sykernesse.
Al þoughte she here seruaunt and hire knyghte.
Ne sholde of right noon vntrouȝe in here gesse.
Yet napēles considered his distresse.
And þat loue is in cause of swych folye.
Thus to hym spak she of his Iealousye.

Lo herte myn as wolde þe excellence.
Of loue. a-yeyns þe which þat no man may.
Ne oughte ek goudly make resistence.
And ek by-cause I felte wel and say.
Youre grete trouȝe and seruyse euery day.
And þat yowre herte al myn was soth to seyne.
This drof me first to rewe vp-on yowre peyne.

And youre goodnesse haue I founden alwey yet.
Of whiche my dere herte and al my knyght.
I þonke it yow as fer as I haue wit.
Al kan I nought as muche as it were right.
And I emforthe my konnynge and my myght.
Haue and ay shal how sore þat me smerte.
Ben to yow trewe. and hol with al myn herte.
And dredles þat shall be founde at preue. 1002
But herte myn what al þis is to seyn.
Shal wel be tolde so þat ye yow not grene.
Though I to yow right on yow self compleyne. 1005
For per-with mene I fynally þe peyne.
That halt youre herte and myn in heuynesse.
Fully to slen and every wrong redresse. 1008

My goode loue¹ not I for whi ne how. ¹ loue, corrected] 1009
That Ialousye. allas. þat wikkede wyuer.
Thus causeles is cropen in-to yow.
The harm of which I wolde fayn delyuer.
Allas þat he al hool or of hym slyuer.
Shuld haue his refuyt in so digne a place.
Ther Ioue soone out of youre herte hym race. 1015

But .o. þow Ioue .o. Auctor of nature. [leaf 57, back] 1016
Is þis an honour to þi deite.
That folk vngiltyf. suffren here Iniure.
And who þat gyltyf is al quyt goth he. 1019
O were it leful þat I pleyne of þe.
That vndeserued suffrest Ialousie.
And þat I wolde on þe pleyne and crye. 1022

Ek al my wo is þis þat folk now vser. 1023
To seyn right þus. ye Ialousye is loue.
And wolde a busshe venym al excusen.
For þat o greyn of loue is on it shoue. 1026
But þat wot heighe god þat sit a-boue.
If it be liker loue / or hate or grame.
And after þat it oughte to boere his name. 1029
(148) But certeyn is som manere Ialousye. 1030
Is excusable more þan som I-wys.
And whanne cause is & somme swych fantasye.
with pite so wel repressed is. 1033
That it vnneþe doth or seyth amys.
But goodly drynketh vp al his distresse.
And þat excuse I for þe gentilesse. 1036

(149) And some so ful of furye is and despit. 1037
That it sourmounteth his represioun.
But herte myn ye be not in þat plyt.
That þanke I god for whiche your1 passioun. [ þr later] 1040
I wol not calle it but illusioun.
Of habundaunce of loue and bysy cure.
That doth youre herte þis dishese endure. 1043

(150) Of which I am right sory but not wroth. 1044
But for my deuoir and youre hertes reste.
wher so yow lyste by ordal or by oth.
By sort or in what wyse so yow lyste. 1047
For loue of god lat preue it for þe beste.
And yf þat I be gyltyf do me deye.
Allas what myght I more do or seye. 1050

(151) With that a fewe bryghte terys newe. [leaf 55] 1051
Out of here eyen fille and þus she seyde.
Now god þow wost in þought ne dede vntrewe.
To Troylus was neuere yet Criseyde. 1054
With þat here hed in to þe bed down she leyde.
And with the shete it wreygh and sighed sore.
And held here pes / not o word spak she more. 1057

Campsall
(152)
But now help god to quenchen al þis sorwe. 1058
So hope I þat he shal for he best may. 1059
For I haue seyn of ful mysty morwe. 1060
Folwen ful ofte a merye someres day. 1061
And after wynter folweth grene may. 1062
Men sen alday and reden ek in storyes. 1064
That after sharpe shoures ben victories.

(153)
This Troylus whan he here wordes herde. 1065
Haue ye no care hym lyst not to slepe. 1067
For it þoughte hym no strokes of yerde. 1069
To here or sen Criseyde his lady wepe. 1071
But wel he felte a-boute his herte crepe. 1073
For euery teer' which þat Criseyde a-sterete.
The crampe of deth to streyne hym by þe herte.

(154)
And in his mynde he gan þe tyme a-curse. 1072
That he cam þere / and þat he was born. 1074
For now is wykke I-turned vn-to worse.
And al þe labour he hath don by-forn. 1076
He wend it lost he þoughte he nas but lorn.
O Pandarus þoughte he allas þi wyle.
Serueth of nought so wel-awey þe while.

(155)
And þer-with-al he heng a-down þe hed. 1079
And fil on knes and sorwfully he sighte.
what myght he seyn he felte he nas but ded.
For wroth was she þat shulde his sorwes lyghte. 1082
But nafles whanne þat he spoken myghte.
Than seyde he þus god wot þat of þis game.
whan al is wyst / þan am I not to blame.
Ther-with þe sorwe so his herte shette. That from his eighen fil þere not a tere. And euery spirit his vigour yn knette. So þey a-stoned & oppressed were. The felyng of his sorwe or of his fere. Or of ought elles. fled was out of towne. And doun he fel al sodeynly a swowne.

This was no litel sorwe for to se. For al was hust and Pandare vp as faste. O Nece pes or we be lost quod he. Buth nought a-gast. but certeyn at þe laste. For þis or þat. he hym in-to bedde easte. And seyde o thef is þis a mannes herte. And of he rente al / to his bare sherte.

And seyde Nece but ye helpe vs now. Allas yowre owne Troylus is lorn. I-wys so wolde I and I wiste how. Ful fayn quod she allas þat I was born. Ye Nece Wolfe ye pulle out þe porn. That stiketh in his herte quod Pandare. Sey al for-yeue and stynt is al þis fare.

Ye þat to me quod she ful leuere were. Than al þe good þe sonne a-boute goth. And ther-with-al she swor hym in his ere. I-wis my dere herte I am nought wroth. Haue here my troupe and many a noþer oth. Now spek to me. for it am I Cryseyde. But al for nought / yet myght he no a-breyde.
Therwith his pows and Pawmes of his hondes.
They gan to frote, and wete his temples tweyne.
And for delyueren hym from bittre bondes.
She ofte hym kyste and shortly for to seyne.
Hym to reuoken she dide al hire peyne.
And at pe laste, he gan his breth to drawe.
And of his swough sone after pat a-dawe.

And bet gan mynde and reson to hym take. But wonder sore he was abayst I-wys.
And with a syk whan he gan bet a-wake.
He seyde o mercy god what ping is pis. whi do ye with yowre seluen þus a-mys.
Quod þo Criseyde. is þis a mannæs game. what Troylus wol ye do þus for shame.

And þer-with-al here arm ouer hym she leyde.
And al for-yaf / and ofte tyme hym kyste.
He ponked here, and to hyr spak and seyde.
As fil to purpos for his hertes reste.
And she to þat answered hym as hir lyste.
And with hire goodly wordes hym disporte.
She gan and ofte his sorwes to conforte.

Quod Pandarus for ought¹ I kan espyen. ¹t later
This lyght nor I ne seruen here of nought.
Lyght is not good for syke folkes eyen.
But for þe loue of god syn ye be brought.
In þus good plit / lat now non heuy pought.
Ben hangynge in þe hertes of yow tweye.
And bar þe candele to þe chimeneý.
Soone after pis pough it no nede were.
when she swych opes as hire lyste deuyse.
Hadde of hym take / here poughd po no fere.
Ne cause ek non. to bidde hym penes ryse.
Yet lesse ping pan opes may suffise.
In many a cas. for euer wyght I gesse.
That loueth wel meneth but gentilesse.

But in effect she wolde wite a-noon.
Of what man / and ek where and also why.
He Iclous was. syn pere was cause non.
And ek pe signe. pat he tok it by.
She bad hym pat to telle here bysily.
Or elles certeyn she bar hym on honde.
That pis was don of malys hir to fonde.

With-outen more shortly for to seyne.
He moste obeye vn-to his lady heste.
And for pe lasse harm he moste feyne.
He seyde here whanne she was at swych a feste.
She myght on hym han loked at pe leste.
Not I not what al dere y-now a rysshe.
As he pat nedes moste a cause fysshe.

And she answered swete al were it so.
what harm was pat syn I noon yuel mene.
For by pat god pat bought vs bope two.
In alle pynge is myn entente clene.
Swych argumentz ne ben not worth a bene.
wol ye the chyldyssh Ialousye contrefete.
Now were worthy pat ye were y-bete.
Tho Troylus gan sorwfully to syke.
Lest she be wroth hym poughte his herte deyde.
And seyde alas vpon my sorwes syke.
Haue mercy swete herte myn Cryseyde.
And yf pat in po wordes pat I seyde.
Be ony wrong I wol no more trespace.
Do what yow lyst I am al in youre grace.

And she answered of gilt mysericorde.
That is to seyn pat I for-yeue al pis.
And euere more on pis nyght yow recorde.
And beth wel war ye do no more amys.
Nay dere herte myn quod he I-wys.
And now quod she pat I haue do yow smerte.
For-yeue it me myn owene swete herte.

This Troilus with blysse of pat supprised.
Put al in goddes hond as he pat mente.
No pyng but wel / and sodeynly a-vysed.
He here in armes faste to hym hente.
And Pandarus with a ful good entente.
Leyd hym to slepe. and seyde yf ye ben wyse.
Swowneth not now lest more folk a-ryse.

What myght or may pe sely larke seye.
whan pat pe sparhauk hath it in his fote.
I kan no more but of pis ilke tweye.
To whom pis tale / sour be or sot.
Though pat I tarye a yer som tyme I mot.
After myn Auctor tellen here gladnesse.
As wel as I haue told here heuynesse.
Criseyde which Þat felte here þus I-take. 1198
As writen clerkes in here bokes olde.
Right as an Aspes lef she gan to quake.
whan she hym felte here in armes folde. 1201
But Troylus al hool of cares colde.
Gan Þanken the blysful goddes seuene.
Thus sondry peynes bryngen folk to heuene. 1204

This Troylus yn armes gan here streyne. 1205
And seyde o swete as euere mot ÞI gon.
Now be ye kaught. now is þere but we tweyne.
Now yeldeth yow for o þer bote is noon. 1208
To þat Criseyde answered þus a-noon.
Ne hadde Þer now my swete herte dere.
Ben yolden y-wys ÞI were now not here. 1211

O soth is seyd that heled for to be. 1212
As of a feuere. or oþere gret syknesse.
Men moste drynke as men may often se.
Ful bittre drynk. and for to han gladnesse. 1215
Men drynken often peyne / and gret distresse.
I mene it here as for þis auenture.
That þourgh a peyne is founden al his cure. 1218

And now swetnesse semeth þe more swet. 1219
That bitternesse assayed was by-forn.
For out of wo in blysse now þey flete.
Non swych þey felten sith þat þey were born. 1222
Now is þis bet þan boþe two be lorn.
For loue of god take euery womman hede.
To werken þus / yf it come to þe nede. 1225
(176)

Criseyde al quyt from euery drede and tene.  [ll 60, bk] 1226
As she pat Iust cause hadde hym to tryste.
Made hym swych feste / it Ioye was to sene,
whan she his trowpe and clene entent wyuste.  1229
And as a-bowte a tre with many a twyste.
Bytrent and wrype the soote wode bynde.
Gan eche of hem in armes oþer wynde.  1232

(177)

And as pe newe a-baysshed Nyghtyngale.  1233
That stynteth first whan she gynneth to synge.
whan pat she hereth any herde tale.
Or in pe hegges ony wight sterynge.  1236
And after syker doth here voys out rynge.
Right so Criseyd whan here drede stynte.
Opened here herte and told hym here entente.  1239

(178)

And right as he pat seth his deth is shapen.  1240
And deye mot in out pat he may gysse.
And sodeynly rescous doth hym escapen.
And from his deth is brought yn sykernesse.  1243
For alle þis word yn swych present gladnesse.
was Troylus and hath his lady swete.
with worse hap god lat vs neuere mete.  1246

(179)

Here armes smale he[r] streyght[e] bak and softe.  1247
Her sydes longe. fleysshly smope and white.
He gan to stroke and good thryst bad ful ofte.
Here snowyssh þrote. here brestes rounde and lyte.  1250
Thus yn this [heuene] he gan hym delyte.
And þer with al a þowsand tymes here kyste.
That what to done for Ioye vnneþe he wyste.  1253
(180)
Thanne seyde he þus .o. lone .o. charite. 1254
Thi moder ek Citherea the swete.
After þi self next heried be she.
Venus mene I þe wel willy planete. 1257
And next þe Imeneus .I. the grete.
For neuere man was to yow goddes holde.
As I which ye han brought fro cares colde. 1260

(181)
Benyngne loue thow holy bond of thynges. [leaf 61] 1261
who-so wolde grace / and lyst þe nought honouren.
Lo his desir wolde fle with-outen wynges.
For nodestow of bounte hem socouren. 1264
That seruen best and most alwey labouren.
Yet were al lost þat dar I wel seye certes.
But yf þi grace passed oure desertes. 1267

(182)
And for þow me þat lest kowde deserue. 1268
Of hem þat nombred be to þi grace.
Hast holpen þere I lykly was to sterue.
And me bistowed in so hegygh a place. 1271
That þilke boundes may no blysse passe.
I kan no more but laude and reuerence.
Be to þy bounte and þin excellence. 1274

(183)
And þer-with-al Crisyde a-noon he kyste. 1275
Of which certeyn she felte no dishese.
And þus seyde he / now wolde god I wyste.
Myn herte swete. how I yow myghte plese. 1278
what man quod he was euere þus at ese.
As I on whiche þe faireste and þe beste.
That euere I say deyneth here herte reste. 1281
Here may men se pat mercy passeth ryght. 1282
The experience of pat is felt in me.
That am vnworthi to so swete a wyght.
But herte myn of youre benyngnite. 1285
So ſenk ſowgh pat I vnworthi be.
Yet mot I nede amenden in som wyse.
Right ſourgh ſe vertu of yowre heyghe seruyce. 1288

And for ſe loue of god my lady dere. 1289
Syn god hath wrought me for ſat I shal yow serue.
As ſus I mene ſat ye wole be my stere.
To do me lyue yf ſat yow lyste or sterue. 1292
So teſeheth me how ſat I ma[y] deserue.
Youre ſank. so ſurgh myn ignoraunce.
Ne do no ſing ſat yow be displesaunce. 1295

But certes fresshe wommanliche wyf. 1296
This dar I seye / ſat trouthe and diligence. [leaf 61, back]
That shal ye fynde in me al my lyfe.
Ne I wole certeyn breken youre defence. 1299
And yf I do ſeſent or in absence.
For loue of god lat sle me wiǝ ſe dede.
If ſat it lyke-to youre womanhede. 1302

I-wys quod she myn owne hertes lyst. 1303
My ground of ese. and al myn herte dere.
Graunt mercy / for on ſat is al my trist.
But late vs falle a-vey fro ſis materē. 1306
For it suffiſith ſis ſat seyd is here.
And at o word with-outen repentaunce.
wel-come my knyght / my pes / my suffiſaunce. 1309
(188)

- Of here delyt. or Ioyes / oon þe leste. 1310
- were impossible to my wyt to seye.
- But Iuggeth ye þat han ben at þe feste.
  | Of swych gladnesse yf þat hem lyste playe. 1313
- I kan no more / but þus [þese] ilke twye.
  | That nyght be-twexen dred and sikernesse. 1316
Felten in lone þe grete worthynesse.

(189)

- O blysful nyght of hem so longe y-sought. 1317
- How blipe vn-to hem boþe þow were.
  why ne hadde I swych on with my soule y-bought.
Ye or þe leeste Ioye þat was þere. 1320
A-vey þow fowle daunder and þow fere.
And lat hem in þis heuene blyssyd dwelle.
That is so heygh þat al ne kan I telle. 1323

(190)

But soth is þough I kan not telle al. 1324
As kan myn Anctor of his excellence.
Yet haue I seyd and god to-forn and shal.
In euery þyng al hoolly his sentence. 1327
And yf þat I at loues reuerence.
Haue ony word In eched for þe beste.
Doth þer-with-al right as yow seluen leste. 1330

(191)

For myne wordes here and euery part. [leaf 62] 1331
I speke hem alle vnnder correccioun.
Of yow þat felyng han in loues art.
And putte it al yn youre discrecioun. 1334
To encrese or maken dyminucioun.
Of my langage and þat I yow by-seche.
But now to purpos of my raper speche. 1337
Thise ilke two þat ben in armes laft.  
So loth to hem a sondry go-ne [it] were.  1338

That eche from óper wenden ben by-raft.  
Or elles lo þis was here most fere.  1341
That al þis þyng but nyce dremes nere.
For which ful ofte eche of hem seyde o swete.
Clippe ich yow þus or elles I it mete.  1344

A lord so he gan gladly on here se.  1345
That neuere his lok ne blente from here face.
And seyde o dere herte may it be.
That it be soth / þat ye ben in þis place.  1348
Ye herte myn. god þank I of his grace.
Quod þo Criseyde and þer-with-al hym kyste.
That where his spirit was for Ioye he nyste.  1351

This Troylus ful ofte here eighen two.  1352
Gan for to kysse and seyde o eyen clere.
It were ye þat wroughte me swych wo.
Ye humble nettes of my lady dere.  1355
Though þere be mercy wretten yn youre chere.
God wot þe text ful hard is soth to fynde.
How koude ye with-outen bond me bynde.  1358

Therwith he gan here faste in armes take.  1359
And wel an hundred tymes gan he syke.
Nought swych sorwful sykes as men make.
For wo / or elles whanne þat folk ben syke.  1362
But esy sykes swyche as ben to lyke.
That shewed his affeccion with-Inne.
Of swiche sikes koude he nought blynne.  1365
Sone after pis they speke of sondry thynges.  [r.62, b.1]  
1366
As fil to purpos of pis auenture,
And pleyinge entrechaungeden here rynges.
Of which I kan nough tellen no scripture.
But wel I wot a broche gold of asure.
In whiche a ruby set was lyk an herte.
Criseyde hym yaf and stak it on his sherte.

(197)

• Lord trowe ye a coueytous or a wrecche.
1373.
• That blameth loue and holt of it despit.
• That of þe pens þat he kan moke & kecche.
• was euere yet y-yeue hym swych delyt.
• As ys in loue in oo poynt in som plyt.
Nay douteles. for also god me sauæ.
So parfit Ioye may no nygard haue.

(198)

• They Wolfe sey yis but lord so þat þey lye.
1380.
Tho bysy wrecches ful of wo and drede.
• They callen loue a woodnesse or folye.
But it shal falle hem as I shal yow rede.
• They shul for-go þe white and eke þe rede.
• And leue in wo þere god yeue hem myschaunce.
• And euery louere yn his troupe auance.

(199)

As wolde god þat wrecches þat dispise.
1387
Seruyse of loue hadde eerys al so longe.
As hadde Myda ful of Coueytise.
And þer-to drenken hadde as hoot and stronge.
1390
As Crassus dide for his affectis wronge.
To techen hem þat þey ben in þe vice.
And loueres nought / al-pough þey holde hem nyce.
1393
Campsall
This ilke two of whom þat I yow seye. 1394
whan þat here hertes wel assured were.
Thononne þei to speke and to playe.
And ek reherce how and whanne and where. 1397
They knewe hym first and every wo and feere,
That passed was / but al swych heuynesse.
I þanke it god was tourned to gladness.

And euere more whan þat hem fille to speke. [leaf 63] 1401
Of ony þing of swych a tyme a-gon.
with kyssyng alle þat tale sholde breke.
And fallen in a newe Ioye a-noon. 1404
And dede al here myght syn þey were oon.
For to recoueren blysse and ben at ese.
And passed woo with Ioye countrepeysye.

Reson wil not þat I speke of shep. [for slepe] 1408
For it accordeth nough to my matere.
God wot þey toke of þat ful lytel kepe.
But lest þis nyght that was to hem so dere. 1411
Ne sholde in veyn escape in no manere.
It was byset in Ioye and bysynesse.
Of al þat sowneth in-to gentilesse. 1414

But whanne þe kok comune Astrologer. 1415
Gan on his brest to bete and after to crowe.
And lucifer þe dayes messager.
Gan for to ryse / and out here bemys þrow. 1418
And afterward ros to hym þat kowde it know.
Fortuna maior þat anoon Crisyde.
with herte sore to Troylus þus seyde. 1421
Myn hertes lyf my tryst and my plesaunce.
That I was born alias what me is wo.
That day of vs mot make desseuerance.

For tyme it is to ryse and hens to go.

Or ellys I am lost for eueremo.
O nyght alias whi nyltow ouer vs houe.
As longe as whanne Almena lay by Ioue.

O blake nygnt as folk in bokes rede.
That shapen art by god pis world to hide.
At certeyn tymes with pi derke wede.

That vnder pat men myghte in reste abyde.
wel oughte bestes pleyne. and folk pe chide.

That pere as day with labour wolde vs breste.
That pow bus flest. and deynest vs nought reste.

Thow dost alias to shortly thyn office.
Thow rakel nyght pere god makere of kynde.
The for pyn hast and pyn vnkynede vice.
So faste ay to oure hemy-spere bynde.
That neuere more vnder pe ground pow wynde.
For now for pow so hyest out of Troye.

Haue I for-gon bus hastely my Ioye.

This Troylus pat with po wordes felte.
As poughte hym tho. for pitous distresse.
The blody teerys from his herte melte.

As he pat neuere yet swych heuynesse.
Assayed hadde out of so gret gladnessse.

Gan perwith-al Criseyde his lady dere.

In armes streyne and seyde in pis manere.
• O cruel day accusour of pe Ioye.  
That nyght and loue han stole and faste y-wryen.  
• A-cursed be pi comyng in-to Troye.  
For every bore hath oon of pi bryght eyen.  
Enuyous day what lyst pe so to spyen.  
what hastow lost why sekestow pis place.  
Ther god pi lyght so quenche for his grace.  

(209)

Alas what han pese loueres pe agilt.  
Dispitous day thyn be pe pyne of helle.  
For many a louere hastow shent and wilt.  
Thi pouryng In wol no where late hem dwelle.  
what proferestow thi light here for to selle.  
Go selle it hem pat smale selys grauen.  
we wol pe nought. vs nedeth no day hauen.  

(210)

And ek pe sonne Tytan gan he to chyde.  
And seyde o fol wel may men pe dispise.  
That hast pe Dawyng al nyght by pi syde.  
And suffrest here so soone vp fro pe ryse.  
For to disesen loueres yn pis wyse.  
what hold youre bed per pow and ek pi morwe.  
I bidde god so yeue yow bope sorwe.  

(211)

Ther-with ful sore he sight and pus he seyde.  
My lady right. and of my wele or wo.  
The welle and rote .o. goodly myn Criseyde.  
Andshal I ryse allas and shal I go.  
Now fele I pat myn herte mot a two.  
For how sholde I an hour' my lyf sauc.  
Syn pat with yow is al pe lyf I haue.  

CAMPSALL MS. TROILUS. Book III. 155
What shal I don / for certes I not how.
Ne whanne allas I shal pe tyme se.
That yn peis plit I may be eft with yow.
• And of my lyf god wot how pat shal be.
• Syn pat desir ryght now so brenneth me.
• That I am ded a-noon but I retorne.
How shold I longe allas fro yow soiourne.

But naþeles myn owene lady bryght.
were it so þat I wist outrely.
That I youre humble seruault & youre knyght.
were in youre herte set so fermely.
• As ye in myn þe whiche þyng trewely.
Me leuere were þan þese wordes tweyne.
Yet sholde I bet endure al my peyne.

To þat Cryscyde answered right a-noon.
And with a syk she seyde .o. herte dere.
The game y-wys so ferforth now is gon.
That first shal Phebus falle fro his spere.
And euery Egle ben þe dowues fere,
And euery roche out of his place sterte.
Er Tro[i]les out of Criseydes herte.

3e be so depe In-with myn herte graue.
That þough I wold it turne out of my þought.
As wysly verray god my soule saue.
To dyen in þe peyne I kowde nowght.
And for þe loue of god þat vs hath wrought.
Lat yn youre brayn noon oþer fantasye.
So crepe / þat it cause me to dye.
(216)

An fact ye me wolde han as faste in mynde. [H64, bk] 1506
As I haue yow. fat wold I yow by-seche.
And yf I wyste sothly / pat to fynde.
God myght not a poynyt my loyes eche. 1509
But herte myn with-oute more speche.
Beth to me trewe or elles were it routhe.
For I am pyn by god and by my trouthe. 1512

(217)

• Beth glad for-pi and lyue in sykernesse. 1513
• Thus seyde I neuere er pis ne shal to mo.
• And yf to yow it were a gret gladnesse.
• To turne a-yen soone afte[r] fat ye go. 1516
• As fayn wolde I as ye it were so.
  As wysly god myn herte brynge at reste.
• And hym in armes toke and ofte keste. 1519

(218)

• Agayns his wil syn it mot nedes be. 1520
• This Troylus vp ros and faste hym cledde.
• And in his armes tok his lady fre.
• An hundred tyme. and on his wey hym spedde. 1523
  And with swych wordes as his herte bledde.
  He seyde farewel myn herte and dere swete.
  There god vs graunte sound and soone to mete. 1526

(219)

• To whichi no word for sorwe she answerede. 1527
• So sore gan his partyng here destreyne.
• And Troylus vn-to his palays ferde.
  As wo-by-gon as she was soth to seyne. 1530
  So hard hym wrong of sharp desir þe peyne.
  For to ben cft þere he was in plesaunce.
  That it may neuere out of his remembraunce. 1533
Retorned to his Real Palais soone. 1534
He softe in to his bedde gan for to slynke. 1537
To slepe longe as he was woned to done.  
But al for nought he may wel lygte and wynke,  
But slep ne may þere in his herte synke.  
Thenkynge how she for whom desir hym brende.  
A þousand fold was worth more þan he wende. 1540

And in his þought gan vp and dounto wynde. [leaf 63] 1541
Hise wordes alle and every contenaunce.  
And fermely impressen yn hire mynde.  
The lest poyn þat to hym was plesaunce. 1544
And verraylyche of þilke remembrance.  
Desir al new hym brende. and lust to brede.  
Gan more þan erst. and yet toke he noon hede. 1547

Criseyde also right in þe same wyse. 1548
Of Troylus gan in here herte shette.  
His worthinesse. his lust / his dedes wyse.  
His gentilesse. and how she with hym mette. 1551
Thonkynge loue he so wel here by-sette.  
Desiryng eft to haue here herte dere.  
In swych a plyt she dorste make hym chere. 1554

Pandare a morwe which þat komen was. 1555
Vn-to his Nece and gan hire fayre grete.  
Seyde. al þis nyght so reynede it allas.  
That al my drede is þat ye my Nece swete. 1558
Han litel layser had to shepe¹ and mete.  
Al nyght quod he hath reyn so do me wake.  
That som of vs I trowe here hedes ake. 1561
(224)

And ner he come and seyde how stont it now.  1562
This murye morwe nece how kan ye fare.
Criseyde anserede neuere þe bet [for] yow.
Fox þat ye ben. god yeue youre herte care.  1565
God helpe me so ye causes al þis fare,
Trow I quod she. for alle youre wordes whyte.
who-so seth yow knoweth yow ful lite.  1568

(225)

With þat she gan here face for to wrye.  1569
with þe shete and wax for shame al red.
And Pandarus gan vnder for to prye.
And seyde Nece yf þat I shal ben ded.  1572
Here haue a swerd and Smyte of myn hede.
with that his arm al sodeynly he þryste.
Vnder here nekke and at þe laste here keste.  1575

(226)

I passe al þat which chargeth nought to seye. [ff 65, bl]  1576
what god for-yaf his deth an she al so.
For-yaf and with here vnclle gan for to pleye.
For oþer cause was þer noon but so.  1579
But of þis þing right to þe effect to go.
whan tyme was hom til here hous she wente.
And Pandarus hath fully his entente.  1582

(227)

Now torne we a-yen to Troylus.  1583
That resteles ful longe a bedde lay.
And pruely sente after Pandarus.
To hym to come in al þe haste he may.  1586
He come a-noon nought onys seyde he nay.
• And Troylus ful sobrely he grette.
And don vnpon his beddes syde hym sette.  1589

CAMP/ASS
This Troylus with al þe affeccioun. 1590
Of frendes loue þat herte may deuyse.
To Pandarus on knees fil a-down.
And er þat he wolde out of þe place a-ryse.
He gan hym þonken in his beste wyse.
A hondred sithe / and gan þe tyme blysse.
That he was born / to brynge hym fro distresse. 1596

He seyde .o. frend of frendes the alderbeste. 1597
That euere was / þe soþe for to telle.
Thow hast in heuene y-brought my soule at reste.
Fro Flegiton the fery flood of helle. 1600
That þough I myght a þousand tymes selle.
Vpon a day my lyf in þy seruise.
It myght nought a mot in þat suffise. 1603

The Sonne whiche þat al þe worlde may se. 1604
Saw neuere yet my lyf þat dar I leye.
So Inly feyr / and goodly as is she.
whos I am al / and shal til þat I deye. 1607
And þat I þus am heres dar I seye.
That þanked be the heigh worthynesse.
Of loue. and ek þy kynde bysynesse. 1610

Thus hastow me no lytel thyng y-yeue. 1611 [leaf 36]
For which to the obliged be for ay.
My lyf / and why / for þorugh þyn help I leue.
For elles ded hadde I be many a day. 1614
And with þat word doun in his bed he lay.
And Pandarus ful sobrely hym herde.
Til al was seyd / and þanne he hym answerde. 1617
My dere frend yf I haue don for þe. 1618
In ony cas god wot it is me lief.
And am as glad as man may of it be.
God help me so. but tak it not a grief. 1621
That I shal seyn be war of of myschief.
That þere as þow now brought art in to blysse.
That þow þi self ne cause it nought to mysse. 1624

For of Fortunes sharp aduersite. [1.1–4, Boethius, and Dante] 1625
The worste kynde of Infortune is þis.
A man to haue be in prosperite.
And it remembren whan it passed is. 1628
Thow art wys ynowh for-þi do nought amys.
Be not to Rakel þough þou sitte warme.
For if þow be certeyn it wol þe harme. 1631

Thow art at ese and holde þe wel þer-Inne. 1632
For also seur as red is euery fin.
As gret a craft is kep wel as wynne.
Bridle alwey wel þi speche and þi desir. 1635
For worldly Ioye halt not but by a wir.
That preueth wel it brest alday so ofte.
For-þi nede is to werke wip it softe. 1638

Quod Troylus I hope and god to-forn. 1639
My dere frend / þat I shal so me bere.
That in my gilt þer shal no þing be lorn.
Ne I nyl not rakle as for to greuen here. 1642
It nedeth not þis matere ofte tere.
For wistow myn herte wel Pandare.
God wot of þis þow woldest litel care. 1645
Thog he telle hym of his glade nyght.  
And where-of first his herte dredde & how.  
And seyde frend as I am trewe knyght.  
And by þat feyth I shal to god and yow.  
I hadde it neuere half so hote as now.  
And ay þe more þat desir me biteth.  

To loue here best / þe more it me délyteth.

I not my self not wisly what it is.  
But now I fele a newe qualite.  
Ye al a noþer er I dede er þis.  
Pandare answerede and seyde þus þat he.  
That onys may in heuene blysse be.  
He feleth of þer weyes dar I leye.  
Than þilke tyme he first herd of it seye.

This is o word for al þis Troylus.  
was neuere ful to speke of þis matere,  
And for to preyse vn-to Pandarus.  
The bounte of his right lady dere.  
And Pandarus to þanke and maken clere.  
This tale ay was span newe to bygynne.  
Til þat þe nyght departed hem a-twynne.

Soone after þis for þat fortune it wolde.  
I-comen was þe blysful tyme swete.  
That Troylus was warned þat he shulde.  
Ther he was erst Criseyde his lady mete.  
For which he felt his herte in Ioye flete.  
And feythfully gan alle þe goddes herye.  
And lat se now yf þat he kan be merye.
(240)

| And holden was þe forme and al þe wyse. | 1674
| Of here comynge, and of his also. |
| As it was erst whych nedeth nought deuyse. |
| But playnly to þe effect right for to go. | 1677 |
| In Ioye and seurte Pandarus hem two. |
| A-bedde brought whan þat hem boþe leste. |
| And þei ben in quyete and yn reste. | 1680 |

(241)

Nought nedep it to yow syn þey ben met. [Leaf 67] 1681
To aske at me yf þat þey blyþe were.
For yf it erst was wel þo was it bet.
A þousand fold þis nedep not enquerere.
A-gon was euery sorwe and euery fere.
And boþe y-wys þey hadde and so þey wende.
As muche Ioye as herte may complende. 1687

(242)

This is no litel þyng of for to seye. 1688
This passeth euery wyt for to deuyse.
For eche of hem gan ðopes lust obeye.
Felicite which þat þese clerkes wyse.
Commenden so, ne may not here suffice.
This Ioye may not y-wrete ben with Inke.
This passeth al þat herte may by-þenke. 1694

(243)

| But cruel day so wel-awey þe stounde. | 1695 |
| Gan for to a-proche as þey by synes knewe. |
| For which hem þoughte felen dethes wounde. |
| So wo was hem þat changen gan here hewe. | 1698 |
| And day þey gonnen to dispise al newe. |
| Callyng it traytous enuyous and worse. |
| And bitterly þe dayes light þey curse. | 1701 |
Quod Troylus now am I war.  
That Piros and po swyfte stedes pre.  
which pat drawen forth pe sonnes char.  
Han gon som by-path in despit of me.  
That makep it so soone day to be.  
And for pe sonne hym hasteth pus to ryse.  
Neshal I neuere don here sacrifice.  

But nedes day departe moste hem soone.  
And whanne here speche don was and here chere.  
• They twynne a-noon as ðey were woned to done.  
• And setten tyme of metyng eft y-fere.  
And many a nyght ðey wrought yn ðis manere.  
And pus Fortune a tyme ladde In Ioye.  
Criseyde and ek ðis kynges sone of Troye.  

In suffisaunce In blisse and in syngynges.  
This Troylus gan al his lyf to lede.  
He spendeth Lusteth maketh festeynynges.  
He yeueth frely ofte. and chaungeth wede.  
And held hym aboute alwey out of drede.  
A world of folk. as kam hym wel of kynde.  
The fresshest and þe beste he koude fynde.  

Pat swych a voys was of hym and [a] steuene.  
Thorugh-out þe world of honour and largesse.  
That it rong vp in-to þe yate of heuene.  
• And as in loue he was yn swych gladnesse.  
• That in his herte he demede as I gesse.  
• That þere nys louere in ðis world at ese.  
• So wel as he and þus gan loue hym plese.  

CAMPSALL
The goodlihede or beaute which þat kynde. 1730

In ony oper lady hadde y-set.
Kan not þe mountaunce of a knot vnbynde. 1733
A-boute his herte of al Criseydes net.
He was so narwe y-maked and y-knet.
That it vndon on any manere syde.
That nyl not ben for ought þat may be-tide. 1736

And by þe hond ful ofte he wolde take. 1737
This Pandarus and in-to gardeyn lede.
And swych a feste and swych a proces make.
Hym of Criseyde / and of here womanhede. 1740
And of here beaute / þat with-outen drede.
It was an heuene his wordes for to here.
And þanne he wolde synge in þis manere. 1743

Loe þat of erþe and se hath gouernaunce. 1744
Loe þat his heste hath in heuene hye.
Love þat with an holsom alliaunce.
Halt peþle Ioyned as hem lyst hym gye. 1747
Loe þat knetteth lawe of companye.
And couples doth in vertu for to dwelle.
Bynd þis a-cord / þat I haue told and telle. 1750

(250) (Troilus’s Song of Love, 1; adapted from Boethius.)

That þat þe world with feyth which þat is stable. [H 68] 1751
Dyuerseth so his stoundes concordyng. 1754
That elementes þat ben so discordable.
Holden a bond perpetuely duryng.
That Phebus mot his rosy day forth brynge.
And þat þe mone hath lordship ouer þe nyghtes.
Al þis doth loue. ay heryed be his myghtes. 1757
(252) (Troilus's Song. 3.)

That pat pe se pat greedy is to flowen.
Constreyne to a certeyn ende so.
His floses pat freshly pey ne growen.
To drenchen erthe / and al for euere mo.
And yf pat lone ought late his bridel go.
Al pat now loueth a-sonder sholde lepe.
And al were lost pat lone halt now to hepe.

(253) (Troilus's Song. 4.)

So wolde god pat Auctor is of kynde.
That with his bond / loue of his vertu liste.
To cerchen hertes alle and faste bynde.
That from his bond no wight pe weye out wyste.
And hertes colde hem wolde I pat he it wyste.
To make hem loue. and pat hem lest ay rewe.
On hertes sore / and kep hem pat ben trewe.

(254)

- In alle nedes for pe townes werre.
- He was and ay pe firste in armes dight.
- And certaynly but if pat bokes erre.
| Saue Ector most y-drad of ony wight.
- And pis encrest of hardinesse & myght.
- Cam hym of loue. his ladyes pank to wynne.
- That altered his spirit so with-Inne.

(255) [Caxton puts st. 255 after 259. Hart. 1239 has it here.]

- In tyme of trewe. on haukynge wolde ryde.
- Or elles hunten. bore. beere. or lyoun.
- The smale bestes leet he gon by syde.
| And whan pat he com rydynge in to towne.
- Ful ofte his lady from hire wyndow down.
- As fresch as fawkon cometh out of muwe.
| Ful redy was hym goodly to saluwe.

CAMPSALL
(256)

- And most of loue and vertu was his speche. [II.63, 64] 1786
- And in despit hadde alle wrecchednesse.
- And douteles no nede was hym byseche.
- To honouren hem pat hadde worthynesse. 1789
  And esen hem pat weren in distresse.
  And glad was he yf any wyght wel ferde.
  That louere was, whan he it wyste or herde. 1792

(257)

- For soth to seyn he lost held euery wyght. 1793
- But yf he were in loues heyghe seruyse.
  I. mene folk pat oughte it ben of right.
  And ouer al pis so wel koude he deuyse. 1796
  Of sentement. and in so vnkow wyse.
  Al his aray. pat every louere poughte.
  That al was wel what-so he seyde or wroughte. 1799

(258)

- And pough pat he be come of blod royal. 1800
  Lyst hym of pride at no wyght for to chase.
- Benygne he was to ech yn general.
  For which he gat hym þank in euery place. 1803
- Thus wold loue y-heried be his grace.
  That Pride / enuye / Ire / and auaryce.
- He gan to fle. and euery oþer vice. 1806

(259)

| Thow lady bryght þe doughter to Dyone. 1807 |
| Thy blynde and wynged sone ek daun Cupide. |
| Ye sustren nyne ek pat by Elycone. |
| I. hil parnaso lysten for to a-byde. 1810 |
| That ye þus fer han deyned me to gyde. |
| I kan no more but syn þat ye wol wende. |
| Ye heried ben for ay with-outen ende. 1813 |

CAMPSALL
(260)

Through yow haue I seyd fully in my song.
Theffect and Ioye of Troylus seruyce.
Al be þat þere was som dishese a-mong.
As to myn Auctor list þ þe to deuyse.
My þridde book now ende Ich in þis wys.
And Troylus in lust and in quiete.
Is with Criseyde his owne herte swete.

[End of Book III.]
(1) (Proem)

• But al to litel weylawey þe whyle.
• Lasteth swych Ioye yþonked be Fortune.
• That semeth trewest whanne she wole bygyle.
  And kane to foles so here song entune.
  That she hem hent and blent traytour comune.
• And whan a wyght is from here whiel yþrowe.
• Than laugheth she and maketh here þe mowe.

(2)

• From Troylus she gan here brighte face.
• A-wey to wiþe. and tok of hym noon hede.
• But caste hym clene oute of his lady grace.
  And on here whiel she sette vp diomede.
  For which ryþt now myn herte gynneth blede.
  And now my penne allas wiþ which I write.
  Quakeþ for drede of that I mot endite.

(3)

For how Criseyde Troylus forsook.
Or at þe leste how þat she was vnkynde.
Mot hennes forth ben matere of my book.
As writen folk þorugh which it is in mynde.
Allas þat þey shulde euere cause fynde.
To speke here harm and yf þey on here lye.
þy-wys hem self sholde han þe vilonye.
(4)  (Invocation)

O ye herynes nyghttes doughtren thre.
That endeles compleynes euere in pyne.
Megera. Alete. and ek Thesyphone.
Thow cruel Mars ek fader of Quyryne.
This ilke ferpe book me helpeth fyne.
So þat þe losse of lyf and loue yfere.
Of Troylus be fully shewed here.

Explicit liber Tercius.

Incipit Quartus Liber.

(5)  (The Story)

Iggynge yn ost as I haue seyd er þis.
The Grekys stronge a-boute Troye town.
By-fel þat whanne þat Phebus shynyng is.
Vp on þe brest of hercules lyoun.
That Ector with many a bold baroun.
Caste on a day wiþ Grekes for to fighte.
As he was woned to greue hem what he myghte.

(6)
Not I how longe or short it was by-twene.
This purpos and þat day þey fighte mente.
But on a day wel armed bryght and shene.
Ector & many a worpi wight out wente.
wiþ spere on hond and bygge bowes bente.
And in þe berd with-oute lenge lette.
Here fomen in þe feld a-noon hem mette.

(7)
The longe day wiþ speres faste y-grounde.
with arwes dartes swerdes maces fele.
They fyghte and bryngen hors and man to grounde.
And with here axes out þe braynes quelle.
• But in þe last shour soth for to telle.
• The folk of Troye hem seluen so mysledden.
• That with þe worse at nyght homward þey fledden.

Campsall
At whiche day was taken Antenor. 50
Maugre Polydamas or Monesteo.
Santippe / Sarpedon / Polynestor.
Polyte or eke þe Troian daun Rupheo. 53
And òpere lasse folk as Phebuseo.
So þat for harm þat day þe folk of Troye.
Dredden to lese a gret part of here Ioye. 56

Of Pryamus was yeue at Grekes requeste. 57
A tyme of trewe and þo þey gonnen trete.
Here prisoneres to chaungen most and leste.
And for the surplus yeue sommes grete. 60
This þing a-noon was kouth in every strete.
Bøpe in passenge / in towné and every where.
And with þe firste it cam to Calkas ere. 63

Whan Calkas knew þis tretys sholde holde. 64
In Consistorie a-mong þe Grekes soone.
He gan in thrynge forth with lordez olde.
And sette hym þere as he was woned to done. 67
And with a chaunged face hem bad a bone.
For lœue of god to don hym þat reuerence.
To stynte noye / and yeue hym audyence. 70

Thanne seyde he þus / lo lordez myne I was. 71
Troian as it is knowen out of drede.
And if þat yow remembre I am Calkas.
That alderfirst yaf comfort to youre nede. 74
And told[e] wel how þat ye sholden spede.
For dredles þorugh yow shal in a stounde.
Ben Troye y-brend / and bete doun to grounde. 77
(12)

- And in what forme or for what manere wyse. 78
| This town to shende / and al youre lust to acheue.
- Ye han er pis wel herd it me deuyse.
- This knowe ye my lorde as I leue. 81
  And for je Grekes weres me so leue.
- I com my-self in my propre persone.
- To teche in pis how yow was best to done. 84

(13)

Hauynge vn-to my tresour ne my rente. 85
- Right no resport / to respect of youre ese.
- Thus al my good I loste and to yow wente.
  wenyng in pis you lorde for to plesse. 88
- But al pat losse ne doth me no dishese.
  I vouche saf / as wysly haue I Ioye.
For you to lese / al pat I haue in Troye. 91

(14)

- Saue of a doughter pat I lafte allas. 92
| Slepynge at hom whanne out of Troye I sterte.
- O sterne and cruwel fader pat I was.
| How myght I haue yn pat so hard an herte. 95
- Allas.I. ne hadde y-brught here in here sherte.
  For sorwe of which I wol not lyue to morwe.
But yf ye lorde rewe vp-on my sorwe. 98

(15)

- For by pat cause I say no tyme er now. [leaf 70, back] 99
| Here to delyuere I holden haue my pes.
- But now or neuere yf pat it lyke yowe.
- I may here haue right sone douteles. 102
| O help and grace a-mong al pis pres.
| Rewe on pis olde caytys in destresse.
Syn I for yow haue al pis heuynesse. 105

Campsall
(16)

Ye haue now kaught & fetered in preson. 106
Troians y-nowe / and yf youre wille be.
My chyld with on may haue redempcion.
Now for þe loue of god and of bounte. 109
On of so fele allas so yeue hym me.
what nede were it þis preyere for to werne.
Syn ye shul bothe han folk and town as yerne. 112

(17)

On peril of my lyf I shal not lye. 113
Appollo hath me told it feythfully.
I haue ek founden by astronomye.
By sort and by augurye ek trewely. 116
I dar wel seye þe tyme is faste by.
That fir and flaumbe on al þe toun shal sprede.
And þus shal Troye turnen in asshen dede. 119

(18)

For Certeyn Phebus and Neptainus boþe. 120
That maden þe walles of þe toun.
Ben with þe folk of Troye alwey so wroþe.
That þei wolde brynge it to confusioun. 123
Right in despit of kyng lameadoun.
By cause he nolde payen hem here hire.
The town of Troye shal ben set on fire. 126

(19)

Tellyng his tale alwey þis olde Greye. 127
Humble in speche and yn his lokyng eke.
The salte terys from his eyen twye.
Ful faste ronnen doun by eyther cheke. 130
So longe he gan of socour hem by-seche
That for to helen hym of his sorwes sore.
They yaf hym Antenor with-oute more. 133
(20)
- But who was glad y-nowh but Calkas þo.  [leaf 71]
- And of þis þing ful sone hise nedes leyde.
- On hem þat sholden for þe tretis go.
- And hem for Antenor ful ofte preyde.
| To bryng hem kyng Toas and Criseyde
  And whan Pryam his saue-gard sente.
| The Ambassiatours to Troye streyght þei wente.

(21)
- The cause y-told of here comynge. the olde.
- Pryam þe kyng ful soone in general.
- Let here-vpon his Parlement to holde.
  Of which þe effect rehersen yow I shal.
- Thembassadours ben answered for fynal.
  Theschaunage of Prisoners and al þis nede.
  Hem lykeþ wel. and forth in þey procede.

(22)
- This Troylus was present in þe place.
- whan axed was for Antenor Criseyde.
- For which ful soone chaunget gan his face.
- As he þat with þo wordes wel neygh deyde.
- But natheles he no word to it seyde.
  Lest men sholde his affeccioun espye.
  with mannès herte he gan hys sorwes drye.

(23)
- And ful of angwyssh and of grysly drede.
- A-bod what lordeþ wolde vn-to it seye.
  And yf þey wolde graunte as god forbede.
  Theschaunage of here. þan þought he þynges tweye.
  First how to saue here honour and what weye.
- He myghte best þeschaunge of here withstonde.
  Ful faste he cast how al þis myghte stonde.
Loue hym made al prest to don hire byde.
And raper dye þan she sholde gon.
But resoun seyde hym on þat oþer syde.
| with-oute assent of here do not so.
Lest for þi werk she wolde be þi fo.
And seyn þat þorugh þi medlyng is blowe.
Yowre bothere loue þere it was erst vnknowe.

For which he gan deliberen for þe beste.
That þough þe lorde wolde þat she wente.
He wolde late hem graunte what hem lest.
And telle his lady fy rst what þat þey mente.
And whanne þat she hadde seyd hym here entente.
Ther-after wolde he werken also blyue.
Though al þe world ayen it wolde stryue.

Ector which þat wel þe Grekis herde.
For Antenor how þey wolde han Criseyd e.
Gan it withstonde / and sobrely answerede.
Sires she nys no presoner he seyde.
I not on yow who þis charge leyde.
But on my part ye may eft-sone hym telle.
we vsen here no wommen for to selle.

The noyse of peple vp stirte þanne at onys.
As breme as blase of straw y-set in fyre.
For infortune it wolde for þe nonys.
They sholde hire confusion desire.
Ector quod þey what gost may yow enspire.
This womman þus to shilde & don vs lese.
Daun Antenor / a wrong wey now ye chese.
That is so wys / and ek so bold baroun. 190
And we han nede to folk as men may se.
He is ek on þe grettest of þis stown.
O. Ector lat þo fantayses be. 193
O kyng Pryam quod þey þus seggen we.
That al oure voys is to for-gon Crisyde.
And to delyueren Antenor þey preyde. 196

O Íuuenal lord trewe is þi sentence. 197
That liten weten folk what is to yerne.
That þey ne fynde in here desir offence.
For cloud of errour / lat hem not descerne. 200
what best is / and lo here an ensample as yerne.
This folk desiren now delyueraunce.
Of Antenor / þat brought hem to myschaunce. 203

For after he was Traytour to the town. [leaf 72] 204
Of Troye. allas þey quytt hym out to ræpe.
O nyce world / lo þy dyscression.
Crisyde which þat neuere dede hem skæpe. 207
Shal now no lengere in here blysse bæpe.
But Antenor he shal com hom to towne.
And she shal out / þus seyden here and howne. 210

For which was delibered by Parlement. 211
For Antenor to yelden vp Crisyde. [1–1 later]
And it pronuncede by þe precentid.
Al þey þat Ector nay ful ofte preyede. 214
And fyndal what wyght þat it with-seyde.
It was for nought it moste ben and sholde.
For substaunce of þe parlement it wolde. 217
(32)

Departed out of Parlement echone.
- This Troylus with-oute wordes mo.
- Vn-to his chaumbre spede hym faste allone.
  - But yf it were aman of his or two.
  - The whiche he bad out faste for to go.
    By cause he wolde slepe as he seyde.
    And hastely vp on his bed hym leyde.

(33)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parte</th>
<th>And as yn wynter leues ben by-raft.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eche after œper til þe tre be bare.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>So þat þer nys but bark and braunce y-laft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lyth Troylus byraft of eche wel-fare.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I-bounde in þe blake bark of care.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Disposed wod out of his wit to breyde.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>So sore hym sat þe chaungynge of Criseyde.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(34)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>He rist hym vp and every dore he shette.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>And wyndowe ek and þo þis sorweful man.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vp-on his beddes side a-doun hym sette.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ful lyk a ded ymage pale and wan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>And in his brest þe hepede wo bygan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out brest / and he to werkyn in þis wyse.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In his woodnesse. as I shal yow deuyse.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(35)

- Ryght as þe wylde bole by-gynneth sprynge.  [leaf 72, back]
- Now here now þere I-darted to þe herte.
- And of his deth roreth yn compleynynge.
- Righ so gan he aboute þe chaumbre sterte.
- Smytyng his brest ay with his festes smerte.
- His hed to þe wal his body to þe grounde.
- Ful ofte he swapte him self to confounde.
(36)

- Hys eyen two for pite of his herte.  246
- Out stremeden as swyfte welles tweye.
- The heyghe sobbes of his sorwes smerte.
- His speche hym rafte vnnepes myght he seye.  249
- O deth / allas whi nyltow do me deye.
  A-cursed be þe day which þat nature.
  Shope me to ben a lyues creature.  252

(37)

- But after whan þe furye and þe rage.  253
  whiche þat his herte twyste & faste þreste.
- By lengpe of tyme somwhat gan asswage.
- Vp on his bed he leyde hym down to reste.  256
- But þo by-gonne his terys more out breste.
- That wonder is þe body may suffise.
- To half þis wo / which þat I yow deuyse.  259

(38)

- Thanne seyde he þus Fortune allas þe while.  260
  How myghtestow for reuþe me by-gyle.
  Is þer no grace and shal I þus be spilt.  263
  Shal þus Criseyde a-wey for þat þow wylt.
  Allas how maystow yn þin herte fynde.
  To ben to me þus cruel and vnkynde.  266

(39)

- Haue I þe nought honoured al my lyue.  267
- As þow wel wost a-boue þe goddes alle.
  why wiltow me fro Ioye þus depreye.
  O. Troylus what may men þe now calle.  270
  But wrecche of wrecches out of honour falle.
  In-to myserie yn which I wol by-wayle.
  Criseyde allas / til þat þe breth me fayle.  273

CAMPSALL
• *Alias fortune yf ūat my lyf yn Ioye.*  
  [leaf 73]  
  274

Displeased hadde vn-to thy foule enuye.
why ne haddestow my fader kyng of Troye.
By-raft pe lyf on don my breperen deye.
   Or slayn my-self / ūat ūus compleyne and crye.
I combre world ūat may of no ūing serue.
But euere dye / and neuere fully sterue.

(41)

• *Yf ūat Criseyde allone were me laft.*  
  281

Nought rought I wheder ūow woldest me stere.
And here alias ūan hastow me by-raft.
But euere more lo ūis is ūi manere.
To reue a wyght ūat most is to hym dere.
To preue yn ūat ūi greful violence.
Thus am I lost ūere helpeth no defence.

(42)

• *O verray lord of loue .o. god allas.*  
  288

That knowest best myn herte & al my ūought.
what shal my sorwful lyf don in ūis cas.
Yf .I. for-go ūat .I. so dere haue bought.
Syn ye Cryseyde and me han fully brought.
In-to your grace and bope oure hertes seled.
How may ye suffre allas it be repeles.

(43)

• *What I may don .I. shal whil I may dure.*  
  295
On lyne in torment and yn cruwel peyne.
This infortune. or ūis disauentes.
Alas as I was born ū-y-wys compleyne.
Ne neuere wyl I seen it shyne or reyne.
But ende I wil as Edippe yn derknesse.
My sorwful lyf / and dyen in dystresse.

CAMPSALL
(44)
- O verray gost þat errest to and fro.
- why nyltow fle out of þe wofulleste.
- Body. þat euere myght on grounde go.
| O soule lurkyng in þis wo vnneste.
- Fle forth out of myn herte and lat it breste.
- And folwe alwey Criseyde þi lady dere.
  Thi righte place is now no lengere here.

(45)
- O wofulle eyen two syn youre desport. [leaf 73, back]
  was al to seen Criseydes eyen bryght.
- what shal ye don but for my discomforvt.
- Stondeth for nought / and wepen out youre sight.
| Syn she is queynt þat wont was yow to lyght.
| In veyn fro þis forth haue I eyen tweyne.
- y-formed syn youre vertu is a-weye.

(46)
- O my Criseyde. o. lady souereyne.
- Of þis woful soule. þat þus crieth.
- who shal now yeuen comfort to þe peyne.
  Allas no wight but when myn herte dyeth.
  My spirit / which þat vn-to yow so hyeth.
  Receyue in gre / for þat shal ay yow serue.
  For-þi no fors is pough þe body sterue.

(47)
O ye loueres þat heyhe vpon þe whiel.
Ben set. of Fortune yn good auenture.
God leue þat ye fynde ay lune of stel.
And longe mot youre lyf yn Ioye endure.
But whanne ye comen be my sepulture.
Remembreth þat youre felawe restep þere.
For I louede ek pough I vnworþi were.
(48)  
- O olde vnholson and mysbyleued man. 330  
- Calkas I mene. allas what eyleth the.  
- To ben a Grek syn þou art born Troian. 333  
  - O calkas which þat wilt my bane be.  
  - In cursed tyme was þow born for me.  
  - As wolde blysful Ioue for his Ioye.  
- That I þe hadde where as I wolde in Troye. 336  

(49)  
- A þousand sykes hottere þan þe glede. 337  
- Out of his brest eche after ðer werete.  
- Meddles with pleyntes newe his wo to fede.  
- For which his woful terys neuere stente. 340  
- And shortly so his peynes hym to-rente.  
  - And wex so mat. þat Ioye nor penaunce.  
  - He feleth noon but lyth forth in a traunce. 343  

(50)  
- Pandare whiche þat in the parlement. [leaf 74] 344  
- Hadde herd what euery Burgeys & lord seyde.  
- And how ful graunted was by on assent.  
- For Antenor to yelden so Crisyde. 347  
  - Gan wel neygh wod out of his wit to breyde.  
    So þat for wo he nyste what he mente.  
  - But yn a res / to Troylus he wente. 350  

(51)  
A certeyn knyght þat for þe tyme kepte. 351  
The chaumbre dore vn-dede it hym a-noon.  
  - And Pandare þat ful tendreliche wepte. 354  
  - In-to þe derke chaumbre as stille as ony ston.  
    Toward þe bed gan softly to gon.  
  - So confus þat he nyst what to seye.  
  - For verray wo / his wit was neygh a-weye. 357  

CAMPSALL
And with his chere and lokyng al to-torn. 358
For sorwe of pis. and with his armes folden.
He stod pis woful Troylus byforn.
And on his pitous face he gan byhelden. 361
But Lord so often gan his herte colde.
Seyng his frend in wo / whos heuynesse.
His herte slow as pought hym for distresse. 364

This woful wight / pis Troylus pat felte. 365
His frend Pandare y-comen hym to se.
Gan as pe snow a-yen pe sonne melte.
For wyych pis sorwful Pandare of pyte. 368
Gan for to wepe as tendrelyche as he.
And specheles pis ben pis ilke tweye.
That neythre myghte o word for sorwe seye.

But at pe laste pis woful Troylus. 372
Ney ded for smert gan bresten out to rore.
And with a sorwful noyse he seyde pis.
Among his sobbes and his sikes sore.
Lo Pandare I am ded with-outen more.
Hastow nought herd at parlement he seyde.
For Antenor how lost is my Criseyde. 378

This Pandarus ful dede and pale of hewe. [leaf 74, back] 379
Ful pytously answerede and seyde yis.
As wysly were it fals as it is trewe.
That I haue herd and wot al how it is. 382
O mercy god who wolde haue trowed pis.
who wolde haue wend pat yn so lytel a prow.
Fortune oure Ioye wolde han ouer-prowe. 385

CAMPSALL
For yn þis world þere is no creature.
Als to my dom þat euere saw ruyne.
Straungere þan þis þorugh cas or auenture.
But who may al eschewe or al deuyne.
Swych is þis world. for-þi I þus defyne.
Ne trust no wyght to fynden in Fortune.
Ay proprete. his yeftes ben comune.

But tel me þis whi þou art now so mad.
To sorwen þus. why listow in þis wyse.
Syn þi desir al holly hastow had.
So that by right it oughte y-now suffise.
But I þat neuere felte in my seruyse.
A frendly chere or lokyng of an eye.
Lat me þus wepe an wayle til I dye.

And ouer al þis / as þow wel wost þi-selue.
This town is ful of ladyes al aboute.
And to my dom fairere þan swych twelue.
As euere she was shal I fynde yn som route.
Ye oone or two with-outen any doute.
For-þi be glad myn owen dere broþer.
If she be lost. we shul recovere anoþer.

What god for-bede alwey þat eche plesaunce.
In o þyng were and noon oþer wyght.
Yf oon kan synge a noþer kan wel daunce.
Yf þis be goodly she is glad and lyght.
And þis is fayr and þat kan good aright.
EeÞ for his vertu holden is for dere.
Boþe heroner' and faukon of ruyere.
Book IV.

(60)

And ek as writ zauzis ĵat was ful wys.
The newe loue out cacheth ofte ĵe olde.
And vp-on newe cas lyth newe auys.

Thenk ek ĵi self to saue ĵow art holde.
Swynch fyr by proces shal of kynde colde.
For syn it is but casuel plesaunce.
Som cas shal putte it out of remembrunce.

(61)

For al so seur as day cometh after nyght.
The newe loue / labour or oþer wo.
Or ellys selde seynge of a wyght.
Don olde affeccions al ouer go.
And for ĵi part ņow shalt haue one of ĵo.
To abrigge with ĵi bitte peynes smerte.
Absence of here shal dryue here out of herte.

(62)

This wordes seyde he for ĵe nones alle.
To helpe his frend lest he for sorwe deyde.
For douteles to don his sorwe to falle.
He rought not what vnthryf he seyde.
But Troylus ĵat neigh for sorwe deyde.
Tok litel hed of al ĵat euere he mente.
Oon eere it herde. at ĵe oþer out it wente.

(63)

But at ĵe laste he answered and seyde a frend.
This lechecraft. or heled ĵus to be.
were wel sittynge if ĵat I were a fende.
To trassen here ĵat trewe is vnþo me.
I pray to god lat ĵis consayl neuere ĵe.
But do me rathere a-noon sterue right here.
Er ĵus do / as ņow me woldest lere.
She pat I serve ywis what so pow seye. 442
To whom myn her enhabyt is by right.

- Shal han me holly heres til pat I deye.
For Pandarus syn pat I haue troupe here hight. 445
I wol not ben vntrewe for no wyght.
But as here man I wole ay lyue and sterue.
And neuere oper creature serue. 448

And pere pow seyst thow shalt as faire fynde. 449
As she, lat be / make no comparyson.
To creature y-formed here by kynde.
O leue Pandare in conclusion. 452
I wol not be of pyn opynyon.
Towchyng al pis / for whiche I pe byseche.
So hold pi pes / pow sleste me wip pi speche. 455

Thow biddest me I sholde loun an oper. 456
Al fresshly newe and lat Crisseyde go.
It lith not in my power leue broper.

- And pough I myght I wil not do so. 459
But kanstow pleyen raket to and fro.
Netle In. dokke out. now this / now pat Pandare.
Now fowle falle here pat for pi wo hath care. [— hath is in corrector's hand.] 463

Pow farest ek by me pow Pandarus. 463
As he pat when a wyght is wo-by-gon.
He cometh to hym a pas / and seyth right pus.
Thenk not on smert. and pow shalt fele noon. 466

- Thow most me first transmuwen in a ston.
- And reue me my passions alle.
- Er thow so lightly do my wo to falle. 469
The death may well out of my breast depart.
The life so long may his sorrow mine.
But from my soul shall Criseyde come.
Out anew mo / but down with Proserpine.
when I am dead I will go wrong in pyne.
And per I will eternally complyne.
My wo / and how that twinned be we twyne.

Thou hast here mad an argument for fyn.
How that it sholda a lass ease be.
Creseyde to for-gon for she was myn.
And leave in ease and yn felicite.
whi gabestow that seydest bus to me.
That hym is worse that is fro wele y-prowe.
Than he hadde erst non of that wele knowe.

But tel me now syn that he thenketh so light.
To chaungen so in love ay to and fro.
whi hastow not don bysly the myght.
To chaungen here that doth the al the wo.
Why neltow lete here fro theyn herte go.
why nyltow loe an ojer lady swete.
That may the herte setten in quyete.

If theow hast had in love ay yet myschaunce.
And kanst it not out of theyn herte dryue.
I that leuede yn lust and in plesaunce.
with here as muche as creature on lyue.
How sholde I that foryete and the so blyue.
O where hastow ben hid so longe in muwe.
That kanst so wel and formely arguwe.
(72)

Nay god wot nought worth is al þi red.
For which / for what þat euere may by-falle.  
with-outhen wordes mo I wol be ded.
- O. deth þat endere art of sorwes alle.
- Com now / syn I so ofte after þe calle.
For selly is þat deth soth for to seyne.
That ofte yeleped cometh and endeth peyne.

(73)

Wel wot I whil my lyf was in quyete.
Er þow me slowe .I. wolde haue yeuen here.
But now þi comynge is to me so swete.
That in þis world I no þing so desire.
| O deth syn with þis sorwe I am a fyre.
| Thou ðoper do me anoon yn þis teris drenche.
| Or with þi colde strok myn hete quenche.

(74)

Syn þat þow sleest so fele in sondry wyse.
A-yens hire wil vnpreyed day and nyght.
Do me at my requeste þis seruice.
Delyuere now þe world so dostow right.
Of me þat am þe wofullest wyght.
That euere was for tyme is þat I sterue.
Syn in þis world of right nought may .I. seruæ.

(75)

This Troylus in teris gan distille.  [leaf 76, back]
As licour of a lambyc ful faste.
| And Pandarus gan holde his tunge stille.
And to þe ground his eyen doun he caste.
But napeles þus pought he at þe laste.
| what parde raper þan my felawe deye.
| Yet shal I som-what more vn-to it seye.

CAMPSALL
And seyd frend syn þow hast swych distresse. 526
And syn þow list myn argumentʒ blame.
why nylt þi self helpen don redresse.
And with þy manhod letten al þis grame. 529
To rauysshe here. ne kanstow not for shame,
And ofer lat here out of towne fare.
Or hold here stille. and leue þi nyce fare. 532

(77)

Artow in Troye and hast noon hardiment. 533
To take a womman which þat loueth þe.
And wolde here seluen be of þyn assent.
Now is not þis a nyce vanyte. 536
Rys vp anoon. and lat þis wepynge be.
And kyth þow art a man for yn þis owre.
I wil be ded or she shal bleuen oure. 539

(78)

To this answerede hym Troylus ful softe. 540
And seyde parde leue broþer dere.
Al þis haue I my self yet pought ful ofte.
And more þyling þan þow deuysest here. 543
But whi þyling is laft þow shalt wel here.
And whan þow me hast yeue an audience.
Ther-after mayst þow telle alt þi sentence. 546

(79)

Fyrst syn þow wost þis town hath al þis werre. 547
For rauysshyng of wommen so my myght.
It sholde not be suffred me to erre.
As it stant now / ne don so gret vnright. 550
I sholde han also blame of euery wyght.
My fadres graunt yf þat I so withstode.
Syn she is chaunged for þe townes goode. 553
I haue ek fought so it were here assent. [leaf 77] 554
To aske hire at my fader of his grace.
Thanne ðenk I pis were here accusement.
Syn wel I wot I may here not purchase.
For syn my fader in so heigh a place.
As parlement hath here eschaunge enseled.
He nyl for me his lettre be repeled.

3et drede I most here herte to pertourbe. 561
with violence yf I do swych a game.
For yf I wolde it openly distourbe.
It most ben disclaundre to here name.
And me were leuere ded ðan here defame.
As nold god but yf I sholde haue.
Here honour leuere ðan my lyf to saue.

Thus am I lost for ought ðat I kan se. 568
For certeyn is syn ðat I am here knyght.
I mooste here honour leuere han ðan me.
In euery cas as louere oughte of right.
Thus am I with desir and reson twyght.
Desir for to distourben here me redeth.
And reson nyl not so myn herte dredeþ.

Thus wepyng ðat he koude neuere cesse. 575
He seyde allas how shal I wrecche fare
For wel fele I alwey my loue encresse.
And hope is lasse and lasse alwey Pandare.
Encressen ek þe causes of my care.
So wel-a-wey whi nyl myn herte breste.
For as in loue / þer is but litel reste.

CAMPSALL
(84)

- Pandare answerede frend þow mayst for me. 582
- Don as þe list / but hadde ich it for hote.
  And þyn estat / she sholde go with me.
  Though al þis town criede on þis þyng by note. 585
  I nold sette at al þat noyse a grote.
For when men han wel cried þan wol þey rowne.
A wonder last but .ix. nyght neuere yn towne. 588

(85)

- Deuyne not in reson ay so depe. [leaf 77, back] 589
  Ne curteysly. but help þi self anoon.
  Bet is þat ðpere þan þi self wepe.
  And namly syn ye two ben al oon. 592
- Rys vp for by myn hed she shal not gon.
  And ræper be in blame a litel y-founde.
- Than sterue here as a gnat with-owte wounde. 595

(86)

- It is no shame to yow ne no vice. 596
  Here to with-holden. þat ye loueth most.
  Paraunter she myght holden þe for nyce.
  To late here go þus. vn-to þe Grekes ost. 599
- Thenk ek Fortune as wel þi seluen wost.
- Helpeþ hardy man to his emprise.
- And weyueth wrecches / for here cowardise. 602

(87)

- And þough þi lady wolde a litel here greue. 603
- Thow shalt þi pes ful wel here-after make.
- But as for me certayn .I. kan not leue.
- That she wolde it as now for yuel take. 606
  whi sholde þanne of fered þyn herte quake.
  Thenk ek how Parys hath þat is þi broþer.
  A loue. and whi shaltow not hane a noþer. 609
(88)

And Troylus .o. þyng I dar þe swere.

That if Criseyde whiche þat is þi lef.

Now loue þe as wel as þow dost here.

God helpe me so she nyl not take a gref.

They þow do bote a-noon in þis myschef

And yf she wilneth fro yow for to passe.

Thanne is she fals / so loue here wel þe lasse.

(89)

• For-þi tak herte and þenk right as a kynght.
• Though loue is broken alday euery lawe.
• Kygh now sumwhat þi corage and þi myght.
• Haue mercy on þi self for ony awe.

Lat not þis wrecched wo þin herte gna^e.

But manly set þe world on sixe and seuene.

And yf þow deye a martir go to heuene.

(90)

• I wol my self be with þe at þis nede. [leaf 78]

Theygh ich and al my kyn vp-on a stonde.

Shulle in a strete as dogges liggen dede.

Though girt with many a wyd and blody wounde.

In euery cas I wol a frend be founde.

And yf þe lyst here steruen as a wrecche.

A dieu. þe deuel spede hym þat reche.

(91)

| This Troylus gan with þo wordes to quyken.

| And seyde frende graunt mercy ich assente.

| But certaynþow mayst not me so pryken.

| Ne peyne noon ne may me so tormente.

| That for no cas it is not myn entente.

| At short wordes þough I dyen sholde.

| To rauysshen hire / but yf here-self it wolde.

Campsall
(92)

Why so mene I quod Pandarus al pis day. 638
But tel me panne / hastow here wel assayed.
That sorwest pus / and he answered nay.
wher-of artow quod Pandare pan a-mayed. 641
That nost not pat she wol ben euele apayed.
To rauysshen here syn pow hast not ben pere.
But if pat Ioue told it yn pin eere. 644

(93)

For-thi rys vp as nought ne were a-noon. 645
• And wassh pi face and to pe kyng pow wende.
| Or he may wondren whider pow art gon.
Thow most with wysdom hym & othere blende. 648
Or vp-on cas he may after pe sende.
Er pow be war and shortly brofere dere.
Be glad / and lat me werke in pis matere. 651

(94)

• For I shal shappe it so sikerly 652
• Thow shalt pis nyght som tyme in som manere.
• Com speke with pi lady preuely.
And by here wordes ek and by here chere. 655
Thow shalt ful sone a-parceyue and wel here.
Al here entente / and yn pis cas pe beste.
And fare now wel / for in pis poynt I reste. 658

(95)

• The swyfte fame whiche pat false pytges. [leaf 78, back] 659
• Egal reporteth lyk pe pytges trewe.
• was porugh-out Troye y-fled with preste wynges.
• Fro man to man and made pis tale of newe. 662
• How Calkas doughter with here brighte hewe.
| At parlement with-oute wordes more.
• I-graunted was yn chaunge of Antenore. 665

CAMPSALL
The whiche tale a-noon right as Criseyde.

Had herd, she pat of here fader roughte.

As in pis cas right nought ne whanne he deyde.

Ful bysily to Iuppiter by-soughte.

yeue hym myschaunce pat pis tretis broughte.

But shortly lest pis tales soth were.

She dorste at no wyght asken it for fere.

As she pat hadde here herte and al here mynde.

On Troylus y-set so wonder faste.

That al pe world ne koude here loue vnbynde.

Ne Troylus out of here herte caste.

She wol ben his whil pat here lyf may laste.

And pis she brenneth bope in loue and drede.

That she nyste what was best to rede.

But as men sen in towne and al aboute.

That wommen vsen frendes to visite.

So to Criseyde of wommen come a rowte.

For pitous Ioye and wenden here delite.

And with here tales dere ynowh a myte.

These wommen whiche pat yn pe ciete dwelle.

Thei sette hem doun and seyde as I shal telle.

Quod first pat oone .I. am glad trevely.

By-cause of yow pat ye shal youre fader se.

A-noaper answered I-wys so am not .I.

For al to litel hath she with vs be.

Quod pe pridde I hope y-wys pat she.

Shal brynge vs pe pes on euery side.

That whanne she gooth almyghti god here gyde.
(100)

- Tho wo[r]des and þo womman/myssh þynges./ 694
- She herd hem ryght as þough she þens were.
  For god it wot here herte on ðer þing is.
- Al-þough þe body sat a-mong hem þere.
- Here aduerence is alwey ellys-where.
- For Troylus ful faste here herte soughte.
  with-outen word alwey on hym she þoughte. 700

(101)

- This wommen þat wenden here to plese. 701
- A-boute nought gonne alle here tales spende.
  Swych vanite ne kan don hem non esse.
  As she þat al þis mene while brende. 704
- Of ðer passion þan þey wende.
  So þat she felte almost here herte deye.
  For wo and wery of þat companye. 707

[Stanza 102, l. 708-714, tho left out of the Campsall MS.
and Harl. 2280, is partly in Boccaccio (see p. 196 of
Mr. Rossetti's Filostrato and Troylus), and wholly in
Cambr. Gg., Harl. 3943, &c.]

(103)

- And thilke fooles sittynge here a-boute. 715
- wende þat she wepte and syked sore.
- By cause þat [she] sholde out of þat route.
  Departe. and neuere pleye with hem more. 718
  And þey þat hadde y-knownen here of yore.
  Seygh here so wepe and þoughte it kyndenesse.
  And eche of hem wepte eke for here distresse. 721

Campsall
(104)

- And bisily þey gonnen here conforten.
- Of þing god wot on which she litel boughte.
- And with here tales wenden here disporten.
  And to be glad þey often here by-soughte.
- But swich an ese þer-with þey here wroughte.
- Right as a man is esed for to fele.
- For ache of hed to clawen hym on his hele.

(105)

- But after al þis nyce vanyte.
- They tok here leue and hom þey wenten alle.
- Cryseyde ful of sorwful pite.
- In to here chaumbre vp wente out of þe halle.
- And on here bed she gan for ded to falle.

In purpos neuere þennes for to ryse.
And þus she wroughte as I shal yow deuyse.

[The real Stanza 106, l. 736-742, is misplaced in the Campsall MS. & Harl. 2280 & 3943, and put after st. 107 (see p. 197, 198 of Mr. Rossetti’s Filostrato and Troylus, Chaucer Soc.). But as the change may have been made by Chaucer, and as the changer has alterd the text (l. 750, 752, 764) to make the story right, I am obliged to have different stanzas for nos. 106-108, and different lines for nos. 736-756.]

(106)

- Here ownded heer þat sonnyssh was of hewe. [179, 180] 736
- She rente / and ek here fyngres longe and smale.
  She wrong ful ofte and bad god on here rewe.
- And with þe deth to don bote on here bale.
  Here hewe whilom bryght þat þo was pale.
  Bar witnes of here wo and constreynte.
- And þus she spak sobbynge in here compleynte.
(107)

- Alias quod she out of pis regioun.
- I woful wrecche and infortuned wight.
- And born in corsed constellacioun.
- Mot gon and pus departen fro my knyght.
- wo worth allas pat ilke dayes lyght.
- On which I saw hym first with eyen twyne.
- That causeth me and I hym al pis peyne.

(108)

Therwith pe terys from here eighen two.
Doun fille. as shour in aperi\textsuperscript{f} swy\textsuperscript{pe}.
- Here white brest she bet / and for pe wo.
- After pe deth she cried a pousand sipe.
- Syn he pat wont here wo was for to lype.
- She mot for-gon. for which disauenture.
She held here-self a forlost creature.

(109)

- She seyde how shal he do and I also.
- How sholde I lyue / yf I from hym twynne.
- O dere herte ek pat I loue so.
- who shal pat sorwe sleen pat ye ben Inne.
- O. Calkas fader thyn be al pis synne.
O. moder myn pat cleped were Argyue.
- wo worth pat day pat pow me bere on lyue.

(110)

- To what fyn sholde I lyue and sorwen pus.
How sholde .I. a fyssh with-oute water dure.
- what is Criseyde worth from Troylus.
How sholde a plaunte or lyues creature.
Lyue with-oute his kynde noriture.
For which ful oft a by-word here I seye.
That roteles mot grene sone deye.
I shall don thus syn neyer swerd ne darte.
Dar I noon handle for þe cruwelte.
That ilke day þat I from hym departe.
If sorwe of þat nyl not my bane be.
· Than shall no mete or drynk come in me.
· Til I my soule out of my breste vnshepe.
· And þus my-seluen wold I do to dethe.

And Troylus my cloþes euerychone.
Shul blake ben yn tokenynge herte swete.
That I am as out of þis world a-gon.
That wont was yow to setten in quiete.
And of myn ordre ay til deth me mete.
The observaunce euere yn youre absence.
Shal sorwe ben. compleynyte and abstinenence.

Myn herte and ek þe woful gost þer-Inne.
Biquethe I with youre spirit to compleyne.
Eternally for þey shul neuere twynne.
For pough in erthe twynned be we tweyne.
Yet in þe feld of pite out of þeyne.
That hight Elysos shul we ben y-fere.
As Orpheus. and Erudice his fere.

Thus herte myn for Antenor Allas.
I soone shal be chaunged as I wene.
But how shul ye don yn þis sorwful cas.
How shal youre tendre herte þis sustene.
But herte myn / for-yet þis sorwe and tene.
And me also / for sothly for to seye.
So ye wel fare / I recche not to deye.
(115)
- How myght it euere y-red ben or y-songe.
- The pleynite pat she made in here distresse.
- I. not / but as for me my litel tongue.
  If I discreuen wolde here heuynesse.
  It sholde make here sorwe seme lesse.
  Than pat it was / and chyldissly deface.
  Here heyghe compleynte. and perfore I it pace.

(116)
- Pandare which pat sent was from Troylus. [leaf 80, back]
  Vn-to Criseyde / as ye han herd deuyse.
  That for pe beste it was accorded pus.
  And he ful glad to don hym pat seruice.
- Vn-to Criseyde in a ful seere wyse.
- Ther as she lay in torment and in rage.
  Come here to telle al holly his message.

(117)
And fond pat she here-seluen gan to trote.
Ful pitously / for with here salte terys.
. Here brest here face y-baped was ful wete.
. The myghty tresses of here sonnyssh herys.
. Vnbroyden / hangen al aboute here cris.
  which yaf hym verray signal of matere.
  Of deth / which pat here herte gan desire.

(118)
- Whan she hym saw she gan for sorwe a-noon.
- Here tery face / a-twixe here armes hyde.
  For which pis Pandare is so wo-by-gon.
  That in pe hous he myghte vнееpe a-byde.
  As he pat felte pyte on enery syde.
  For yf Criseyde hadde erst compleyned sore.
  Tho gan she pleye a þousand tymes more.

Campsall
And in here aspre pleynt / þan she seyde.  
Pandare first of Ioyes mo þan two.  
was cause causynge vn-to me Criseyde.  
That now transmuwed ben in cruel wo.  
wher shal I seye to yow / wel come or no.  
That alderferst me brough[t] in-to seruise.  
Of loue / allas þat endeth in þis wyse.  

Endeth þanne loue in wo. ye er men lieth.  
And alle worldly blysse as þenketh me.  
The ende of blisse ay sorwe it occupieth.  
And who þat wrotheth not þat it so be.  
Lat hym vpon me woful wrecche y-se.  
That my self hate / and ay my birpe accurate.  
Felynge alwey fro wo I go to worse.  

Who-so me seth. he seth sorwe al at onys.  
Peyne / torment / pleynt / wo / and distresse.  
Out of my woful body / harm þer non is.  
As angwyssh / langour / cruel bitternesse.  
A-noy / smert / drede / fury / and ek sikenesse.  
I trowe I-wys from heuene teris reyne.  
For pite of myn aspre and cruwel peyne.  

And þow my suster ful of discomfort.  
Quod Pandarus / what þenkestow to do.  
whi ne hastow to þi-seluen som resport.  
Lef al þis wek and take now hede to.  
That I shal seyn / and herkene of good entente.  
This / which by me þi Troylus þe sente.  

Campsall
(123)

• Torned here þo Criseyde a wo makynge. 855
  So gret þat it a deth was for to se.
  Allas quod she / what wordes may ye brynge.
• what wold my dere seyn to me. 858
• which þat I drede neuere mo to se.
• wol ye haue pleynye or terys er I wende.
• I haue y-nowe yf he þer after sende. 861

(124)

• She was right swych to sen in hire visage. 862
• As is þat wight þat men on bere bynde.
• Here face lyk a paradys þe ymage.
• was al I-chaunged in a-noþer kynde. 865
• The pleye / þe laughtre / men was wont to fynde.
  In here / and ek here Ioyes euerychone.
  Ben fled / and þus lith now Criseyde allone. 868

(125)

• Aboute here eyen two a purpre ryng. 869
• Bytrent / in sothfast tokenynge of here peyne.
  That to by-holde it was a dedly þing.
• For which Pandare myght not restreyne. 872
• The terys from his eyen for to reyne.
  But naþeles as he best myght he seyde.
  From Troylus / þis wordes to Criseyde. 875

(126)

• Lo Nece .I. trowe ye han herd al how. 876 [leaf 81, back]
  The kyng with opere lordes for þe beste.
  Hath mad eschaunce of Antenor & yow.
  That cause is of þis sorwe and þis vnreste. 879
• But how þis cas doth Troylus molesté.
• That may non erþely mannes tonge seye.
  For verray wo his wit is al a-wey. 882

CAMPSALL
(127)  
\[\begin{align*}
&\text{For which we han so sorwed he and I.} \\
&\text{That in-to litel bope it hadde vs slawe.} \\
&\text{But purgh my conseyl pis day fynally.} \\
&\text{He somwhat is fro wepyng now wiç-drawe.} \\
&\text{It semeth me pat he desireth fawe.} \\
&\text{with yow to ben al nyght for to deuyse.} \\
&\text{Remede in pis / yf per were any wyse.}
\end{align*}\]

(128)  
\[\begin{align*}
&\text{This short and pleyne peffect of my message.} \\
&\text{As ferforth as my wit may comprehende.} \\
&\text{For ye pat ben of torment in swych rage.} \\
&\text{May as to no long prologe as now entende.} \\
&\text{And her-vpon ye may an answere hym sende.} \\
&\text{And for pe lune of god my Nece dere.} \\
&\text{So lef pis wo er Troylus be here.}
\end{align*}\]

(129)  
\[\begin{align*}
&\text{Gret is my wo quod she and sighed sore.} \\
&\text{As she pat felt dedly sharpe distresse.} \\
&\text{But yet to me his sorwe is muche more.} \\
&\text{That loueth hym bet ðan he hym self .I. gesse.} \\
&\text{Allas for me hath he swych heuynes.} \\
&\text{Kan he for me so pitously compleyne.} \\
&\text{I-wis this sorw doublep al my peyne.}
\end{align*}\]

(130)  
\[\begin{align*}
&\text{Greuous to me god wot is for to twynne.} \\
&\text{Quod she / but yet it hardere is to me.} \\
&\text{To sen pat sorwe whiche pat he is Inne.} \\
&\text{For wel wot I it wole my bane be.} \\
&\text{And deye I wole in certayn po quod she.} \\
&\text{And bidde hym come er deth pat þus me treteth.} \\
&\text{Dryf out þe gost / which in myn herte he beteth.}
\end{align*}\]
(131)
- This wordes seyd / she on here armes two.  [leaf 82] 911
- Fil gruf / and gan to wepe pitously.
- Quod Pandarus allass whi do ye so.
- Syn ye wel wot þe tyme is faste by.
- That he shal come / a-rys vp hastely.
- That he yow nat by-wopen þus ne fynde.
  But ye wol han hym wod out of his mynde.  917

(132)
- For wist he þat ye ferde in þis manere.  918
- He wolde hym selue sle / and yf I wend.
- To han þis fare. he sholde not come here.
  For al þe good þat Pryam may despende.  921
- For to what fyn he wolde a-noon pretende.
- That know .I. wel / and for-þi yet I seye.
  | So lef þis sorwe / or platly he wole deye.  924

(133)
- And shappeth yow his sorwe for to a-bregge.  925
- And nought encrese / leue Nece swete.
  Buth raper to hym of flat þan egge.
  And with som wysdom ye his sorwes bete.
  what helpeþ it to wepen ful a strete.
  Or þough ye boþe in salte teris drenche.
  Bet is a tyme of cure ay þan of pleynte.  931

(134)
I mene þus. whan I hym here brynge.  932
Syn ye ben wyse and boþe of on assent.
So shappþ how distourbe þis goynge.
Or come a-yen soone after ye be went.
wommen ben wyse in short auysement.
And lat sen now how youre wit shal auaye.
And what þat I may helpe / it shal not fayle.  938

Campsall
Go quod Criseyde and Vncele trewely.
I. shal don al my myght / me to restreyne.
From wepyng in his sight and bysily.
Hym for to glade .I. shal don al my peyne.
And in myn herte seken euery veyne.
If to his sor per may be founden salue.
It shal not lakken certain on myn halue.

Goth Pandarus and Troylus he soughte.
Til in a temple he fond hym allone.
As he pat of his lyf no lenger rowhte.
But to pe petouse goddes euerychone.
Ful tendrely he preyde and made his mone.
To don hym sone out of pis world to pace.
For wel he þouhte þer was noon oþer grace.

And shortly al þe sope for to seye.
He was so fallen in despeyr þat day.
That outrely he shop hym for to deye.
For right þus was his argument alwey.
He seyde he nas but lorn waylawey.
For al pat cometh / comth by necessite.
Thus to be lorn it is my destyne.

For certaynly þis wot I wel he seyde.
That for-sight of dyuyne purueyaunce.
Hath seyn alwey me to for-gon Criseyde.
Syn god seth euery þing out of doutaunce.
And hem desponeth þourgh his ordenaunce.
In here merites soply for to be.
As they shul come by predestine.
But napelles allas whom shal I leve. 967
For þer ben clerkes grete many on.
That destyne þorugh argument þreue.
And som men seyn þat nedly þer is noon.
But þat frechoys is yeuen vs euerychon.
O. welaway so sley arn clerkes olde.
That I not whos opynyoun I may holde. 973

For so men seyn / yf god seth al byforn. 974
And god may not deceyued ben parde.
Than mot it falle þey men hadde it swo.
That purueyaunce hath seighen by-fore to be.
wherfor I seye þat from eterne yf he.
Hath wyst byforn / oure þought ek as oure dede.
we haue no fre choys as þese clerkes rede. 980

For oþer þought nor other dede also. [leaf 83] 981
Myght neuere be. but swych as purueyaunce.
which may not ben deceyued neuere mo.
Hath feled biforn / with-outen ignoraunce. 984
For yf þere myghte ben a variaunce.
To wriþen out / fro goddes puruelyinge.
Ther nere no prescience of þyng comynge. 987

But it were raþere an opynyoun. 988
Vncerteyn / and no stedefast forseynghe.
And certes þat were an abusion).
That god shulde han no parfit cler witynge. 991
More þan we men þat han doutous wenynge.
But swych an errour vp-on god to gesse.
were fals & foul & eorsed wykkednesse. 994
Ek pis is an opynyon of somme.
That han here top ful heighe and smoe y-shore.
They seyn right *pyng* is not to come.
For *pe* prescience hath seyghen by-fore.
That it shal come / but they seyn *pat* perfere.
That it shal come perfere *pe* puruyeaunce.
wot it byforn with-outen ignoraunce.

(144)
And in pis manere pis necessite.
Retorneth in his part contrarie a-gayn.
For nedfully by-houeth it not to be.
That pilke pinges fallen in certayn.
That ben purueyed but nedely as *pe* seyn.
Byhoueth it *pat* pinges whiche *pat* falle.
That *pe* in certayn ben purneyed alle.

(145)
I mene as *ough* I laboured me in pis.
To enqueren which *pyng* cause of which *pyng* be.
As whey *per* *pe* prescience of god is.
The certayn cause of *pe* necessite.
Of pinges *pat* to comen ben parde.
Or yf necessite of ping comynge.
Be cause certeyn of *pe* puruyinge.

(146)
But now ne enforce .I. me nought in shewynge. 1016
How *pe* ordre of causes stant / but wel wot .I.
That it byhoueth *pat* byfallyng.
Of pinges wyst byforn certeynyly.
Be necessarie / al seme it not *per*-by.
That prescience put fallyng necessarie.
To thing to come al falle it foule or fayre.
(147)

For if per sit a man yond on a see. 1023
Than by necessite byhoueth it.
That certes pe opynyon soth be.
That wenest or coniestest pat he sit.
And ferper-ouer now ayenward yit.
Lo right so it is of pe part contrarie.
As jus / nowe herkene / for I wol not tarie. 1029

(148)

I seye pat yf the opynion of pe. 1030
Be soth / for pat he sit / pan seye I pis.
That he mot sitten by necessite.
And jus necessite in eyper is.
For yn hym nede of syttyng is y-wys.
And nede of soth / and jus forsothe.
Ter mot necessite ben in yow bope. 1036

(149)

But pou maist seyn pe man sit not perfor.
That yyn opynyon of his syttyng soth is.
But raper for pe man sit per byfore.
THERfore is yyn opynyon soth ywys.
And I seye pough pe cause of soth of pis.
Comth of his syttyng yet necessite.
Is entrechaunged bope in hym and pe. 1043

(150)

Thus on pis same wyse out of doutaunce. 1044
I may wel make as it semeth me.
My resonynge of goddes pourueyaunce.
And of pe thinges / pat to comen be.
By which reson men may wel y-se.
That pilke thinges pat in erpe falle.
That by necessite jey comen alle. 1050
(151)

For al-though fat for thyng shal come y-wys. Therefore it is purueyed certaynly.
Nough fat it comth for it purueyed is.
Yet napeles byhoueth it nedfully.
That ping to come be purueyed trewely.
Or elles pinges pat puruey[e]d be.
That pei by-tiden by necessite.

(152)

And pis suffiseth right y-now certeyn.
For to destroyeoure fre choys every del.
But now is pis abusion to seyn.
That fallynge of pe thinges temporel.
Is cause of godes prescience eternal.
Now trewely pat is a fals sentence.
That ping to come sholde cause his prescience.

(153)

What myght I wene and ich hadde swych a pought. But pat god purueyed pyng pat is to come.
For pat it is to come and ellis nought.
So myght I wene pat thinges alle and some.
That whylom ben byfalle and ouer-come.
Ben cause of pilke soueyren purueyauence.
That for-wot al with-outen ignoraunce.

(154)

And ouer al pis yet sey I more þerto.
Right a whan I wot þer is a þing.
I-wys þat þing mot nedefullly be so.
Ek right so whan I wot a þyng comynge.
So mot it come / and þus þe byfallyng.
Of þinges þat ben wyst by-fore þat tyde.
They mowe not ben eschewed on no syde.
Thanne seyde he þus / almyghty Ioue in trone.
That wost of alle þinge þe sothfastnesse.
Rewe on my sorwe or do me deye sone.
Or bryng Criseyde and me fro þis distresse.
And whil he was in al þis heuynesse.
Disputynge with hym self in þis matere.
Com Pandare / and seyde as ye may here.

O myghti god quod Pandarus in Trone.  [leaf 84, back]
I who seygh euere a wysman faren so.
whi Troylus what þenkestow to done.
Hastow swych lust to ben þyn owen fo.
. what parde yet is not Criseyde a-go.
. why lust the so þyn self for-don for drede.
. That in þyn hed þyn eyghen semen dede.

Hastow not lyued many a yer byfore.
. wij-outen here / and ferd ful wel at ese.
. Artow for here and for noon oþer born.
Hath kynde þe wrought al oonly here to plese.
Lat be / and þenk right þus in [þi] disese.
That in þe des right as þere fallen chaunces.
Right so in loue / þere com and gon plesaunces.

And yet þis is a wonder most of alle.
whi þow þus sorwest / syn þou nost not yet.
Touchyng here goynge how þat it shal falle.
Ne yf she kan here-seluen distorben it.
Thow hast not yet assayed al here wit.
A man may al by tyme his nekke bede.
whan it shal of / and sorwen at þe nede.
For pri take hede of pat pat I shal seye.
- I haue with here y-spoke and longe y-be.
  So as accorded was by-twixe vs tweye.
  And euere-mo me penketh þus þat she.
Hath som-what in here hertes preuete.
  wher-with she kan yf I shal right a-rede.
Distorbe al þis / of which þow art in drede.

For swych my counseyl is whan it is nyght.
- Thow to here go and make of þis an ende.
  And blissyd Iuno þourgh here grete myghte.
Shal as I hope here grace vn-to vs sende.
Myn herte seyth certeyn she shal not wende.
  And for þi put þyn herte a whyle in reste.
  And hold þi purpos / for it is þe beste.

This Troylus answerede and sight sore.
- Thow seyst right wel / & I wil do right so.
- And what hym lyste he seyde vn-to it more.
- And whan þat it was tyme for to go.
  Ful preuely hym-self with-outen mo.
  Vn-to here com as he was wont to done.
  And how þei wroughte .I. shal yow telle sone.

Soth it is whanne þey gonne first to mete.
So gan þe peynes here hertes for to twyste.
  That neyþer of hem oþer myght grete.
But hem in armes tok and after kyste.
The lasse wofulle of hem boþe nyste.
- wher þat he was / ne myght o. word out brynge.
- As I seyde erst / for wo and for sobbynge.
(163)

- Tho woful teris pat pey leten falle. 1135
- As bittre weren out of teris kynde.
- For peyne / as is ligne Aloes or galle.
  So bittre teris weep nought as I fynde. 1138
  The woful myrra pought pe bark and rynde.
  That in pis world pe rys so hard an herte.
  That nolde han rewed on hire peynes smerte.

(164)

- But whanne here woful wery gostes tweyne. 1142
- Returned ben per as hem oughte dwelle.
  And pat som-what to wayken gan pe peyne.
  By lenthe of pleynyte / and ebben gan pe welle. 1145
  Of here teris and pe herte vnswelle.
  with broken voys al hoors for bright Criseyde.
- To Troylus pise ilke wordes seyde.

(165)

O Ioue I deye and mercy I be[se]che. 1149
- Help Troylus / and per-with-al here face.
- Vpon his brest she leyde / and lost speche.
  Here woful spirit from his propre place. 1152
  Right with pe word / alwey vp poynt to pace.
  And pus she lith with hewes pale and grene.
  That whilom fressh and fairest was to sene.

(166)

- This Troylus pat on here gan byholde. [leaf 85, back] 1156
- Clepynge here name / and she lay as for ded.
  with-outen answere / and felte here lymes colde.
- Here eyen prowen vpward to here hed. 1159
  This sorwful man kan now noon oper red.
- But ofte tyme here colde mouth he kyste.
  wher hym was wo / god and hym-self it wyste. 1162

CAMPSELL
(167)

- He rist hym vp and long streyght he hyre leyde. 1163
- For signe of lyf / for ought he kan or may. 1166
- Kan he noon fynde in no ping on Criseyde. 1166
  For which his song fyl ofte his weylaway.
- But whan he sawgh pat specheles she lay. 1169
  | with sorwful voys and herte of blysse al bare.
- He seyde / how she was fro pis world y-fare. 1169

(168)

- So after pat he longe hadde here compleyned. 1170
  His honde wrong / and seyde pat was to seye.
- And with his teris salte here brest byreyned. 1173
- He gan þo teris wypen of ful dreye.
  And pitously gan for þe soule preyc.
- And seyde o lord þat set art in þy Trone.
- Rewe ek on me for I shal folwe here sone. 1176

(169)

- She cold was and with-outen sentement. 1177
- For I wot / for breth ne felte he noon. 1180
- And þis was hym a preignant argument.
- That she was forth out of þis world a-gon.
  And whan he seygh þer was non oper won. 1183
- He gan here lymes dresse in swych manere.
- As men don hem þat shul be leyd on bere.

(170)

- And after þis with sterne and cruwel herte. 1184
- He swerd a-noon out of his shethe he twyghte. 1187
- Hym self to slen / how sore þat hym smerte.
- So þat his sowle here sowe folwen myghte.
- Ther as þe dom of Mynos wolde it dyghte.
- Syn loue and cruwel Fortune it ne wolde.
- That in þis world he lenger lyuen sholde. 1190
(171)
- Thanne seyde he þus fulfilled of heigh deslayn.  
- O cruel Ione / and þow fortune aduerse.
- This al and som þat falsly haue slayn.
- Criseyde and syn ye may do me no werse.
  Fy on youre myght and werkes so diuerse.  
  Thus cowardly / ye shul me neuere wynne.
  Ther shal no deth me fro my lady twynne.

(172)
- For I þis world syn ye han slayn here þus.
- wol lete / and folowe here spirit lowe or hye.
  Shal neuere louere seyn þat Troylus.
  Dar not for fere with his lady dye.
  For certeyn I wolde bere here companye.
- But syn ye wol not suffren vs y-fere.
- Yet suffreth þat oure soules ben yfere.

(173)
- And þow Cite whiche þat I leue in wo.
- And þow Pryam and breþeren al yfere.
  And Attropes make redy þow my bere.
- And þow Criseyde / o swete herte dere.
- Receyue now my spirit wold he seye.
  with swerd at herte al redy for to deye.

(174)
- But as god wolde of swough þer-with she abreyde.
- And gan to syke and Troylus she cride.
- And he answerde lady myn Crisseyde.
  Lyue ye yet / and let his swerd doun glide.
  Ye herte myn þat þanked be Cupide.
  Quod she / and þer-with al she sore syghte.
- And he by-gan to glade here as he myghte.

CAMPSALL
(175)

- Tok here in armes two and kyst here ofte. 1219
  And here to glade he dide al his entente.
- For which here gost / pat flekered ay on loft.
- In-to here woful herte a-yen it wente. 1222
- But at pe laste as pat here eyen glente.
- A-syde / a-noon she gan his swerd aspye.
  As it lay bare / and gan for fere crie. 1225

(176)

- And asked hym whi he hadde it out drawe. [if[s, bl] 1226
- And Troylus anoon pe cause tolde.
  And how hymself per-with he wolde haue slawe.
  For which Criseyde vp on hym gan by-holde. 1229
  And gan hym in here armes faste folde.
- And seyde o mercy god lo swych a dede.
  Allas how neigh we were bope dede. 1232

(177)

- Thanne yf I ne hadde spoken as grace was. 1233
- Ye wolden han slay youre self a-noon quod she.
  Ye douteles and she answerede allas.
  For by pat ilke lord pat mad me. 1236
  I nolde a forlong wey on lyue han be.
  After youre deth / to han be crowned queue.
  Of al pe londes pe sonne on shyneth shene. 1239

(178)

- But with pis selue swerd whiche pat here is. 1240
- My selue I wolde haue slayn quod she tho.
  But ho / for we han right ynow of pis.
- And late vs rise and streyght to bedde go. 1243
- And per lat vs spoken of oure wo.
- For by pe morter which pat I se brenne.
- Knowe I right wel pat day is not fer henne. 1246

CAMPSALL
Whanne þey were in here bed in armes folde. 1247
Nought was yt lyk þe nyghtes here by-forn.
For pitously eche gan oþer byholde.
As þei þat hadden al here blisse y-lorn.
By-waylynge ay þe day þat þey were born.
Til at þe last this sorwful wyght Criseyde.
To Troylus þese ilke wordes seyde. 1253

Lo herte myn wel wot ye þis quod she. 1254
That yf a wyght alwey his wo compleyne.
And sekeþ nought how holpen for to be.
It is but follye and encres of peyne.
And syn þat here assembled be we twayne.
To fynde bote of wo þat we be Inne.
It were al tyme sone to by-gynne. 1260

I am a woman as ful wel ye wot. [leaf 87] 1261
And as I am a-vised sodeynly.
So wole I. telle yow whil it is hot.
Me þenketh þus þat neyther ye ne .I.
Ought half þis wo to make skilfully.
For there is art y-now for to redresse.
That yet is mys / and slen þis heynesse. 1267

Soth is þe wo whiche þat we ben Inne. 1268
For ought I wot / for no þyng elles is.
But for þe cause þat we sholden twynne.
Considered al þer is nomore a-mys.
But what is þanne a remede vn-to this.
But þat we shape vs sone for to mete.
This al and som my dere herte swete. 1274
Now pat I shal wel bryngen it a-boute.  1275
To come a-yen soone after pat I go.
Ther-of am I no manere thyng in doute.
For dredles with-Inne a wowke or two.  1278
I shal ben here / and pat it may be so.
By alle right and in a wordes fewe.
I shal yow wel an hep of weyes shewe.  1281

For which I wot not make long sermon.  1282
For tyme y-lost wol not recouered be.
But I wol gon to my conclusyon.
And to pe beste in ought pat I kan se.  1285
And for pe loue of god for-yeue it me.
If I speke ought a-yen youre hertes reste.
For trewely .I. speke it for pe beste.  1288

Makynge alwey a protestacion.  1289
That now these wordes whiche pat I shal seye.
Nys but to shewe yow my mocion.
To fynde vn-to oure helpe pe beste weye.  1292
And taketh it non oper wyse .I. preye.
For yn effect what so ye me commaunde.
That wol I don / for pat is no demaunde.  1295

Now herkeneth pis for ye han wel vnderstonde. [1297,115] 1296
My goynge graunted is by parlement.
So ferforth pat it may not be with-stonde.
For al pis world as by my Iuggement.  1299
And syn peer helpeth noon a-visement.
To letten it / lat it passe out of mynde.
And lat vs shape a bettre wey to fynde.  1302
(187)

The softe is pat pe twynnynge of vs twyneye.  
 wol vs dishese and cruwellyche anoye.  
But hym byhoueth som tyme han a peyne.  
That serueth loue / yf pat he wol haue Ioye.  
And syn I shal no ferpere out of troye.  
Than I may ryde a-yen on half a morwe.  
It ought pe lasse causen vs to sorwe.  

(188)

So as .I. shal not so ben hid in muwe.  
That day by day myn owene herte dere.  
Syn ye wel wot pat it is now a truwe.  
Ye shal ful wel al myn estat y-here.  
And er pat truwe is don I shal ben here.  
And panne haue ye bope Antenor y-wonne.  
And me also / beth glad now yf ye konne.  

(189)

And penk right pus Crisyeide is now a-gon.  
But what she shal come hastily a-yan.  
And whanne / allas / by god lo righ a-noon.  
Er dayes .x. pis dar I saufly seyn.  
And panne at erst shal we ben so Fayn.  
So as we shulle to-gederes euere dwelle.  
That al pis world ne myghte oure blysse telle.  

(190)

I se pat ofte tyme per as we ben now.  
That for pe beste oure conseyl for to hide.  
Ye speke not with me nor I with yow.  
In fourtenyght ne se yow go ne ryde.  
May ye not ten dayes panne a-byde.  
For myn honour yn swych auenture.  
I-wys ye mowen ellys litel endure.  

CAMPSALL
Ye knowe ek how pat al my kyn is here. [leaf 88] 1331
But yf pat onlyche it my fader be.
And ek myn opere pinges alle y-fere.
And namelyche my dere herte ye.
whom pat I nolde leuen for to se.
For al pis world as wyd as it hath space.
Or elles se ich neue[r] Iones face. 1337

Whi trowe ye my fader yn pis wyse.
Coueyteth so to se me but for drede.
Lest yn pis town pat folkes me dispise.
By cause of hym / for his vnhappy dede.
what wot my fader what lyf pat I lede.
For and he wyste in Troy how wel I fare.
Vs nedede for my wendyng nought to care. 1344

Ye sen pat euery day ek more and more.
Men trete of pees / and it supposed is.
That men pe queene Eleyne shal restore.
And Grekes vs restore pat is mys.
So pough pere nere comfort noon but pis.
That men purposen pes on euery syde.
Ye may pe bettre at ese of herte a-byde.

For yf pat it be pes myn herte dere.
The nature of pe pes mot nedes dryue.
That men mose entrecomunen y-fere.
And to and fro ek ryde and gon as blyue.
Alday as pikke as ben flen from an hyue.
And euery wight han liberte to bleue.
wher as hym lyst pe bet wit-outen leue. 1358
(195)

- And though so be *pat* pes *per* may be noon.  
  Yet hider though pere neuere pes ne were.  
  I moste come / for wheder sholde I gon.  
  Or how myschaunce sholde I dwelle pere.  
- A-mong tho men of armes euere in fere.  
  For which as wysly god my soule rede.  
  I kan not sen wher-of ye sholden drede.  

(196)

**Haue here a noper wey if it so be.** [leaf 88, back]  
That al pis ping ne may yow not suffice.  
- My fader as ye knowen wel parde.  
- Is old / and elde is ful of coueytise.  
  And I right now haue founden al pe gyse.  
  with-oute net wher-with I shal hym hente.  
  And herkeneth how / if *pat* ye wol assente.  

(197)

**Lo** Troylus men seyn *pat* ful hard it is.  
The wolf ful / and pe weper hol to haue.  
This is to seyn *pat* men ful ofte y-wys.  
Mote spenden part / pe remenaunt for to saue.  
For ay with gold men may pe herte graue.  
Of hym *pat* set is1 vp-on coueitise.  
And how I mene I. shal it yow deuyse.  

(198)

**The moble which *pat* I haue yn this town.**  
Vn-to my fader shal I take and seye.  
That right for trust / and for sauacion).  
It sent is from a frend of his or tweye.  
The wheche frendes feruentlyche hym preye.  
To sende after more and *pat* in hye.  
whil *pat* pis town stant *pus* in Iupartie.  

*CAMPSALL*
(199)

And þat shal ben an huge quantite.
Thus shal I seyn but lest it folk aspie.

This may be sent by no wyght but by me.
I shal ek shewn hym yf pes by-tyde.
what frendes ich haue on euery syde.
Toward þe Court to don þe wrappe pace.
Of Priamus / and don hym stonde in grace.

(200)

So þat for opor o þyng and for opor swete.
I shal hym so enchaunten wip my sawes.
That right in heuene his sowle-is shal he mcte.
For al Appollo and or his Clerkes lawes.
Or calkulyenge auayleth nought þre hawes.
Desir of gold shal so his soule blynde.
That as me lyst .I. shal wel make an ende.

(201)

And yf he wolde ought by hys sort it preue. [leaf 39]
If þat I lye / in certayn I shal fonde.
Distorben hym / and plukke hym by þe sleue.
Makyngle his sort / and beren hym on honde.
He hath not wel þe goddes vnderstonde.
For goddes speken in Amphibologies.
And for a soth þey tellen .xx. lyes.

(202)

Eke drede fond first goddes .I. suppose.
Thus shal I seyn / and þat is cowarde herte.
Made hym a-mys þe goddes text to glose.
whan he for fered out of his Delphos sterte.
And but I make hym soone to converte.
And don my red with-Inne a day or tweye.
I wol to yow oblige me to deye.
And trewelyche as wretten wel I fynde.  
That al pis þyng was seyd of good entent.  
And þat here herte trewe was and kynde.  
Towardes hym / and spak right as she mente.  
And þat she starf for wo neigh whan she wente.  
And was in purpos euere to be trewe.  
Thus writen þey þat of here werkes knewe.  

This Troylus with herte and eerys spradde.  
Herde al þis þing deuysey to and fro.  
And verraylich hym semed þat he hadde.  
The same wit / but yet to late he[r] go.  
His herte mysforyaf [hym] euere mo.  
But fynally he gan his herte wreste.  
To trusten here / and tok it for þe beste.  

For which þe grete furye of his penaunce.  
was queynt with hope / and þer-with hem bi-twene.  
By-gan for Ioye þe amorouse daunce.  
And as þe briddes whan þe sonne is she[ne].  
Deliten in here song yn leues grene.  
Right so þe wordes þat þey spake y-fere.  
Deliten hem / and made hire hertes clere.  

But nathles þe wendynge of Criseyde.  
For al þis world may nought out of his mynde.  
For whiche ful ofte he pitously here preyde.  
That of here heste he might here trewe fynde.  
Ne shal I neuer haue hele honour ne Ioye.  

CAMPSALL
For al so thot as sonne vp rist on morwe.
And god so wisly pow me woful wrecche.
To reste brynge out of pis cruwel sorwe.
L. wol my seluen sle yf pat yd ye drecche.
But of my deth pough litel be to recche.
Yet er pat ye me cause so to smerte.
Dwelle raþere here myn owene swete herte.

For trewely myn owene lady dere.
Tho sleughtes yet pat I haue herd yow stere.
Ful shaply ben to Fayllen alle y-fere.
For þus men seyn pat oon þenketh þe bere.
But al a noper þenketh h[i]s ledere.
Youre sire is wys / and seyd is out of drede.
Men may þe wyse at-renne but not a-rede.

It is ful hard to halten vn-espied.
By-fore a crepul for he kan on þe craft.
Youre fader is in sleughte as Argus eyed.
For al be þat his moebles is hym by-raft.
His olde sleughte is yet so with hym laft.
Ye shal not blende hym for youre womanhede.
Ne fye ne a-right / and þat is alle my drede.

I not yf pes shal euere mo by-tyde.
But pes / or no / for ernest ne for game.
L. wot syn Calkas on þe Grekes syde.
Hath ones ben / and lost so foule his name.
He dar nomor come here a-yen for shame.
For which þat weye for ought I kan espye.
Trusten to / nys but a fantasye.
(211)

- Ye shal ek sen yowre fader shal yow glose. [leaf 90] 1471
- To ben a wyf / and as he kan wel preche.
- He shal som grek so prese and wel a-lose.

That rauysshen he shal yow with his speche. 1474
Or do yow don by force as he shal teche.
And Troylus of whom he nyl han roupe.
Shal causeles so steruen in his troupe. 1477

(212)

And ouer al þis youre fader shal despise. [leaf 91] 1478
Vs alle and seyn þis Cite nys but lorn.
And þat þassege neure shal aryse.
For-why þe grekes han it alle sworn.
Til we be slayn and doun oure walles torn.
Al þus he shal you with his wordes fere.
- That ay drede I þat ye wol bleue þere. 1484

(213)

Ye shul ek sen so mani a lusty knyght. 1485
A-mong þe Grekes ful of worþynesse.
And eche of hem with herte wit and myght.
To plesen yow don al his besynesse.
That ye shul dullen of þe rudenesse.
Of vs sely Troians / but yf roupe.
Remorde yow / or vertue of youre troupe. 1491

(214)

- And þis to me so greuous is to þenke. 1492
That fro my brest it wole my soule rende.
Ne dredles in me þer may not synke.
A good opynyoun yf þat ye wende. 1495
For-why youre faderes sleyghte wole vs shende.
- And yf ye gon as I haue told yow yore.
- So þenk I am but ded with-oute more. 1498
(215)

For which with humble trewe and pitous herte.  
A thousand tymes mercy I yow preye. 
So reves on myn aspre peynes smerte.
- And doth somewhat / as þat I shal yow seye.
- And lat vs stele a-way by-twext vs tweye.
And þenk þat folye is whan man may chese.
For accident is substaunce ay to lese.

(216)

I mene þis þat syn we mowe er day.  [leaf 90, back]  
- wel stele a-way and ben to-gedre so.
- what nede were it to putten in assay.
In cas ye sholde to youre fader go.
If that ye myghte come a-yen or no.
Thus mene I þat it were a gret folye.
To putte þat sikernesse in Iupartie.

(217)

And vulgar[1]y to speken of substaunce.
Of Tresour may we boþe with vs lede.
Y-nowh / to lyue in honour and pleasaunce.
Til in-to tyme þat we shul ben dede.
And þus we may eschewen al þis drede.
For euerych oþer wey ye kan recorde.
Myn herte y-wys / may not ther-with acorde.

(218)

And hardely ne dredeth no pouerte.
For I haue kyn / and frendes elles where.
That þough we comen in oure bare sherte.
Vs sholde neþer lakke golde ne gere.
- But ben honoured while we dwelten þere.
And go we a-noon for as yn myn entente.
This is þe beste yf þat ye wolte assente.
(219)

- Criseyde with a syk right in pis wyse. 1527
- Answered y-wys my dere herte trewe.
- we may wel stele a-way as ye deuyse.
- And fynde swyche vnthryfty weyes newe. 1530
  But afterward ful sore it wol vs rewe.
  And helpe me god so at my most nede.
  As causeles ye suffren al pis drede. 1533

(220)

| For pilke day pat I for cherysshynge. 1534 |
| Or drede of fader or of oper wight.        |
| Or for estat / delit / or for weddynge.    |
| Be fals to yow my Troylus my knyght.       |
| Saturnus daughter Iuno porugh here myght.  |
| As wod as Athamante do me dwelle.          |
| Eternaly in Stix pe put of helle.           |

(221)

And this on euer god celestial.  [leaf 91] 1541
I swere it yow and ek on eche goddesse.
On euer Nymphe and deite infernal.
On satiry and fawny more lesse. 1544
That halue goddes ben of wildernesse.
And Attropos my pred of lyf pow breste.
If I be fals / now trowe me yf pow leste. 1547

(222)

And pow Symoys pat as an arwe clere. 1548
Thorough Troye rennest ay downward to pe see.
Bere wittenesse of pis word pat seyd is here.
That pilke day pat ich vntrewe be. 1551
To Troylus myn owen herte free.
That pow retorne bakwarde to pi welle.
And I wiþ body and soule synke in helle. 1554

CAMPSALL
(223)  
But that ye speke alwey þus for to go.  
And leten alle youre frendes god for-bede.  
For ony womman þat ye sholden so.  
And namly syn Troye hath now swych rede.  
Of help and ek of þýng taketh hede.  
If þis were wist my lif lay in balaunce.  
And your honour / god shilde vs fro myschaunce.  

(224)  
And yf so be þat pes her-after take.  
As alday happeþ after anger game.  
why lord þe sorwe and wo ye wolden make.  
That ye ne dorste come a-yen for shame.  
And er þat ye Iuparten so youre name.  
Beth nought to hasty in þis hote fare.  
For hasty man ne wanteth neuere care.  

(225)  
What trowe ye þat þe pe peple ek of al aboute.  
wolde of it seye / it is ful lyght to arede.  
They wolden seye / and swere it out of doute.  
That loue ne drof yow nought to don þis dede.  
But lust volupþuous / and coward drede.  
Thus were al lost y-wys myn herte dere.  
Yowre honour which þat now shyneth so clere.  

(226)  
And also þenketh on myn honeste,  
That floureth yet how foule it sholde it shende.  
And with what filþe it spotted sholde be.  
If in þis forme I sholde with yow wende.  
Ne þough I lyuede vn-to þe worldes ende.  
My name sholde I neuere a-yenward wynne.  
Thus were I lost and þat were rouþe & synne.  

TROILUS.  Q  CAMPSSALL
(227)

And for his sle with reson all his hete.
Men seyn he suffraunt overcometh par de.
Ek who-so Wolfe han leef he leef mote lete.
Thus makep vertue of necessite.

By pacient and penk pat lord is he.
Of fortune ay pat nought wolde of here recche.
And she ne daunteth no wight but a wrecche.

(228)

And truscep pis pat certes herte swete.
Er Phebus suster lucyna the shene.
The leon passe out of pis ariete.
I wol ben here with-outen ony wene.
I mene as helpe me Iuno heunes queene.
The tenthe day / but yf pat deth me assayle.
I wol yow sen with-outen ony fayle.

(229)

And now so pis be soth quod Troylus.
I shal wel suffre vn-to the tenpe day.
Syn pat I se pat nede it mot be püs.
But for pe loue of god yf it be may.
So lat vs stele pryuely a-way.
For euere in oon as for to lyue in reste.
Myn herte seyp it wolde ben pe beste.

(230)

O mercy god / what lyf is pis quod she.
Allas ye sle me püs for verray tene.
I se wel now pat ye mystrusten me.
For by youre wordes it is wel I-sene.
Now for pe loue of Cynthes pe shene.
Mystrust me not püs causeles for routhe.
Syn to be trewe I haue yow plyght my trouthe.
(231)

- And thenketh wel þat som tyme it is wit. [leaf 92]
- To spende a tyme / a tyme for to wynne.
- Ne parde lorn am I nought fro yow yet.

| Though þat we ben a day or two a twynne. |
| Dryf out þe fantasies yow wip-Inne. |
| And trusteth me / and leueth ek youre sorwe. |
| Or her my troupe I wol not lyue til morwe. |

(232)

- For if ye wiste how sore it doth me smerte.
- Ye wolde cesse of þis for god þow wost.
- The pure spirit wepeþ in myn herte.
- To se yow wepen þat I loue most.
- Ye nere it þat I wist remedie.

| And þat I mot gon to þe Grekes ost. |
| To com a-yeyn / right here I wolde dye. |

(233)

- But certes I am not so nyce a wyght.
- That I ne kan ymagynen a weye.
- To come a-yen þat day þat I haue hight.

| For who may holde þing þat wole a-way. |
| My fader nought for al his queynte pley. |
| And by my þryft my wendyng out of Troye. |
| A-noþer day shal torne vs alle to Ioye. |

(234)

- For-thy with al myn herte I yow beseche.
- Yf þat yow lyst don ough for my preyere.
- And for þe loue which þat I loue yow eke.

| That er þat I departe fro yow here. |
| That of þe good of comfort & a chere. |
| I may you sen / þat [ye] may brynge at reste. |
| Myn herte / which þat is o poyn to breste. |

CAMPSALL
(235)

- And ouer al pis I pray yow quod she þo.
  Myn owen hertes sothfast suffisaunce.
  Syn I am þyn al hool with-outen mo.
- That whil þat I am assent no plesaunce.
- Of opere / do ye me fro youre remembraunce.
  For I am euere a-gast / for-whi men rede.
  That loue is þing ay ful of bysy drede.

(236)

- For yn þis world / þer lyueth lady noon.
- If þat ye were vntrewe as god defende.
  That so bytraysed were or wo bygon.
  As I þat al troufe in yow entende.
- And douteles yf þat ych opere wende.
- I nere but ded / and er ye cause fynde.
  For goddes loue / so beth me not vnkynde.

(237)

- To þis answerede Troylus and seyde.
  Now god to whom þer nys no cause y-wrye.
  Me glad as wys I neuere vn-to Criseyde.
  Syn þilke day I saw here first with eye.
  was fals ne neuere shal til þat I dye.
  At short wordes wel ye may me leue.
  I kan no more / it shal be founde at preue.

(238)

Graunt mercy good myn y-wys quod she.
  And blysful Venus lat me neuere sterue.
  Er I may stonde of plesaunce in degre.
  To quyte hym wel þat so wel kan deserue.
  And whil þat my wit wol me consere.
  I shal so don so trewe I haue yow founde.
  That ay honour to meward shal rebounde.
For truste wel þat youre estat royal.

Ne veyn delit / nor oonly worþinesse.

Of yow in werre / or torney Marcial.

Ne pompe aray / nobley or ek richesse.

Ne made me to Rewe on youre distresse.

But moral vertue grounded vpon trouþe.

That was þe cause / I first hadde on yow rouþe.

Ek gentil herte and manhod þat ye hadde.

And þat ye hadde as me þoughte in despit.

Every thing þat souned in-to badde.

As rudenesse an pepelyssli appetit.

And þat yowre reson brydled youre delit.

This made a-bouen euery creature.

That I was youre and shal whil I may dure.

And this may lengthe of yeres not for-do.  [leaf 93]

Ne remuuable fortune deface.

But Iuppiter þat of his myght may do.

The sorwful to be glad so yeue vs grace.

Er nyghtes ten / to meten in þis place.

So þat it may youre herte and myn suffice.

And fareth now wel for tyme is þat ye ryse.

And after þat þey longe y-pleyned hadde.

And ofte I-kyst and streyght in armes folde.

The day gan ryse and Troylus hym cladde.

And rowfullych his lady gan byholde.

As he þat felte dethes cares colde.

And to his grace he gan hym recomaunde.

wher hym was wo / þis holde I no demande.
(243)

For mannes hed ymagynen ne kan. 1695
Nen-tendement considere / ne tongue telle.
This cruwel peynes of pis sorwful man.
That passen euery torment doun in helle. 1698
For he saugh pat she ne myghte dwelle.
which pat his soule out of his herte rente.
with-outen more out of pe chaumbre he wente. 1701

Explicit liber Quartus.
[Campsall MS, on leaf 93.]

[The MS. tagd f, g, k, t, are not printed in this book.]

Incipit Liber. quintus.

(1) (Proem)

Prochen gan the fatal destyne. [Tesside IX. 1] 1
That Ioues hath in disposicion.
And to yow angry Parcas sustren þre.
Comytted to don execucion. 4
For which Criseyde moste out of þe toun.
And Troylus shal dwelle forth yn pyne.
Til Lachesis his þreed no lengere twyne. 7

(2) (The Story) [leaf 93, back]

The goldtressed Phebus heighe on loftie. [Tesside II. 1] 8
Thries hadde al with his bemes clere.

The snowes molte / and Zephirus as ofte.
Y-brought a-yen þe tendre leues grene. 11
Syn þat þe sone of Ecuba the queene.
By-gan to loue here first for whom his sorwe.
was al þat she departe sholde o morwe. 14

(3)

Ful redy was at Pryme Dyomede. 15
Criseyde vn-to þe Grekes ost for to lede.
For sorwe of which she felte here herte blede.
As she þat nyst what was best to rede. 18
And trevely as men in bokes rede.
Men wyst neuere womman han þe care.
Ne was so loth out of [a] town to fare. 21

CAMPSELL
This Troylus with-outen red or lore.  
As man þat hath his Ioyes ek forlore. 
was waytynge on his lady euermore.  
As she þat was þe sopfast crop and more.  
Of al his lust / or Ioyes here byfore. 
But Troylus farewell now al þi Ioye.  
For shaltow neuere sen here eft in Troye.  

(5) 
• Soth is þat whil he bod in þis manere.  
• He gan his wo ful manly for to hyde.  
• That wel vneyfe it sene was in his chere. 
  But at þe yate þere she sholde oute ryde. 
  with certeyn folk / he houede here tabyde. 
  So wo bygon al wolde he nought hym pleyne. 
  That on his hors vneyfe he sat for peyne.  

(6)  
For Ire he quok so gan his herte gnawe. 
whan Diomede on hors gan hym dresse.  
• And seyde vn-to hym-self þis ilke sawe.  
  Allas quod he þus foul a wrecchednesse. 
  why suffre ich it / whi nyl ich do it redresse. 
  were it not bet at onys for to dye. 
  Than euermore in langour þus to drye. 

(7) 
Whi nyl .I. make at onys ryche and pore.  
To hane y-nowh to done er þat she go.  
• why nyl I brynge al Troye vpon a rore. 
• Whi nyl I slen þis Diomede also.  
• why nyl I răpere wiþ a man or two. 
• Stele here a-way / whi wole I þis endure.  
  whi nyl I helpen to myn owene cure.  

CAMPSALL
(8)
• But whi he nolde don so fel a dede
  That shal I seyn and why hym lyst it spare.  
• He hadde in herte alweys a manere drede.
• Lest pat Cryseyde yn rumour’ of pis fare.
• Sholde han ben slayn / lo this was al his care.
  And elles certeyn as I seyde yore.
  He hadde it don with-outen wordes more.  

(9)

Crisseyde whan she redy was to ryde.
  Ful sorwfully she sight and seyde al as.
  But forth she mot for ought pat may bytyde.
  And forth she right ful sorwfully a pas.
  Ther nys non oper remedye yn pis cas.
  what wonder is pat pough here sore smerte.
  whan she forgoth here owene swete herte.  

(10)
• This Troylus yn wyse of curtasie.
• with hauk on hond and with an huge route.
• Of knyghtes / rod and dide here compaynye.
  Passynge al pe valey fer with-oute.
• And ferpere wold han ryden out of doute.
  Ful fayn / and wo was hym to gon so sone.
  But torne he moste / and it was ek to done.

(11)
• And right with pat was Antenor I-come.
• Out of pe Grekes ost and euery wyght.
• was of it glad / and seyde he was wel-come.
• And Troylus / al nere his herte lyght.
  He peynede hym with al his fulle myght.
  Hym to with-holde of wepyng at pe lesthe.
  And Antenor he kyste and made feste.
(12)
- And þer-with-al he moste his leue take. [leaf 94, back] 78
- And caste his eye vpon here pitously.
- And ner he rod his cause for to make.
- To take here by þe hond al sobrely. 81
- And lord so she gan wepen tendrely.
- And he ful softe and sleyghly gan here seye.
- Now hold yowre day / and doth me not to deye. 84

(13)
- With þat his courser torned he al a-boute. 85
- with face pale / and vn-to Diomede.
- No word he spak ne non of al his route.
- Of which þe sone of Tydeus toke hede. 88
  As he þat koude more þan þe Crede.
In swych a craft / and by þe reyne here hente.
And Troylus to Troye homwarde he wente. 91

(14)
This Diomede þat ladde here by þe bridel. 92
whan þat he saw þe folk of Troye a-weye.
Thoughte / al my labour shal not ben on ydel.
If that I may for somwhat shal I seye. 95
For at þe worste it may yet shorte oure weye.
I haue herd seyd ek tymes twyes twelue.
He is a fool þat wole for-yete hym-selue. 98

(15)
But naþeles þis þoughte he wel ynowh. 99
That certaynly I am a-boute nought.
If that I speke of loue or make it tough.
For douteles yf she haue in here thought. 102
Hym þat I gesse / he may not ben y-brough[t].
So sone awey / but I shal fynde a mene.
That she shal not as yet wete what I mene. 105
This Diomede as he pat koude his good.  
when pis was don gan fallen forth in speche.  
Of pis and pat / and asked whi she stood.  
In swych desese / and gan here ek byseche.  
That yf pat he encrese myghte or eche.  
with ony ping / here ese pat she sholde.  
Comaunde it hym / and seyde he don it wolde.

For trewely he swor here as a knyght.  
That pere nas ping with whiche he myght here plese.  
That he nolde don his peyne and al his myght.  
To don it / for to don here herte an ese.  
And preyde here / she wolde here sorwe apese.  
And seyde y-wys we grekes kon haue Ioye.  
To honouren yow / as wel as folk of Troye.

He seyde ek pus / I wot yow penketh straunge.  
No wonder is / for it is to yow newe.  
Thaqueeuntaunce of pese Troians to chaunge.  
For folk of Greece pat ye neuere knewe.  
But wolde neuere god but [if] as trewe.  
A Grek / ye shulde a-mong vs alle fynde  
As ony Trojan is / and ek as kynde.

An by pe cause I swor yow right lo now.  
To ben youre frend and helply to my myght.  
And for pat more aqueeuntaunce ek of yow.  
Haue ich had pan a-noper straungere wight.  
So fro pis forth I pray yow day and nyght.  
Comaundeth me how sore pat me smerte.  
To don al pat may like to youre herte.
(20)
And pat ye me wolde as youre broper trete.
And take not my frendship in despit.
And though youre sorwes be for pinges grete.
Not I not whi / but out of more respit.
Myn herte hath for to amenden it gret delit.
And yf I may youre harmes not redresse.
I am right sory for youre heuynesse.

(21)
And though ye troians wiþ vs Grekes wroþe.
Han many a day be / alwey yet parde.
O. god of loue in soth we seruen boþe.
And for þe loue of god my lady fre.
whom so ye hate as beth not wroth wiþ me.
For trewely þer kan no wight yow serue.
That half so loth youre wrapþe wolde deserue.

(22)
And nere it pat we been so neigh þe tente. [leaf 95, back]
Of Calkas / which þat sen vs boþe may.
I wolde of þis yow telle al myn entente.
But þis enseled til a noþer day.
yeue me youre hond / I am and shal ben ay.
God help me so whil þat my lyf may dure.
youre owene a-boue euery creature.

(23)
Thus seyde I neuere er now to womman borne.
For god myn herte as wysly glade so.
I louede neuer womman here byforn.
As paramours ne neuere shal no mo.
And for þe loue of god beth not my fo.
Al kan I not to yow my lady dere.
Compleyne a-ryght / for I am yet to leere.
(24)
And wondrep not myn owen lady bryght. 162
Though þat I speke of loue to you þus blyue.
For I haue herd of þis of many a wyght.
Hath loued þyng he neure saugh his lyue. 165
Ek I am not of power for to stryue.
A-yens þe god of loue / but hym obeye.
I wole alwey / and mercy I yow preye. 168

(25)
Ther ben so worþi knyghtes in þis place. 169
And ye so feyr þat euereich of hem alle.
wol peynten hym to stonden in youre grace.
But myght[e] me so fair a grace falle. 172
That ye me for your seruaut wolde calle.
So lowly ne so trewely you to serue.
Nil noon of hem / as I shoal til I sterue. 175

(26)
Criside vn-to þat purpos litel answerde. 176
As she þat was with sorwe oppressed so.
That in effect she nought his tales herde.
But her & þere / now here a word or two. 179
Hire þought here sorwful hert brast a-two.
For whan she gan here fader fer aspye.
wel neigh doun on here hors she gan to sye. 182

(27)
But natheles she þonked Diomede. 183
Of al his trauayle and his goode chere.
And þat hym lyst his frendship here to bede.
And she accepteth it in goode manere. 186
And wold do fayn þat is hym lef and dere.
And trusten hym she wolde and wel she myghte.
As seyde she / and from hire hors she a-lighte. 189
Here fader hath here in his armes nome.
And tweynty tyme he kyste his daughter swete.
And seyde .o. dere daughter myn wel come.
She seyde ek she was fayn with hym to mete.

- And stod forth mewet / mylde / and mansuete.
- But here I leue here with here fader dwelle.
- And forth I wole of Troylus yow telle.

To Troye is come pis woful Troylus.
In sorwe / abouen alle sorwes smerte.
with felon lok / and dispitous.
Tho sodeynly doun from his hors he sterte.
And porugh his paleys with a swollen herte.
To chambre he went / of no ping toke he hede.
Ne noon to hym dar speke a word for drede.

And bere his sorwes pat he spared hadde.
He yaf an yssue large / and deth he cride.
And in his prowes frenetyk and madde.
He cursesd Ioue / Appollo / and ek Cupide.
He cursesd Ceres / Bacus / and Cipryde.
His burpe / hym self / his fate / and ek nature.
And saue his lady / euery creature.

To bedde he goth and weyleth bere and torneth.
In furye / as doth he Ixion in helle.
And in pis wyse he neigh til day soiourneth.
But po by-gan a lytel his herte vnswelle.
Thorugh teris which pat gonnen vp to welle.
And pitously he cride vp-on Criseyde.
And to hym-self right pus he spak and seyde.
(32)

| Where is myn owene lady lief and dere. [leaf 90, back] | 218 |
| where is here white brest wher is it where. |
| where ben here armes an here eyen clere. |
| That yesternyght þis tyme wiþ me were. | 221 |
| Now may .I. wepe allone many a tere. |
| And graspe a-boute I may / but in þis place. |
| Saue a pilwe I fynde / nought tenbrace. | 224 |

(33)

| How shal I do / whan shal she com a-yen. | 225 |
| I not / allas / whi let ich here to go. |
| As wolde god Ich hadde as þo be sleyn. |
| O. herte myn Criseyde o swete fo. | 228 |
| O. lady myn þat I loue and no mo. |
| To whom for eneremo myn herte I dowe. |
| Se how I deye ye nyl me not rescowe. | 231 |

(34)

| Who seeth yow now my right lode-sterre. | 232 |
| who sit right now or stant in yowre presence. |
| who kan conforten now youre hertes werre. |
| Now I am gon / whom yeue ye audience | 235 |
| who speketh for me right now in myn absence. |
| Ællas no wight / and þat is al my care. |
| For wel wot .I. as yuele as I ye fare. | 238 |

(35)

| How shulde I þus .x. dayes ful endure. | 239 |
| when I þe firste nyght haue al þis tene. |
| How shal she don ek sorwful creature. |
| For tendresse how shal she þis sustene. | 242 |
| Swich wo for me / .o. pitous / pale / & grene. |
| Shal ben youre fresshe wommanlyche face. |
| For langour / er ye torne in-to þis place. | 245 |
And when he fitt in ony slomerynges.  246
Anoon by-gonne he sholde for to grone.
And dremen of þe dredfulleste þinges.
That myghte ben / as mete as he were allone.  249
In place horrible / makynge ay his moone.
Or meten þat he was a-monges alle.
His enimys / and in here hondes falle.  252

And ther-with-al his body sholde sterete.  [leaf 97]  253
And wip þe stert al sodeynlych a-wake.
• And swich a tremor fele a-boute his herte.
• That of þe feer his body sholde quake.  256
• And þer-with-al he sholde a noyse make.
• And seme as pough he sholde falle depe.
• From heighe a loft / and þan he wolde wepe.  259

And rewen on hym self so pytously.  260
That wonder was to here his fantasye.
• A-nother tyme he sholde myghtily.
• Conforte hym self / and seine it was folye.  263
• So causeles swych drede for to drye.
And eft bygynne his aspre sorwes newe.
That euery man myghte on his sorwes rewe.  266

Who koude telle a-right or ful discryue.  267
His wo / his pleynte / his langour & his peyne.
Nought al þe men þat han or ben on lyue.
Thow redere mayst þy self ful wel deuyne.  270
That swych a wo my wit kan not defyne.
On ydel for to write it sholde .I. swyneke.
whan þat my wit is wery it to þenke.  273
On heuene yet þe sterres were sene. 274
Al þough ful pale. y-woxen was þe moone. 277
And whiten gan the Orisonte shene.
Al Estward / as it wonted is to done.
And Phebus with his rosy carte sone.
Gan after þat to dresse hym vp to fare.
| when Troylus hath sente after Pandare. 280

This Pandare þat of al þe day bi-forn. 281
Ne myght haue comeþ Troylus to se.
Al þough he on his hed it hadde I-sworn.
For with þe kyng Pryam alday was he.
So that it lay not in his liberte.
No wher to gon / but on þe morwe he wente.
To Troylus / when þat he for hym sente. 287

For in hys herte he koude wel dyuyne. [leaf 97, back] 288
That Troylus al nyght for sorwe wook.
And þat he wolde telle hym of his peyne.
This knew he wel y-nough with-oute book. 291
For which to chaumbre streyght þe wey he took.
And Troylus þo sobrelyche he grette.
And on þe bed ful soone he gan hym sette. 294

My Pandarus quod Troylus þe sorwe. 295
which þat I drye I may not longe endure.
I trowe I shal not lyue til to morwe.
For whiche I wolde alwey on auenture. 298
To þe deuysen of my sepulture.
The forme / and of my moeble þow dispone.
Right as þe semeth best is for to done. 301
(44)

But of þe fyr / and flaumbe funeral.
In whiche my body brenne shal to glede.
And of þe feste / and pleyes palestral.  
At my vigile I pray þe take good hede.  
þat al be wel / and offre mars my stede.
My swerd / myn helm and leue broþer dere.
My sheld to Pallas yef þat shyneth clere.

(45)
The poudre in which myn herte y-brend shal torne.
That prey I þe pow take and it conserue.
In a vessel þat men clepeþ an vrne.
Of gold / and to my lady þat I serue.
For loue of whom þus pitously I sterue.
So yeue it here and do þis plesaunce.
To preyen here to kepe it for a remembraunce.

(46)
For wel I fele by my maladye.
And by my dremes now and yore a-go.
Al certeynly þat I mot nedes dye.
The owle ek which þat hatte Escaphilo.
Hath after me shright alle þis nyghtes two.
And god Mercurye of me now woful wrecche.
The soule gide / and whan þe lyst it fecche.

(47)  
Pandare answerde / and seyde Troylus.  
My dere frend / as I haue told þe yore.
That it is folye for to sorwen þus.
And causeles for whiche I kan nomore.
But who so wolde not trowen rede ne lore.
I kan not seen in hym no remedye.
But late hym worpe with his fantasye.
(48)

But Troylus I pray þe telle me nowe.
If þat þow trowe er þis þat ony wyght.
Hath þow loued paramours as wel as þow.
Ye god wot / and fro many a worþi knyght.
Hath his lady gon a fourtenyght.
And he not yet made haluendel þe fare.
what nede is þe / to maken al þis care.

(49)

Syn day by day þow mayst þi-seluen see.
That from his loue / or elles from his wyf.
A man mot twynnen of necessite.
Ye þough he loue here as his owene lif.
Yet nyl he with hym self þus maken stryf.
For wel þow wost my leue broþer dere.
That alwey frendes may nought ben y-fere.

(50)

How don þis folk þat seen here loues wedded.
By frendes myght / as it by-tyt ful ofte.
And sen hem in here spouses bed y-bedded.
God wot þey take it wysly faire and softe.
For-why good hope halt vp here herte .o. loftes.
And for þey kan a tyme of sorwe endure.
As tyme hem hurt / a tyme doth hem cure.

(51)

So sholdestow endure / and late slyde.
The tyme / and fond to ben glad and lyght.
Ten dayes nys so longe not tabyte.
And syn she þe to come hath byhyght.
She nyl not here hestes breken for no wight.
For drede þe not þat she nyl fynden weye.
To come a-yen my lyf þat dorst I leye.
(52)

- Thy sweuenes ek and [al] swich fantasye.  
- Dryf out and lat hem faren to myschaunce.
- For þei proceden of þi malencolye.
  That doth þe fele in slep al þis penaunce.
  A straw for alle sweuenes signifiaunce.
- God helpe me so I counte hem not a bene.
  Ther wot no man a rigth what dremes mene.

(53)

For prestes of þe temple tellen þis.
That dremes ben þe reuelacions.
Of goddes / and as wel þey telle y-wys.
That þey ben Infernals illusions.
And leches seynt / þat of complexions.
Proceden þei / or fast / or glotonye.
who wot in soth þus what þey signifie.

(54)

Ek opere seyn þat þorugh Impressions.
As yf a wight hath faste a þing in mynde.
That þer-of cometh swich auysions.
And opere seyn as þey in bokes fynde.
That after tymes of þe yer by kynde.
Men dreme / and þat theffect goth by þe mone.
But lef no drem / for / it is nought to done.

(55)

Wel worth of dremes ay þese olde wyues.
And treweliche ek augurye of þis foweles.
For fere of which men wenen lese here lyues.
As Rauenes qualm / or shrykyng of þese owlys.
To trowen on / it boþe fals and foule is.
Allas / allas so noble a creature.
As is a man shad drede swich ordure.
For which wip al myn herte. I. pe besche. 386
vn-to pi-self pat al pis pow for-yeue.
And rys vp now with-oute more speche.
And lat vs caste how forth may best be dreue. 389
This tyme / and ek how fresshly we may leue.
whan pat she cometh the which shall be righ sone.
God help me so pe beste is pus to done. 392

(57)
- Rys lat vs speke of lusti lyf in Troye. (leaf 99) 393
- That we han lad / and forth pe tyme dryue.
- And ek of tyme comynge vs reioye.
That bryngen shal oure blysse now so blyue. 396
And langour'of pes twyes dayes fyue.
we shal per-with so fo[r]3ete oure oppresse.
That vnnepe it don shal vs duresse. 399

(58)
| This town is ful of lordes al a-boute. 400
| And trewes lasten al pis mene while.
| Go we pleye vs in som lusty rowte.
| To sarpedon / not hens but a myle. 403
| And pus pow shalt pe tyme wel bygile.
And dryue it forth vn-to pat blisful morwe.
That pow here se pat cause is of pi sorwe. 406

(59)
- Now rys my dere broper Troylus. 407
- For certes it noon honour is to the.
- To wepe / and in pi bed to Iowken pus.
For trewely of o ping pow trust to me. 410
If pow pus ligge a day or two or pre.
- The folk wol wene pat pou for cowardyse.
- The feynest syk / and pat pow dar not ryse. 413
This Troylus answerèd o broþer dere. 414
| This knowen folk þat han y-suffred peyne.
| That þough he wepe / and make sorwful chere.
| That feleth harm and smert yn every veyne. 417
| No wonder is / and þough I euere pleyne.
| Or alwey wepe I am no þing to blame.
| Syn I haue lost þe cause of al my game. 420

But syn of fyn force I mot a-ryse. 421
| I shal a-ryse as soone as euere I may.
| And god to whom myn herte I sacrefise.
| So sende vs hastely þe tenþe day. 424
| For was þere neuere foule so fayn of may.
| As I shal ben whan þat she comeþ in Troye.
| That cause is of my torment and my Ioye. 427

But whider is þi red quod Troylus. 428
| That we may pley vs best in al þis town.
| By god my conseyl is quod Pandarus.
| To ryde and pley vs with kynge Sarpedoun. 431
| So longe of þis þey speken vp and doun.
| Til Troylus gan at þe laste assente.
| To ryse / and forth to Sarpedoun þey wente. 434

This Sarpedoun as he þat honourable. 435
| was euere his lyue / and ful of heigh prowesse.
| with al þat myghte y-served ben on table.
| That deynte was al cost it gret richesse. 438
| He fedde hem day by day þat swich noblesse.
| As seyden bope þe meste and [ek] þe lest. 441
| was neuere er þat day wyst at ony feste.
Nor in pis world per is noon Instrument.

Delicious / porugh wynd / or touche / or corde.

As fer as ony wyght hath euere y-went.

That tonge telle or herte may recorde.

That as pat feste it nas wel herd accorde.

• Ne of ladyes ek so fayr a companye.

On daunce / er jo was neuere y-seyn with eye.

But what auayleth pis to Troylus.

That for his sorwe no ping of it roughte.

For euere in oon his herte pitous.

• Ful bysily Criseyde his lady soughte.

• On here was euere al pat his herte thoughte.

• These laydyes ek pat at pis feste ben.

• Syn pat he saw his lady was a-weye.

• It was his sorwe vpon hem for to sen.

Or for to here ony Instrument3 so pleye.

• For she pat of his herte bereth pe keye.

• was absent / lo pis was his fantasye.

That no wight sholde make melodye.

Nor ther nas houre in al pe day or nyght.

when he was pere as no wight myght [hym] here.

• That he ne seyde o lufsom lady bryght.

• How haue ye faren syn pat ye were pere.

• wel-come y-wys myn owene lady dere.

But welaway al pis nas but a maze.

Fortune his howue entendeth bet to glaze.
(68)

- The lettres ek pat she of old[e] tyme.
- Had hym y-sent / he wolde allone rede.
- An hundred sithe a-twixen noon and pryme.
  Refigurynge here shap / & here womanhede.
  wip-inne his herte / and euery word and dede.
  That passed was / and þus he drof to an ende.
| The ferpe day / and seyde he wolde wende.

(69)

- And seyde leue broþer Pandarus.
- Intendestow pat we shul here bleue.
- Til Sarpedoun wol forth congeyen vs.
- Yet were it fairer pat we tok oure leue.
- For godes loue lat vs now sone at eue.
- Oure leue take / and homward lat vs torne.
  For trewely I wol not þus soiourne.

(70)

- Pandare answered be we comen heder.
- To fecchen fyr and rennen hom a-yen.
  God helpe me so I kan not tellen whider.
  we myghten gon / yf I shal sothly seyn.
  Ther ony wyght is of vs more fayn.
- Than Sarpedoun / and yf we hens hye.
- Thus sodeynly / I holde it vilonye.

(71)

Syn þat we seyden / þat we wold bleue.
  wip hym a wowke / and now þus sodeynly.
  The ferthe day to take of hym oure leue.
  He wolde wondren on it trewely.
  Lat vs holde forth oure purpos fermely.
  And syn þat ye bihighten hym to byde.
  Hold forward now / and after lat vs ryde.
Thus Pandarus with al peyne and wo.
Made hym to dwelle / and at þe wykes end.
Of Sarpedoun / þei toke here leue þo.
And on here wey þey spedden hem to wende.
Quod Troylus now god me grace sende.
That I may fynde at myn hom comynge.
Criseyde comen / and þer-wip gan he synge.

Ye haselwode poughte þis Pandare.
And to hym self ful sobrelich he seyde.
God wot refreyden may þis hote fare.
Er Calkas sende Troylus Cryseyde.
But napeles he Iaped þus and seyde.
And swor y-wys his herte hym wel byhight.
She wolde come as soone as euere she myghte.

Whan þey vn-to þe paleys were ycomen.
Of Troylus / þei down of here hors a-light.
And to þe chambre here wey þan han þei nomen.
And in-to tyme þat gan to nyghte.
They spaken of Criseyde þe brighte.
And after þis whan þat hem bope leste.
Thei spedde hem fro þe soper vn-to reste.

O morwe as soone as day bygan to clere.
This Troylus gan of his slep tabreyde.
And to Pandare his owene broþer dere.
For loue of god ful pitously he seyde.
So go we seen þe paleys of Criseyde.
For syn we yet may haue nomore feste.
So lat vs seen here paleys at þe leste.
(76)

- And per-with-al his meyne for to blende.
  A cause he fond in towne for to go.
  And to Criseyde hous þei gonnen wende.
  But lord þis sely Troylus was wo.
- Hym poughte his sorweful herte brast a-two.
- For[r] whan he saugh here dorres sperid alle.
  wel neigh for sorwe a-down he gan to falle.

(77)

Ther'with whan he was ware and gan by-holde.  [leaf 101]
- How shet was euery wyndowe of þe place.
  As frost hym poughte his herte gan to colde.
  For which with chaunged deedlych pale face.
  with-outen word he forth by-gan to pace.
  And as gold wolde he gan so faste ryde.
  That no wight of his contenaunce aspide.

(78)

- Than seyde he þus .o. paleys desolat.
- O. hous of housses whilom best y-hight.
- O. paleys empty and disconsolat.
  O. pou lanterne of which queynt is þe light.
- O. Paleys whilom day þat now art nyght.
  wel oughtestow to falle and I to dye.
- Syn she is went þat want was vs to gye.

(79)

O Paleys whilom crowne of houses alle.
Enlumyned wip þe sonne of alle blysse.
O. ryng fro which þe ruby is out falle.
O. cause of wo þat cause hast ben of blysse.
Yet syn I may no bet fayn wold I kysse.
Thi colde dorres dorst I for þis route.
And fare-wel shryne of whom þe seynt is oute.
(80)
Ther-with he caste on Pandarus his eye.
with chaunged face, and pitous to byholde.
And whan he myght his tyme a-right aspye.

* Ay as he rod to Pandarus he tolde.
* His newe sorwe and ek his Ioyes olde.
So pitously and with so dede an hewe.
That every wight myghte on his sorwe rewye.

(81)
* Fro pensforth he rideth vp and down.
* And every ping cam hym to remembrancce.
* As he rod forth by places of the toun.
  In whiche he whilom hadde al his plesaunce.
* Lo yende saugh I myn owene lady daunce.
* And in þat temple with here eyen clere.
* Me kaught first my right lady dere.

(82)
And yender haue I herd ful lustily.
My dere herte laughe and yender pleye.
Saugh I here ones ek ful blysfully.
  And yender ones to me gan she seye.
  Now good swete / loue me wel I preye.
And yond so goodly gan she me byholde.
That to þe deth myn herte is to here holde.

(83)
And at þat corner in þe yonder hous.
Herde I myn alderleuest lady dere.
So wommanly wiþ voys melodious.
Syngen so wel / so goodly and so clere.
That in my soule yet me þenketh I here.
The blisful soun / and in þat yonder place.
| My lady first me tok vn-to here grace.

CAMPSALL
Jeanne fought lie Jms / o blisful lord Cupide. 582
whanne I pe proces haue in memorie. 585
How pow me hast waryed on euery syde.
Men myght a book mak of it lyk a storie.
what nede is pe to seke on me victorie.
Syn I am pyn / and holly at pi wille.
what Ioye hastow pyn owene folk to spille. 588

Wel hastow lord y-wroke on me pìn Ire. 589
Thow myghty god and dredful for to greue.
Now mercy lord / pow westwel I desire.
Thi grace most of alle lustes leeue. 592
And leue and deye I wol [in] pi byleeue.
For which I naxe in guerdon but a bone.
That pow Criseyde a-yen me sende soone. 595

Distreyne here herte as faste to retorn. 596
As pow dost myn to longen here to se.
Than wot I wel pat she nyl not soiourne.
Now blisful lorde so cruwel pow ne be. 599
Vn-to pe blod of Troye I preye pe.
As Iuno was vn-to pe blood Thebane.
For which pe folk of Thebes caught here bane. 602

And after pis he to pe yates wente. 603
There as Criseyde out rood a ful good paas.
And vp and doun þer made he many a went.
And to hym self ful ofte he seyde allas. 606
From hens rood my blysse and my solas.
As wolde blisful god now for his Ioye.
I myghte here seen a-yen come in Troye. 609
And to ye yonder hill I gan here gyde.

* Allas / and yeere I tok of here my leue.
  And yond I saugh here to hire fader ryde.
  For sorwe of which myn herte shal to-cleue.
  And heder hom I com whan it was eeeue.

; And here I dwelle out-cast from alle Ioye.
; And shal til I may se here eft in Troye.

And of hym-self ymagyned he ofte.

* To ben defet / and pale / and woxen lesse.
  Than he was wont / and pat men seyde softe.
  what may it be / who kan pe sope gesse.

* whi Troylus hath al pis heynesse.
  And al pis nas but his malencye.
  That he hadde of hym-self swich fantasye.

Anoper tyme ymagynen he wolde.
That euery wight pat wente by ye weye.
Had of hym roupe / and pat pei seyen sholde.
I am right sory Troylus wol deye.
And thus he drof a day yet forth or tweye.
As ye haue herd swych lyf right gan he lede.
As he pat stood by-twixen hope and drede.

For which hym liked yn hise songes shewe.

* Thencheson of his wo as he best myghte.
  And make a song of wordes but a fewe.

* Somwhat his woful herte for to lyghte.
  And whan he was from euery mannys sighte.

* with soft voys / he of his lady dere.

That was absent gan to syngen as ye may here.
(92) (Troilus's Song for Cressid)

O sterre of which I lost haue al þe light.  
with herte sor / wel oughte I to be-wayle.  
That euere derk in torment nyght by nyght.  
Toward my deth with wynd in stere I sayle.  
For which þe tenþe nyght if þat I fayle.  
Thi gydyng of þi bemes bright an houre.  
My ship and me Carybdes wol deuoure.  

(93)

• This song when he þus songen hadde soone.  
• He fyl a-yen in-to his sikes olde.  
• And euery nyght as was his wone to done.  
• He stod þe bryght mone to beholde.  
And al his sorwe he to þe mone tolde.  
• And seyde I-wys whan þow art horned newe.  
| I shal be glad yf al þe world be trewe.  

(94)

• I saugh þin homes olde ek by þe morwe.  
• whan hens rod my ryght lady dere.  
That cause is of my torment and my sorwe.  
For whiche ðe bright lathona þe clere.  
For loue of god ren fast a-boute þi spere.  
| For whanne þyn hornes newe gynne sprynge.  
| Than shal [s]he come þat may me blisse brynge.  

(95)

• The dayes more / and lengere euery nyght.  
• Than þei be wont to be hym þoughte þo.  
• And þat þe some wente his course vnright.  
| By lenger wey / þan it is wont to go.  
And seyde I-wys me drede þe euere mo.  
The sonnes some Pheton be on lyue.  
And þat his fadres cart a-mys he dryue.  

Campsall
Vpon þe walles faste ek wolde he walke.

- And on þe Grekes ost he wolde se.
- And to hym self right þus he wolde talke.

Lo yender is myn owene lady fre.
Or elles yonder þere þo tenten be.
And þen[ne]s comth þis Eyr þat is so soote.
That in my soule I fele it doth me bote.

And hardly this wynd þat more and more.
Thus stoundemele encreseth in my face.
It is of my ladyes depe sikes sore.
I preue it þus for in noon opere place.
Of al þis town / saue onelyche in þis space.
Fecle I no wynd þat sowneth so lyk peyne.
It seyth allas / why twynned be we tweyne.

This longe tyme he dryueth forth right þus.
Til fully passed was þe nynþe nyght.
And ay by syde hym was þis Pandarus.
That bysilie dide alle his fulle myght.
Hym to conforte / and make his herte lyght.
Yeuynghe hym hope alwey þe tenþe morwe.
That she shal come / and stynte al his sorwe.

Vpon þe toþer side ek was Criseyde.
with wommen fewe among þe Grekes stronge.
For whiche ful ofte a day allas she seyde.
That I was born wel may myn herte longe.
After my deth for now lyue I to longe.
Allas and I ne may it not amende.
For now it is wors þan euere yet I wende.
(100)

My fader nyl for no ping do me grace. 694
To goon a-yen for ought I kan hym queme.
And yf so be þat I my terme passe.
My Troylus shal in his herte deme. 697
That I am fals and so it may wel seme.
Thus shal I haue vnþank on every side.
That I was born so weylawey þe tyde.

(101)

And yf þat I me put in Iuptarie. 701
To stele a-wye by nyghte an it by-falle.
That [I] be caught / I shal be hold a spie.
Or elles lo þis drede I most of alle. 704
yf in þe hondes of som wreche I falle.
I am but lost al be myn herte trewe.
Now myghty god / þow on my sorwe rewe.

(102)
• Ful pale y-woxen was hire brighte face. [leaf 103, back] 708
  Her lymes lene / as she þat al þe day.
  Stod whan she dorste / and loked on þe place.
  The[r] she was born / and she dwelt hadde ay. 711
• And al þe nyght wepynge.allas she lay.
  And þus despeired out of alle cure.
  She ladde here lyf / þis woful creature.

(103)
• Ful ofte a day she syked for destresse. 715
  And in here-self she wente ay portraynge.
  Of Troylus þe gret[e] worpinesse.
• And alle his goodly wordes recordynge. 718
  Syn first þat day here lone bygan to spryngn[e].
    And þus she sette here ful herte a-fyre.
• Thorough remembraunce of þat she gan desire. 721

CAMPSALL
(104)

• In al pis world þer nys so cruwel herte. 722
• That here had herd compleyne in here sorwe
• That nolde han wopen for here peynes smerte.
| So tendrely she wepte boþe eue and morwe. 725
   Here nedede no teris for to borwe.
• And þis was yet þe worste of al here peyne.
• Ther was no wight to whom she dorste hire pleyne. 728

(105)

• Ful rowfully she loked vp-on Troye. 729
• Byheld þe toures heyghe and ek þe halles.
• Allas quod she þe plesaunce and þe loye.
| The whiche þat now al torned in to galle ys. 732
• Haue I had ofte with-Inne þo yonder wallys
• Of Troylus / what dost[ow] now she seyde.
• Lord whe[þe]r yet þou þenke vp-on Criseyde. 735

(106)

• Allas .I. ne hadde trowed on yowre lore. 736
• And went with yow as ye me radde er þis.
• Thanne had I now not siked half so sore.
• who myght haue seyd þat I had don a-mys.
• To stele a-wey with swich on as he is.
   But al to late cometh þe letuarye.
   Whan men þe cors vn-to þe graue carye. 742

(107)

• To late is now to speke of þis mater. 743 [leaf 104]
Prudence allas / oon of pyn eyen two.
Me lakked alwey er þat I cam here.
On tyme y-passed wel remembred me. 746
And present tyme ek koude I wel y-se.
But futur tyme er I was in þe snare.
Koude I not seen / þat causep now my care. 749
But naples bytyde what bityde.
I shal to morwe at nyght by Est or west.
Out of pis ost stelen on som manere syde.
And go with Troylus wher as hym lest.
This purpos wol I holde and pis is best.
No fors of wykked tonges Ianglere.
For euere on loue han wrecches had enuye.

For who so wold of euery word take hede.
Or rewelyn hym by euery wightes wit.
Shal he neuere pryue out of drede.
For pat pat somme han blamed euere yit.
Lo oper manere folk commenden it.
And as for me for al swych variaunce.
Felicite clepe I my suffisaunce.

For which wij-outen ony wordes moo.
To Troye I wole as for my conclusion.
But god it wot er fully monthes two.
She was ful fer fro pat entencion.
For bope Troylus and Troye toun.
Shal knotles thorugh out here herte slyde.
For she wol take a purpos for tabyde.

This Diomede of whom yow telle I gan.
Gooth now with-Inne hym self ay arguynge.
with al pe sleighte and al pat euere he kan.
How he may best with short taryinge.
In-to his net Criseydes herte brynge.
To pis entent he koude neuere fyne.
To fysshen here / he leyde out hook and lyne.
But napole wel in his herte he foughte. That she nas nat wip-oute a loue in troye.
For neuere sithen he here pen[ne]s broughte. Ne koude he sen her laughen or make Ioye.
He nyste how best here herte for tacoye. But for to assaye he seyde it nought ne greueth.
For he pat nought nassayeth nought nacheneth.

Yet seide he to hym self vpon a nyght. Now am I not a fool pat wot wel how.
Hire wo / for loue is [of] a noUer wight.
And here-vp-on to gon assaye here nowe. I may wel wite it nyl not ben my prow.
As wys[e] folk in bokes it expresse.
Men shall not wowe a wight in heuynesse.

But who-so myghte wynnen swych a flour. From hym / for whom she morneth nyght and day.
He myghte seyn he were a conquerour.
And right a-noon as he pat bold was ay.
Thoughte in his herte / happe how happe may.
Al sholde I deye .I. Wolfe here herte seche.
I. shal no more lesen but my speche.

This Diomede as bokes vs declare.
was in his nedes prest and corageus.
With sterne voys and myghty lymes square.

Hardy / testyf / strong and cheualrous.
Of dedes lyk his fader Tideus.
And som men seyn he was of tunge large.
And heyr he was of Calydoyne and Arge.
Criseyde mene was of here stature. 806
Therto of shap / of face / and ek of chere.
Ther myght[e] ben no fayrer creature.
And off[e] tyme pis was here manere. 809
To gon y-tressed with hire heerys clere.
Doun by hire coler at here bak byhynde.
which with a þred of gold she wold[e] bynde. 812

And saue here browes Ioyneden y-fere. [leaf 105] 813
Ther nas no lak in ought I kan espyen.
But for to speke[n] of hire eyen clere.
Lo trewely þei writen þat here syen. 816
That Paradys stood formede in here eyen.
And with here riche Beaute euere more.
Strof loue in here / ay which of hem was more. 819

She sobre was / ek symple and wys with-al. 820
The beste y-norished ek þat myghte be.
And goodly of here speche in general.
Charitable / estatlyche / lusty & fre. 823
Ne neuere mo ne lakkede here pyte.
Tendre herted / slydynge of corage.
But trewely I kan not telle here age. 826

And Troylus wel woxen was in highte. 827
And complet formed by proporcion.
So wel þat kynde it not amenden myghte.
Yong / fresche / strong / and hardy as lyon. 830
Trewe as stel in ech condicion.
On of þe beste enched creature.
That is or shal whil þat þe world may dure. 833
And certaynly in storye it is founde.
That Troylus was neuere vn-to no wight.
As in his tyme in no degre secounde.
In dorryng don þat longeth to a knyght.
Al myghte a Geaunt passen hym of myght.
His herte ay wip þe firste and wip þe beste.
Stod paregal / to dorre don that hym leste.

But for to telyn forþ of Diomede.
It fil þat after on þe tenþe day.
Syn þat Criseyde out of þe Cite yede.
This Diomede as fressþ as braunche in may.
Com to þe tente þere a[s] Calkas lay.
And feyned hym with Calkas han to doon.
But what he mente I shal yow telle soone.

Crisseyde at shorte wordes for to telle.
welcomed hym / and don hym by here sette.
And he was ethe y-nowh to maken dwelle.
And after þis with-outen more lette.
The spices and þe wyn men forth hem fette.
And forth þei speke of þis and þat y-fere.
As frendes don / of which som shal ye here.

He gan first fallen of þe werre in speche.
By-twixen hem / and þe folk of Troye toun.
And of þassege he gan here ek byseche.
To telle hym what was here opynyoun.
Fro þat demaunde he so descendenth doun.
To asken here / yf þat here straunge þoughte.
The Grekes gyse / and werkes þat þey wroughte.
(124)

- And whi here fader tarieth so longe. 862
- To wedden here vn-to som worthi wight.
- Criseyde þat was in here peynes stronge.
- For louo of Troylus here owene knyght. 865
  As fer forth as she konnynge hadde or myght.
- Answered hym þo / but as of his entente.
- It semed not she wist[e] what he mente. 868

(125)

- But naþeles þis ilke Diomed. 869
  | Gan in hym self assure & þus he seyde.
- If ich a-right haue taken of yow hede.
- Me þenketh þus o. lady myn Criseyde. 872
  | That syn .I. first hond on youre brydel leyde.
- Whan ye out come of Troye by þe morwe.
- Ne koude I neuere sen yow but in sorwe. 875

(126)

- Kan I not seyn what may þe cause be. 876
- But if for loue of som Troian it were.
  The which right sore wolde a-pynken me.
  | That ye for ony wight þat dwelleth þere. 879
  | Sholde spille a quarter of a tere.
  Or pitously youre-seluen so bygile.
  | For dredles it is nought worth þe while. 882

(127)

- The folk of Troye as who seyth alle and some. 883
  [leaf 106]
- In preson ben / as ye youre-seluen see.
  | Fro þen[ne]s shal not oon on lyue come.
  For al þe gold by-twixen sonne and se. 886
  Trusteth wel / and vnderstondeth me.
- Ther shal not on to mercy gon on lyue.
  Al were he lord of worldes twyes fyue. 889

Campsall
Svych wreche on hem for fecchynge of Eleyne.  
Ther shal be take / er þat we hen[ne]s wende.  
That Manes which þat goddes ben of peyne.  
Shal ben agast / þat Grekes wol hem shende.  
And men shul drede vn-to þe worldes ende.  
From hen[ne]s forth þe rauesshynge of a queene.  
So cruel shal our wreche on hem ben sene.  

(129)  
- And but yf Calkas lede vs with ambages.  
That is to seyn with dowble wordes slye.  
Swich as men clepe a word with two visages.  
Ye shul wel knowen þat I nought ne lye.  
And al þis þing right sen it with youre ye.  
And þat a-noon ye nyl not trowe how soone.  
Now taketh heed for it is for to done.  

(130)  
- What wene ye youre wyse fader wolde.  
- Han yeuen Antenor for yow anoon.  
| If he ne wiste þat þe Cite sholde.  
| Destroyed ben / whi nay so mote I gon.  
| He knew ful wel þer shal not skapen on.  
That Troian is / and for þe gre[te] fere.  
He dorste not ye dwelte lengere þere.  

(131)  
- What wolde ye more lufsom lady dere.  
- Lat Troye an Troian fro youre herte pace.  
- Dryf out þat bittre hope and make good chere.  
- And clepe a-yen þe beaute of youre face.  
That ye with salte terys so deface.  
- For Troye is brough in swych a Iupartie.  
- That it to saue is now no remedye.  

CAMPSALL
(132)
• And ſenketh wel ye shal in Grekes fynde. [leaf 106, back] 918
• A more parfit loue er it be nyght.
• Than ony Troian is & more kynde.
  And bet to seruen yow wol don his myght. 921
• And yf ye vouche sauf my lady bryght.
• I, wol ben he to seruen yow my selue.
• Ye leuere þan þe lord of Greces twelue. 924

(133)
• And with þat word he gan to waxen red. 925
• And in his speche a litel wight he quok.
• And cast a litel wight a-syde his hed.
• And stynte a while / and afterward a-wook. 928
  | And sobrelych on here he þrew his look.
• And seyde I am al be it yow no Ioye.
• As gentil man as ony wight in Troye, 931

(134)
• For yf my fader Tideus he seide. 932
• I-lyued hadde / I. hadde ben er þis.
• O. Calydoyne and arge / a kyng Criseyde.
• And so hope I / þat I shal yet y-wys. 935
• But he was slayn / allas þe more harm is,
• Un-happily at Thebes al to raſe.
  Polymyte and many a man to skathe. 938

(135)
| But herte myn / syn þat I am youre man. 939
  And ben þe ferste of whom .I. seche grace.
| To seruen you as hertely as I kan.
| And euere I shal whil I to lyuen haue space. 942
  So er þat I departe out of þis place.
Ye wol me graunte þat I may to morwe.
At bettre leyser tel[en] yow my sorwe, 945
What shold I telle his wordes þat he seyde.  
He spak y-now for o day at þe meste.  
It preueth wel / he spak so þat Criseyde.  
Graunted on þe morwe at his requeste.  
For to speke with hym at þe lest.  
So þat he nolde speke of swych matere.  
And þus she to hym seyde as ye may here.

(137)  
| So faste / þat þere may non it arace.  
| And straungely she spak and seyde þus.  
| O. Diomede .I. loue þat ilke place.  
| Ther I was born / and Ioues for his grace.  
| Deliuere it soone of al þat doth it care.  
| God for þi might so leue it wel to fare.

(138)  
That Grekes wolde here wrappe on Troye wreke.  
If þat þei myghte .I. knowe it wel y-wys.  
But it shal not bifallen as ye speke.  
And god to-forn / and ferfer ouer þis.  
I wot my fader wys and redy is.  
And þat he me hath bought as ye me tolde.  
So dere / I am þe more vn-to hym holde.

(139)  
| That Grekes ben of heigh condicion.  
| I wot ek wel / but certeyn men shal fynde.  
| As worþi folk with-Inne Troye town.  
| As konnyng / as parfit / and as kynde.  
| As ben bi-twixen Orcades an Inde.  
| And that ye koude wel youre lady serue.  
| I trowe ek wel here þank for to deserue.
(140)

- But as to speke of loue y-wys she seyde.  
  I hadde a lord to whom I wedded was.  
  The whos myn hert al was til þat he deyde.  
  And oþer loue as helpe me here Pallas.  
- Ther in myn herte nys / ne neuere was.  
- And þat ye ben of noble and heigh kynrede.  
- I have wel herd it tellen out of drede.

(141)

- And þat doth me to han so gret a wonder.  
  That ye wolde scornen ony womman so.  
  Ek god wot loue and I be fer a-sonder.  
- I am disposed bet so mot I go.  
- Vn-to my deth to pleyne and maken wo.  
  What I shal after done .I. kan not seye.  
- But trewely as yet me lyst not to pleye.

(142)

- Myn herte is now yn tribulacion.  
- And ye in armes ben day by day.  
- Here-after whan ye wonnen han þe town.  
  Parauenter þanne so it happen may.  
  That whan I se þat I neuere er say.  
  Than wole I werke þat I neuere wroughte.  
  This word to yow y-nough suffisen oughte.

(143)

- To morwe ek wole .I. speke with yow fayn.  
  So þat ye touchen nought of þis matere.  
- And whan yow lyst / ye may com here a-yeyn.  
  And er ye gon þus muche I seye yow here.  
  As helpe me Pallas with heres clere.  
- If þat I sholde of any Grek han rouþe.  
- It shulde be youre-seluen by my trouþe.

Campsall
I sey not þerfore þat I wol yow loue.
Ne sey not nay / but in conclusion.
I mene wel by god þat sit a-boue.
And þer-with she cast here ey down.
And gan to syke & sayde .o. Troylus & Troye town.
Yet bidde I god in quiete and in reste.
I may yow sen / or do myn herte breste.

But in effect and shortly for to seye.
This Diomede as fresshly newe a-yen.
Gan pressen on / and faste here mercy preye.
And after þis þe soþe for to seyn.
Here gloue he tok of wich he was ful fayn.
And fynally whan it was woxen eeue.
• And al was wel / he ros and tok his leeue.

The bryghte Venus folowede and ay taughte.
The wey / there brode Phebus doun a-lighte.
And Cynthea here charhors ouer raughte.
To whirlle out of þe lyon yf she myghte.
And sygnyfer his candele shewed bryghte.
when þat Crisyde vn-to here bedde wente.
In-with here fadres faire bryghte tente.

Retornyng in here soule ay vp and doun. [leaf 108]
The wordes of þis sodeyn Diomede.
His gret estat and peril of þe toun.
And þat she was allone & hadde nede.
Of frendes help / and þus by-gan to brede.
The cause whi þe soþe for to telle.
That sehe tok fully purposs for to dwelle.
(148)

The morwe come / and gostly for to speke. 1030
This Diomede is come vn-to Criseyde.
So wel for hym self he spak and seyde. 1033
That alle here sore sykes a-doun he leyde.
And fynally pe sofe for to seyne.
He reste here of pe grete of al here payne. 1036

(149)

And after pis the story telleth vs. 1037
That she hym yaf pe fayre baye stede.
The which he onys wan of Troylus.
And ek a broche and jat was litel nede. 1040
That Troylus was / she yaf pis Diomede.
And ek pe bet from sorwe hym to releue.
She made hym were a pencel of here sleue. 1043

(150)

I fynde ek in storyes ellys where. 1044
whan porugh pe body hurt was Diomede.
Of Troylus / po wepte she many a tere.
whan jat she saugh his wyde woundes blede. 1047
And jat she tok to [kepen] hym good hede.
And for to helen hym of his sorwes smerte.
Men seyn I not jat she yaf hym here herte. 1050

(151)

But trewely pe story telleth vs. 1051
Ther made neuere womman more wo.
Than she / whan jat she falsede Troylus.
She seyde allas / for now is clene a-go. 1054
My name of troupe in loue for euere mo.
For I haue falsede on pe gentilest.
Thas euere was and on pe worpyest. 1057
(152)

Alias of me vn-to pe worldes ende.  
Shal neyper ben y-writen nor I-songe.  
No good wood / for these bokes wol me shende.  
O. rolled shal I ben on many a tonge.  
Thorough-ought pe world my belle shal be ronge.  
And wommen most wol hate me of alle.  
Alias pat swych a cas me sholde falle.  

(153)

Thei wol seyn in as muche as in me is.  
I haue hem don dishonour weylawey.  
Al be I not pe firste pat dide amys.  
what helpeth pat to do my blame a-wey.  
But syn I se per is no bettre way.  
And pat to late is now me to rewe.  
To Diomede algate I wol be trewe.  

(154)

But Troylus syn I no better may.  
And syn pat pus departen ye and .I.  
Yet preye I god so yeue yow right good day.  
As for pe gentileste trewely.  
That euere I say to seruen feypfully.  
And best kan ay his lady honour kepe.  
And with pat word she brast a-non to wepe.  

(155)

And certes yow to haten shal I neuere.  
And frendes loue pat shal ye han of me.  
And my good word al myghty leuen euere.  
And trewely I wolde sory be.  
For to sen yow in aduersite.  
And girtles I wot wel I yow leue.  
And al shal passe / and pus take I my leue.  

CAMPSSALL
But trewely / how longe it was by-twene.

That she for-sok hym for pis Diomede.

Ther is noon auctor telleth it I wene.

Tak every man now to hise bokes hede.

He shal no terme fynd out of drede.

For pough he gan to wowe here soone.

Er he here wan / yet was þere more to done.

(156)

Ne me ne lyst þis sely womman chyde.

Ferpere þan þis story wol deuyse.

Here name allas is punysshed so wyde.

That for here gilt it out I-now suffise.

And yf I myght excuse here ony wyse.

For she sory was for here vntroufe.

I-wys .I. wolde excuse here yet for rouþe.

(157)

This Troylus as I by-forn haue tolde.

Thus dryueth forth as wel as he hath myght.

But often was his herte hot and cold.

And namely þat ilke nynþe nyght.

which on þe morwe she hadde hym byhight.

To come a-yeyn / god wot ful litel reste.

Hadde he þat nyght / no þing to slepe hym lestþe.

(158)

The laurer crowned / Phebus with his hetæ.

Gan yn his course ay vpward as he wente.

To warmen of þe Est See þe wawes wete.

And Nisus doughter song with fressh ententæ.

whan Troylus his pandare after sente.

And on þe walles of þe toun þey pleyde.

To loke if þey kan sen ought [of] Criseyde.

(159)
| Til it was noone þei stoden for to se. | 1114 |
| who þat þer come / and every maner wight. | |
| That kam fro fer / þei seyden it was she. | |
| Til þat þei koude knowen hym a-right. | 1117 |
| Now was here herte dul / now was it light. | |
| And thus by-Iaped stonden for to stare. | |
| A-boute nought þis Troylus and Pandare. | 1120 |

(161)

| To Pandarus þis Troylus þo seyde. | 1121 |
| For ought .I. wot by-for noon sykerly. | |
| In-to þis town ne cometh nought Criseyde. | |
| She hath y-now to done hardyly. | 1124 |
| To twynnen from hire fader so trowe .I. | |
| Here olde fader woile yet make here dyne. | |
| Er that she go / god yeue hys herte pyne. | 1127 |

(162)

| Pandare answered it may wel be certeyn. [leaf 109, back] 1128 |
| And for-þi lat vs dyne / .I. þe byseche. | |
| And after noon þanne mayst þou come a-yen. | |
| And hom þei go / wiþ-oute more speche. | 1131 |
| And comen a-yen but longe may þey seche. | |
| Er þat þei fynde þat þei after cape. | |
| Fortune hem boþe þenketh for to Iape. | 1134 |

(163)

| Quod Troylus I se wel now þat she. | 1135 |
| Is taried with here olde fader so. | |
| That er she come it wol neygh euyn be. | |
| Come forth .I. wole vn-to þe yate go. | 1138 |
| This porterys ben vnkonnyng euere-mo. | |
| And I wol don hem holde vp þe yate. | |
| As nought ne were: al-pough she come late. | 1141 |
The day goth haste / and after that come eene.
And yet com nought to Troylus Criseyde.
He loketh forth by hegge / by tree / by greue
And fer his hed ouer þe wal he leyde.
And at þe laste he turned hym and seyde.
By god I wot his menynge now Pandare.
Almost y-wys al newe was my care.

Now douteles þis lady kan here good.
I. wot she meneth ryden pruely.
I. comende hire wysdom by myn hood.
She wol not maken peple nicely.
Gaure on here whan þat she comth / but softly.
By nyghte in to þe toun / she þenketh ryde.
And dere broþer þenk not to longe to abyde.

We han not ellys to don y-wys.
And Pandarus / now woltow trownen me.
Haue here my troupe I se here / yond she is.
Heue vp þyn eyen man / maystow not se.
Pandare answerede / nay so mot I þe.
Al wrong by god what seystow man wher arte.
That I se yond nys but a fare carte.

Allas þow seist right soth quod Troylus.
| But hardly it is not al for nought.
| That in myn herte I now reioyse þus.
| It is a-yen som good I haue a-bought.
| Not I not how / but syn þat I was wrought.
Ne felt I swich a confort dar I seye.
| She comth to nyght / my lyf þat dorste I leye.

Campsall
(168)

- Pandare answered it may be wel y-nowh.
- And held with hym of al þat enere he sayde.
- But in his herte he þoughte and softe lough.
- And to hym self ful sobrely he sayde.
- From haselwode þere Ioly Robyn pleyde.
- Shal come al þat þo pow abydest here.
- Ye fare-wel al þe snow of fern[e] yere.

(169)

- The wardeyn of þe yates gan to calle.
- The folk which þat with-oute þe yates were.
- And bad hym dryuen In here bestes alle.
- Or al þe nyght þey most b[l]euen þere.
- And fer with-Inne þe þow abydest here.
- This Troylus gan homward for to ryde.
- For wel he seth it helpeth nought tabyde.

(170)

- But naþes he gladed hym yn þys.
- He þoughte he mysaccounted hadde his day.
- And seyde .I. vnderstonde haue al a-mys.
- For þilke nyght .I. last Cryseyde say.
- She seyde .I. shal ben here yf þat I may.
- Er þat þe mone .o. dere herte swete.
- The Lyon passe / out of þis Ariete.

(171)

- For which she may yet Holden al here byheste.
- And on þe morwe vn-to þe yate he wente.
- And vp and down by west & ek by Este.
- Vp on þe walles made he many a wente.
- But al for nought his hope alwey hym blente.
- For which at nyght yn sorwe and sykes sore.
- He wente hym hom with-outen ony moore.
(172)

- This hope al clene out of his herte is fledde. [119, wr] 1198
- He nath wher-on now lengere for to honge.

  But for þe peyne hym þoughte his herte bledde.
  So were hise þrowes sharpe and wonder stronge.
  For when he saugh þat she abood so longe.
  He nyst what he Iuggen of it myght.
  Syn she hath broken þat she hym byhyght. 1204

(173)

- The pridde / ferþe / fyfthe sixte day. 1205
- After þo dayes / ten / which I [of] tolde.
- By-twysen hope and drede his herte lay.

  Yet som-what trustyng on here hestes olde.
  But whan he saugh she nolde he[re] terme holde.
  He kan now sen noon oþer remedye.
  But [for to] shape hym soone for to dye. 1211

(174)

- Ther-with þe wykked spyrit god vs blesse. 1212
- which þat men clepeth þe wode Ialousye.
  Gan yn hym crepe yn al þis heuynesse.
  For whiche by cause he wold soone dye.
  He ne eet ne dronk / for his malencolye.
  And ek from euery compaignye he fledde.
  This was þe lyf / þat al þe tyme he ledde. 1218

(175)

- He so defet was þat no maner man. 1219
- Vnneþe myght hym knowe þer he wente.
- So was he lene and þer-to pale and wan.
- And feble þat he walketh by potente.
  And with his tile he þus hym seluen shente.
  And who so asketh hym wher-of hym smerte.
  He seyde his harm was al a-boute his herte. 1225

CAMPSALL
(176)
- Pryam ful ofte and ek his moder dere. 1226
- His breperen and his sustren gonne hym freyne.
- why he so sorwful was in al his chere.
- And what þyng was þe cause of al his peyne. 1229
- But al for nought / he nolde his cause pleyne.
- But seyde he felte a greuous maledye.
| A-boute his herte / and fayn he wolde dye. 1232

(177)
- So on a day he leyde hym doun to slepe. [leaf 111] 1233
- And so by-fel þat yn his slep hym þoughte.
| That in a fforest faste he welk to wepe.
| For loue of here þat hym þese peynes wroghte. 1236
    And vp and doun as he þe forest soughte.
- He mette he saugh a bor with tuskes grete.
That slepte a-yeyn þe bryghte sonnes hete. 1239

(178)
- And by þis bor faste in his armes folde. 1240
| Lay kyssyng ay his lady bryght Criseyde.
| For sorwe of which whan he it gan byholde.
- And for despit out of his slep he breyde. 1243
- And loude he cride on Pandarus & seyde.
- O. Pandarus now know I crop and roote.
| I. nam but ded þer nys non ôper bote. 1246

(179)
- My lady bryght Criseyde hath me bytrayed. 1247
- In whom I trusted most of ony wight.
- She ellis where hath now here herte a-payed.
- Thè blysful goddes þorugh here grete myght. 1250
- Han in my dreþ y-shewed it ful right.
| Thus yn my dreþ / Criseyde I haue byholde.
- And al þis þing to Pandarus he tolde. 1253
(180)

- O my Criseyde alias what subtilet.
- what newe lust / what beaute / what science.
- what wrath of Iust[e] cause haue ye to me.
- what gilt of me what fel experience.
- Hath fro me raft / alias þyn aдуertence.
- O, trust .o. feyth .o. depe aseuraunce.
- who hath me rėft Criseyde al my plesaunce.

1254

(181)

- Allas whi leet I you from hennes go. 1261
  For which wel neigh out of my wit I breyde.
  who shal now trowen on ony òpes mo.
- God wot I wende. o. lady bright Criseyde. 1264
- That euery word was gospel þat ye seyde.
  But who may bet bigile yf hym lyste.
  Than he on whom men weneth best to triste.

1267

(182)

- What shal .I. don my Pandarúus allas. [leaf 111, back] 1268
  I fele now so sharpe a newe peyne.
  Syn þat þer is no remedye in þis cas.
- That bet were it I with myn hondes twéyne. 1271
- My-seluen slowh / alwey þan þus compleyne.
  For þorugh my deth my wo shold han an ende.
  Ther euery day with lyf my self I shende.

1274

(183)

| Pandare answerede and seyde allas þe while. 1275
| That .I. was born / haue I not seyd er þis.
| That dremes many a maner man bygyle.
| And why for men expounden hem a-mys.
| How dastow seyn þat fals þi lady is.
| For ony drem right for þyn owene drede.
| Lat be þis þought pow kanst no dremes rede. 1281
Paraunter þere þow dremest of þis bor. 1282
It may so be þat it may signyfie.
Hire fader which þat old is & ek hor.
A-yen þe sonne lith o poiyn to dye. 1285
And she for sorwe gymneth wepe and crye.
And kysseth hym þere he lyth on þe grounde.
Thus shuldestow þi drem a-righ expounde. 1288

(185)

How myght I þan do quod Troylus. 1289
To knowe of þis / ye were it neuer so lité.
Now seystow wysly quod þis Pandarusa.
My reed is þis syn þow kan wel endite. 1292
That hastely þow a lettre here write.
Thorough which þow shalt wel brynge it a-bouȝe.
To knowe a soth of þat þou art in doute. 1295

(186)

And se now why / for þis I dar wel seyn. 1296
That if so is þat she vntrewa be.
I kan not trowen þat she wol write a-yen.
And yf she write / þow shalt ful soone see. 1299
As wheþer she hath ony liberte.
To come a-yen / or ellys yn som clause.
And yf she be let she wol assigne a cause. 1302

(187)

Thow hast not wreten here syn þat she wente. [leaf 112] 1303
Nor she to þe / and þis I dorste leye.
The may swych cause ben in here entente.
That hardely þow wolt þi-seluen seye. 1306
That here a-bod þe beste is for yow tweye.
Now write here þanne and þow shalte fele soone.
A soþe of al þere is no more to done. 1309
Accorded ben to this conclusioun.  
And þat a-noon þese ilke lordes two.  
And hastely sit Troylus a-doun.  
And rolleþ yn his herte to and fro.  
How he may best discryuen here his wo.  
And to Criseyde his owene lady dere.  
He wrot right þus and seyde as ye may here.

(189) (Troylus's Letter to Criseyde)

Right fresshe flour / whos I ben haue and shal.
with-outen part of ellis where seruise.
with herte / body / lyf / lust / þought / and al.
I. woful wight / in every humble wyse.
That tongue telle / or herte may deuyse.
As ofte as materc occupieþ place.  
Me recomaunde vn-to youre noble grace.

(190)

Liketh it yow to wite swete herte.
As ye wel know how longe tyme a-gon.
That ye me lafte yn aspre peynes smerte.
whan þat ye went of which yet bote noon.
Haue I noon had / but euere wers bygon.
Fro day to day / am I and so mot dwelle.
while it yow lyst / of wele and wo my welle.

(191)

For which to yow with dredful herte trewe.
I wryte as he þat sorwe dryfth to wryte.
My wo þat euery houre encreseth newe.
Compleynyng as I dar / or kan endite.
And þat defaced is / þat may ye wyte.
The terys which þat fro myn eyen reyne.
That wolde speke / yf þat þey koude and pleyne.
(192) (Troylus's Letter to Criseyde, continued.)

Yow first biseche I. that youre eyen clere. [leaf 112, back] 1338
To look on pis / defould ye not holde.
And ouer al pis pat ye my lady dere.
Wol vouche-sauf pis lettre to by-holde. 1341
And by þe cause ek of [my] cares colde.
That sleþ my wit / yf ought amys masterte.
For-yeue it me / myn owene swete herte. 1344

(193)

Yf ony seruant dorste or oughte of ryght. 1345
Vp-on hys lady pytously compleyne.
• Than wene I. þat ich ought be þat wyght.
• Considered þis þat ye þese moneþes tweyne.
• Han taried / þere ye seyden soth to seyne.
• But ten dayes ye nolde in ost soiourne.
• But yn two moneþes yet ye not retornne. 1351

(194)

• But for as muche as I mot nedes lyke. 1352
• Al þat yow lyst I dar not pleyne more.
• But humbely with sorwful sykes syke.
• Yow wryte ich myne vnresty sorwes sore. 1355
• Fro day to day desyryng euere more.
• To knowen fully yf it youre wil [it] were.
• How ye han ferd and don whyl ye be þere. 1358

(195)

The whos wel-fare / and hele ek god encresse. 1359
In honour swych þat vpward in degre.
It growe alwey / so þat it neuere cesse.
Right as youre herte ay kan my lady fre.
Deuyse / I prey god so mot it be.
And graunte it þat ye soone on me rewe.
As wysly as yn al I am you trewe.
(Troilus's Letter continued)

And yf so wlyketh knowen of þe fare. 1366
Of me · whos wo þer may no wight discryue.
I. kan no more but chyste of euery care.
At writynge of þis lettre I was on lyue. 1369
Al redy out my woful gost to dryue.
which I delaye and holde hym yet in honde.
Vpon þe sight of matere of youre sonde. 1372

(197)
Myn eyen two yn veyn with which .I se. [leaf 117] 1373
Of sorweful teres salte / arn woxen wellys.
My song yn pleynthe of myn aduersite.
| My good yn harme:/ myn ese ek woxen helle ys. 1376
| My Ioye yn wo / I kan sey yow nought ellys.
| But turned ys / for which my lyf I warye.
| Everych Ioye or ese in his contrarye. 1379

(198)
Which with youre comynge hom a-yn to Troye. 1380
ye may redresse and more a þousand sithe.
Than euere ych hadde encressen yn me Ioye.
For was þere neuere herte yet so blythe. 1383
To han his lyf / as I shal ben as swythe.
As I yow se / and þough no manere routhe.
Commeue yow / yet þynketh on youre troupe. 1386

(199)
And yf so be my gilt hath deth deserved. 1387
Or yf you lyst no manere vp-on me se.
In guerdon yet of þat I haue you serued.
| Biseche I yow myn hertes lady fre. 1390
| That here-vpon ye wolden wryte me.
| For loue of god my righte lode sterre.
| There deth may make an ende of al my werre. 1393
If oþer cause aught dothe yow for to dwelle.

That with youre lettre ye me recomforte.
For þough to me youre absence is an helle.
wit paciency I wolde my wo comporte.
And with youre lettre of hope I wol desporte.
Now writeth swete / and lat me þus not pleyne.
with hope / er deth deyluere me fro peyne.

Ywys myn owene dere herte trewe.
I wot þat whan ye next vp-on me se.
So lost haue I myn hele and ek myn hewe.
Criseyde shal nought konne knowe me.
I-wys myn hertes day my lady fre.
So thursteth ay myn herte to biholde.
Youre beaute / þat my lyf vnnepe I holde.

I sey no more al haue .I. for to seye.
To you wel more þan I telle may.
But we-eþer þat ye do me lyue or deye.
Yet pray I god so yeue yow right good day.
And fareth wel goodly fayre fresshe may.
As ye þat lyf or deth me may comaunde.
And to youre trouthe ay I me recomaunde.

With hele swych but þat ye yeuen me.
The same hele / I shal noon hele haue.
In you lyth whan yow lyst þat it so be.
The day yn which me cloþen shal my graue.
In yow my lyf / in yow myght for to saue.
Me from dyshese of alle peynes smerte.
And fare now wel myn owene swete herte. [Letter ends]
This lettre forth was sent vn-to Criseyde. 1422
Of which here answere yn effect was pis.
Ful pytously she wrote a-yen and seyde.
That al so soone as þat she myght y-wys. 1425
She wolde come / and mende al þat was mys.
And fynally she wrot and seyde hym þanne.
She wolde come ye but she nyst whanne. 1428

But yn here lettre made she swych festes. 1429
That wonder was and swereth she loueth hym best.
Of which he fond but botmeles byhestes.
But Troylus þow mayst now Est or west. 1432
Pype yn an Iuy lef yf þat þe lest.
Thus goth þe world god shylde vs fro myschaunce.
And euery wight þat meneth troupe anaunce. 1435

Encresen gan þe wo fro day to nyght. 1436
Of Troylus / for taryinge of Criseyde.
And lessen gan his hope and ek his myght.
For which al doun he yn his bed hym leyde. 1439
He ne eet / ne dronk / ne slep / ne word seyde.
Ymagynynge ay þat she was vnkynde.
For which wel neigh he wax out of his mynde. 1442

This drem of which .I. told haue ek by-forn. [leaf 114] 1443
May neuere ek out of his remembraunce.
He þought ay wel he hadde his lady lorn.
And þat Ieues of his purueyaunce. 1446
Hym shewed hadde in sleep þe signyfyaunce.
Of hire vntroþe and here disauenture.
And þat þe bor was shewed hym yn figure. 1449

CAMPSALL
(208)

For which he for Sibille his suster sente.  
That called was cassandre ek al a-boute.
And al his drem he tolde here er he stente.
And here bisoughte assoylen hym þe doute.
Of þe stronge bor with tuskes stoute.
• And fynally with-Inne a lytel stounde.
• Cassandre hym gan right þus hys drem expounde.

(209)

She gan first smyle / and seyde o broþer dere.
If þow a soth of þis desyrest knowe.
Thow most a fewe of olde storyes here.
To purpos / how þat sffortune ouer-þrowe.
Hath lordes olde / þorugh which with-inne a þrowe.
Thow wel þis bor shalt knowe & ek of what kynde.
He comen is / as men yn bokes fynde.

(210)

Diane which þat [wroth] was and yn Iyre
For Grekes nolde don here sacrifice.
Ne encens vp on here Auter sette a fyre.
She for þat Grekes gonne here so dispise.
wrak here in a wonder cruwel wyse.
For with a bor as grete as oxe yn stalle.
She made vp frete here corn and vynes alle.

(211)

To skel þis bor was al þe contre reyssel.
A-monges which þer com þis bor to se.
A mayde / on of þis world beste y-preysed.
And meleagre lord of þat contre.
He louede so þis fresshe mayde fre.
That with his manhod er he wolde stente.
This boor he slow and here þe hed he sente.
Of wich as olde bokes tellen vs. Ther ros a contek / and a gret enuye.
Of pis lord descendede Tydeus.
By ligne or ellys olde bokes lye.
And how pis Meleagre gan to dye.
Thorough his moder / wol I yow not telle.
For al to longe were it for to dwelle.

She told ek how Tydeus er she stente.
Vn-to pe strong Cite of Thebes.
To cleyme kyngdom of pe Cite wente.
For his felawe daun Polymytes.
Of which pe broper daun Ethyocles.
Ful wrongfully of Thebes held pe strenghpe.
This told she by proces al pe lengpe.

She told ek / how Hemonydes asterte.
whan Tydeus slowh fyfty knyghtes stoute.
She told ek al pe prophesies by herte.
And how pat seune kynges with here route.
Bysegeden pe Cite al aboute.
And of pe holy serpent / and pe welle.
And of pe furyes al she gan hym telle.

[Argument of the 12 Books of Statius's Thebais.]

Associat profugum Tideo primus Polimitem.
Tidea legatum doceat insides-que secundus.
Tercius hemoduden canit & vates latitantes.
Quartus habet Reges ineuntes prelia septem.
Mox furie lenne quinto narratur & anguis.
Archimori bustum; sexto ludique leguntur.
Dat graios Thebes et vatem septimus vmbris.
Octano cecidit Tideus spes vita Pelasgis.
Ypomedon nono moritur cum Parthonopea.
Flumine percussus. Decimo capaneus superatur.
Vndecimo sese perimunt per vulnera fratres.
Argiua flentem narrat duodenus & ignem.

(215)

Of Archymoris burynge and þe pleyes. {leaf 115} 1499
And how Amphiorax ful þorugh þe grounde.
How Tydeus was slayn lord of Argeys.
And ypomedon y lytel stounde. 1502
was dreynt and ded Parthonope of wounde.
And also how Cappaneus þe proude.
with þonder dynt was slayn þat cryde loude. 1505

(216)

She gan ek telle hym how þat eyfer broþer. 1506
Ethyoicles and Polymyte also.
At a Scarmych eche of hem slowh ðer.
And of Argyues wepyngge and here wo. 1509
And how þe town was brent she told ek þo.
And so descendeth doun from gestes olde.
To Diomede and þus she spak and tolde. 1512

(217)

This ilke bor by-tokneth Diomede. 1513
• Tydeus sone / þat doun descended is.
• Ero Meleagree þat made þe bor to blede.
• And þi lady wher þat she be y-wys.
• This Dyomede here herte hath and she is.
  wep if þow wolt or leef for out of doute.
This Diomede is Inne and þow art oute. 1519

CAMPSALL
(218)

Thow seyst nat soth quod he þou sorceresse. 1520
with al þi fals gost of prophesie.
Thow wenest ben a grete deuyneresse.
Now seystow not þis fol of fantasye. 1523
Peyneth here on ladyes for to lye.
A-wey quod he þer Ioues yeue the sorwe.
Thow shalt be fals paraunter yet to morwe. 1526

(219)
As wel þou myghtest lyen on Alceste. 1527
That of creatures but men lye.
That euere weren kyndest and þe beste.
For whanne hire housbonde was In Iupartie. 1530
To dye hym selfe but yf she wolde dye.
She ches for hym to dye and go to helle.
And starf a-noon / as vs þe bokes telle. 1533

(220)
Cassandre goth / and he with cruwel herte. [leaf 115, back] 1534
For-yat his wo / ffor angre of here speche.
And from his bed al sodeynly he sterte.
As þough al hol hym hadde made a leche. 1537
And day by day he gan enquere & seche.
A sop of þis / with al his fulle cure.
And þus he drieth forth his auenture. 1540

(221)
Fortune whiche þat permutacion.
Of þinges hath / as it is here commytted.
Thorugh purueyance / and disposicion.
Of heyghe Ioue as regnes shal ben fletted. 1544
Fro folk yn folk / or whan þey shal ben smytted.
Gan pulle a-wey þe feþeres out of Troye.
Fro day to day / til þei ben bare of Ioye. 1547
Among al pis pe fyn of pe parodye.  
Of Ector gan approchen wonder blyue.  
The fate wold his soule sholde vnbodye.  
And shapen hadde a mene it out to dryue.  
A-yeyns which fate helpeth not to stryue.  
But on a day to fyghten gan he wende.  
At which alas he caught his lyues ende.

For which me penketh euery manere wight.  
That haunteth armes oughte to by-waylle.  
The deth of hym pat was so noble a kn[y]ght.  
For as he drough a kyng by thauentaylle.  
Vn-war of pis Achille porugh pe mayle.  
And porugh pe body gan hym for to ryue.  
And pis pis worji knyght was brought of lyue.

For whom as olde bokes tellen vs.  
was mad swych wo / pat tonge may it not telle.  
And namely pe sorwe of Troylus.  
That next hym was of worpinesse welle.  
And yn pis wo gan Troylus to dwelle.  
That what for sorwe / and loue and [for] vnreste.  
Ful ofte a day he bad his herte breste.

But natheles though he gan hym dispeyre.  
And dradde ay pat his lady was vntrewe.  
yet ay on here his herte gan repeyre.  
And as e se loueres don he soughte ay newe.  
To gete a-yen Criseyde bryght of hewe.  
And in his herte he wente here excusynge.  
That Calkas causede al here taryinge.
(226)  
- And ofte tyme he was yn purpos gret.  1576  
- Hym self lyk a Pylgrym to degyse.  
- To sen here but he may not contrefete.  
- To ben vnknownen / of folk þat weren wyse.  1579  
- Ne fynde excuse a-right þat may suffise.  
  | yf he among þe Grekes knownen were.
  | For which he wep ful ofte many a tere.  1582  

(227)  
- To here he wrot yet ofte tyme al newe.  1583  
  Ful pitously he lefte it nought for slouþe.
  Bisechyng here syn þat he was trewe.
  | That she wolde come ayeyn & holde here trowþe.  1586  
  | For which Criseyde vp-on a day for rouþe.
  | I take it so / towchynge þis matere.
  | wrot hym a-yeyn and seyde as ye may here.  1589  

(228) (Criseyde's Letter to Troylus)  
Cupides sone / ensample of goodlihede.  1590  
O. swerd of knyghthood / sourcis of gentilesse.
How myght a wyght in torment and in drede.
And heeles / yow sende as yet gladnesse.  1593  
I herteles .I. syke I yn distresse.
Syn ye with me nor I with yow may dele.
Yow neyþer sende ich herte may nor hele.  1596  

(229)  
Youre lettres ful þe papir al y-pleynted.  1597  
Conseyued hath myn hertes pite.
I haue ek seyn wip terys al depeynted.
youre lettre / and how þat ye requeren me.  1600  
To come a-yen / which yet may not be.
But why / lest þis lettre founden were.
No mencion ne make I now for fere.  1603  

CAMPSALL MS. TROILUS. Book V.
Grenous to me god wot is youre vnreste.  [leaf 116, back] 1604
Youre haste and þat þe goddes ordenaunce.
It semeth not ye take it for þe beste.
Nor oþer þyng nys not yn youre remembraunce.  1607
As þenketh me but oonly youre plesaunce.
But beth not wroth / and þat I yow byseche.
For þat I tarye / is al for wykked speche.  1610

For I haue herd wel more þan I wende.  1611
Towchynge vs two / how þynges han y-stonde.
which I shal with dissimulynge amende.
And beth nought wroth I haue eke vnderstonde.  1614
Ye ne don but holden me in honde.
But now no fors I kan not in yow gesse.
But alle troupe and alle gentilesse.  1617

Come I wolde but yet in swich disioynt.  1618
I stonde as now þat what yer or what day.
That þis shal be þat kan I not apoynte.
But yn effect I prey yow as I may.  1621
Of youre good word and of yowre frendship ay.
For trewely whil [þat] my lyf may dure.
As for a frend ye may in me assure.  1624

Yet prey þe I yow an yuyl þat ye ne take.  1625
That it is short which þat I to yow write.
I dar not þere I am wel lettres make.
Ne neuer ye ne koude I wel endite.  1628
Of gret effect men write yn place lite.
Thentent is al / and nought þe lettres space.
And fareþ now wel god hane you in his grace.  1631

Letter ends
This lettre pis Troylus poughte al straunge. whan he it saugh / and sorwefully he sighte. Hym poughte it lyk a kalendes of chaunge. But fynally he ful ne trowen myghte. That she now wolde hym holden pat she highte. For wip ful yuel wil lyyst hym to leue. That loueth wel yn swich cas pough hym greue.

But napeles men seyn pat at the laste. For ony ping menshal pe sothe se. And swych a cas by-tidde & pat as faste. That Troylus wel vnderstod pat she. Nas not so trewe / as pat here oughte be. And fynally he wot now out of doute. That al is lost pat he hath gon a-boute.

Stod on a day in bis malencolye. This Troylus and yn suspeciow. Of here for whom he wende for to dye. And so bifel pat porough-out Troye town. As was pe gyse y-bore was vp and down. A manere cote arm[wr]e as seyth pe storye. Before Deiphebe yn signe of his victorye.

The which cote as tellep lollius. Deiphebe it had y-rent from Diomede. The same day / and whan pis Troylus. It saugh he gan to taken of it hede. Auysyng of pe lengthe and of pe brede. And al pe werk / but as he gan byholde. Ful sodeynly his herte gan to colde.
As he pat on þe coler fond with-Inne. 1660
- A broch þat he Criseyde yaf þat morwe.
- That she from Troye moste nedes twynne.
  In remembrance of hym / and of his sorwe. 1663
And she hym leyde a-yen here feth to borwe.
To kepe it ay / but now ful wel he wiste.
Hys lady nas no lengere on to tryste. 1666

He goth hym forth hom / & gan ful soone sende. 1667
- For Pandarus and al þis newe chaunce.
- And of þis broche he told hym word and ende.
- Compleynynge of here hertes variaunce. 1670
- His longe loue / his troupe and his pennaunce.
- And after deth with-outen wordes more.
- Ful faste he cride his reste hym to restore. 1673

Thanne spak he þus .o. lady wyn Criseyde. [M 117, bk] 1674
- wher is youre feth and wher is youre byheste.
- wher' is youre loue / wher is youre troupe he seyde.
- Of Diomedes haue ye now al þis feste. 1677
  Allas I wolde haue trowed at þe leste.
| That syn ye nolde yn troupe to me stonde.
That ye þus nolde han holden me in honde. 1680

Who shal now trowe on any oþer mo. 1681
- Allas I neuere wolde han wend er þis.
| That ye Criseyde koude han chaunged so.
Ne but I hadde a-gylt or don amys. 1684
- So cruwel wende I not / youre herte y-wys.
  To sle me þus / allas youre name of troupe.
Is now for-don and þat is al my roupe. 1687
(242)

- Was pere noon oper broche yow lyste lete. 1688
- To feffe with youre newe loue quod he.
- But pilke broche pat I with terys wete.
- yow yaf / as for a remembraunce of me. 1691
- Non oper cause alias ne hadde ye.
- But for despit / and ek for pat ye mente.
- Al outrely to shewe youre entente. 1694

(243)

- Through which I se pat clene out of youre mynde. 1695
- Ye han me cast / and I ne kan nor may.
  For al pis world / with-Inne myn herte fynde.
  To vnlouen yow a quarter of a day. 1698
- In Cursed tyme I born was weylaway.
  That ye pat do me al this wo endure.
  Yet loue I best of ony creature. 1701

(244)

  Now god quod he me sende yet pe grace. 1702
  That I may meten with pis Diomede.
  And trewely yf I haue myght and space.
  Yet shal I make I hope his sides blede. 1705
  O god quod he pat oughtest taken hede.
  To forperen trouthe / and wronges to punyce.
  why nyltow don a vengeaunce on pis vice. 1708

(245)

- O Pandarus that in dremes for to triste. [leaf 118] 1709
- Me blamed hast / and wont art ofte vp breyde.
- Now maystow se pi selue yf pat bow lyst.
- How trewe is now pi nece bryght Cryseyde. 1712
- In sondry formes god it wot he seyde.
- The goddes shewen bope Ioye and tene.
  In slep and by my drem it is now sene. 1715

CAMPSALL
And certaynly wip-oute more speche.
From hen[ne]sforth as ferforth as I may.
Myn owene deth yn armes wol I seehe.
I recche not how soone by pis day.
But trewely Criseyde swete may.
whom I haue ay with al my myght I-serued.
That ye pus don / I haue it nought deserved.

This Pandarus þat alle þese þynges herde.
And wist wel he seyde a soth of þis.
He nought a word a-yen to hym answerede.
For sory of his frendes sorwe he is.
And shamed / for his Nece hath don a-mys.
And stant a-stoned of þese causes tweye.
As stille as ston a word ne koude he seye.

But at þe last þus he spak and seyde.
My dere broþer I may þe do nomore.
what shuld I seyn I hate y-wys Criseyde.
And god wot I wol hate here eueremore.
And þat þou me bysoughtest don of yore.
Hauynge to myn honour ne my reste.
Right no reward I dede al þat þe lest.

If .I. dede ought þat myght lyken þe.
It is me lef / and of þis treson now.
God wot þat it a sorwe is vn-to me.
And dredles for herthes ese of yow.
Right fayn wolde I amende it wist I how.
And fro þis world almyghti god I preye.
Delyuere here soone .I. kan nomore seye.
(250)
- Gret was the sorwe / and pleynt of Troylus. \[v.118, 119\] 1744
- But forth his cours fortune ay gan to holde.
- Criseyde loueth pe sone of Tideus.
- And Troylus mot wepe in cares colde. 1747
Swich is pis world who-so it kan biholde.
In eche estat is litel hertes reste.
God leue vs for to take it for pe beste. 1750

(251)
| In many cruel batayle out of drede. 1751
| Of Troylus / pis ilke noble knyght.
| As men may in þese olde bokes rede.
| was sene his knyghthood and his grete myght. 1754
| And dredles his yre day and nyght.
| Ful cruel[yl] pe Grekes ay aboughte.
- And alwey most pis Diomede he soughte. 1757

(252)
- And ofte tyme I fynde þat þey mette. 1758
- with blody strokes and with wordes grete.
- Assayinge how here speres were whette.
| And god it wot with many a cruel hetes. 1761
| Gan Troylus vpon his helm to bete.
- But napeles fortune it nought ne wolde.
- Of oþeres hond þat eyther deyen sholde. 1764

(253)
And yf I hadde y-taken for to wryten. 1765
The armes of pis ilke worthi man.
Than wold I of hise battayles endite[n].
But for þat I to write first bygan. 1768
Of his loue I haue seyd as I kan.
Hese worþi dedes who-so list hem here.
Red dares / he kan telle hem alle y-fere. 1771
(254)

Bysechynge euery lady bryght of hewe. 1772
And euery gentil womman what she be.
That al be pat Criseyde was vntrewe.
That for pat gylt She be not wroth with me. 1775
Ye may here gilt in opere bokes se.
And gladlyer I. wol write yf yow leste.
Penelopees trouthe and goode Alceste. 1778

(255)

Ne I sey not this / al only for pese men. [leaf 119] 1779
But most for wommen pat by-trayed be.
Though false folk / god yeue hem sorwe amen.
That with here grete wit / and subtiltee. 1782
By-traye yow / and pis commeueth me.
To speke / and yn effect yow alle I preye.
Beth war of men / and herkeneth what I seye. 1785

(256)

! Go litel bok / go litel myn Tregedie. 1786
Ther god pi makere yet er pat he dye.
! So sende myght to make yn som comedye.
But litel bok no makyng pow nennye. 1789
But subgit be to alle poesye.
And kys pe steppes pere as pow seest pace.
Virgile. Ouyde. Omer. Lukan. & Stace. 1792

(257)

And for per is so gret dyuersite. 1793
In Englyssh / and yn wrtyng ofoure tonge.
So preye I god pat noon myswryte pe.
Ne pe mysmetre for defaute of tonge. 1796
And red wher so pou be or elles songe.
That pow be vnderstonde god besche.
But yet to purpos of my raper speche. 1799
(258)

• The wrapphe as I began yow for to seye. 1800
• Of Troylus / pe Grekes boughten dere.

| For thousandys hese hondes maden deye. 1803
As he pat was with-outen ony pere.
Saue Ector yn his tyme as I kan here.
But weylaway saue only goddes wille.
Dispitously hym slowh pe fiers Achille. 1806

(259)

And whan pat he was slayn yn pis manere. 1807
His lighte gost ful blysfully is went.
Vp to pe holwghnesse of pe seuenpe spere. 1810
In conuers lettynge euery element.
And pere he saugh with ful anysement.
The erratyk sterres herkenynge Armony.
with sownes ful of heuenyssh melodye. 1813

(260)

And doun from pens faste he gan auyse. 1814 [leaf 119, back]
This litel spot of erpe pat with pe se.
Enbraced is / and fully gan despise.
This wrecched world / and held al vanite. 1817
To respect of pe pleyyn felicite.
That is yn heuene aboue / and at pe laste.
Ther he was slayn / his lokyng doun he caste. 1820

[Addit. 12,041 ends here.]

(261)

And yn hym self he lough right at pe wo. 1821
Of hem pat wepten for his deth so faste.
And dampned al oure werk pat folweth so. 1824
The blynde lust pe which may not laste.
And shuld al oure herte on heuene caste.
And forth he wente shortly for to telle.
Ther as Mercurye sorted hym to dwelle. 1827

CAMPSSL
(262)

- Swich fyn hath lo pis Troylus for loue. 1828
- Swych fyn hath al his grete worpynesse. 1829
- Swich fyn hath his estat real aboue.
  Swych fyn his lust / swich fyn hath his noblesse. 1831
- Swych fyn hath false worldes brotelnesse.
  And pis by-gan his louynge of Criseyde.
  As I haue told / and yn pis wyse he deyde. 1834

(263)

- O yonge fresshe folkes he or she. 1835
- In which pat loue / vp groweth with youre age.
- Repyreth hom from worldly vanyte.
  And of youre herte vp casteth pe visage. 1838
  To thilke god pat after his ymage.
  Yow made / and thynketh al nys but a fayre.
  This world / pat passeth soone as floures fayre. 1841

(264)

And loueth hym pe which pat right for loue. 1842
Vpon a cros oure soules for to beye.
First starf / and ros / and sit yn heuene a-boue.
For he nyl falsen no wight dar I seye. 1845
That wole his herte al holly on hym leye.
And syn he best to loue is / and most meke.
what nedeth feyned loues for to seke. 1848

(265)

Lo here of Payens corsed olde vyces. [leaf 129] 1849
Lo here what alle hire goddes may auaylle.
Lo here pese wrecched worldes appetites.
Lo here pe fyn and guerdon for trauayle. 1852
Of Ioue / appollo / of mars / of swych rascaylle.
Lo here pe forme of olde clerkes speche.
In poetrie / yf [ye'] here bokes seche. [1 hole in MS.] 1855

CAMPSSALL
(266)

O moral Gower pis boke I directe. 1856
To pe / and the Philosophical Strode.
To vouchen sauf / per nede is to corecte.
Of your benygnitees and zeles garde. 1859
And to pat sothfast Crist pat starf on rode.
With al myn herte of mercy euere I preye.
And pe lord right pus I speke and seye. 1862

(267)

Thou / oon / and two / and pre / eterne on lyue. 1863
That regnest ay / yn thre / and two / and oon. [l. 1863-5 from Dante]
Vncircumscript and al mayst circumscryue.
Vs from visible and Inuysiblefoon. 1866
Defende / and to pi mercy eurychon.
So make vs Jesus for thi grace digne.
For loue of mayde and moder thyn benigne. Amen.

Explicit liber Troili et Criseide.
RIME-INDEX

TO

Chaucer's Troilus and Criseyde.
RIME-INDEX

to

Chaucer's Troilus and Criseyde.

BY

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RIME-INDEX TO TROILUS,

By Prof. Skeat.

St. 128 of Book I. is missing in the Campsall MS., in MS. Harl. 2280, and in MS. Camb. Gg. 4. 27. But it is genuine, and occurs in MSS. Harl. 3943 and 2392, in the St. John's MS. (in late hand), and in all the early printed editions. I therefore follow the numbering of the stanzas in the Chaucer Society's print of MS. Harl. 3943, throughout this first book, as against that in the print of the other MSS. The stanzas of which the numbering is thus disturbed are stt. 128—155 of Book I. If the reader does not immediately find the reference, he has only to subtract 1 throughout these stanzas. In the other books, I follow the numbering in the print of the Campsall MS.

The references (to save figures) are given to the stanzas, not to the lines; and the Books are marked I., II., III., IV., V. Thus the ending a, in the rime Criseyd-a, A, occurs in I. 25, i.e. in Book I., st. 25; where it is easily found. Similarly, the ending abbe occurs in labbe and gabbe, in Book III., st. 43; and so of the rest.

Forms within a parenthesis refer to the pronunciation; thus (āze) after 'āse' means that the s is like z. I use ɔ and e to denote open o and e, and ɔ and é to denote the close sounds.

The final e is to be sounded in every instance; thus the rimes in abbe, ace, adde, age, &c., are all dissyllabic or feminine rimes. A few trisyllabic rimes occur, viz. in ariē, ariēn, ēdīē, ērīē, evēne (perhaps ev'ne), evere, (perhaps ev're), ivere, (perhaps iv're), odīē, oriē, orīēs. The word is forms part of the rime-ending in a few instances; see alles (alle is), ayes (ay is), elles (elle is), ewes (ewe is), inges (ing is), oles (ole is), oules (oul is), ones (oon is), yces (yce is). In such cases, a preceding e is elided; thus alle is becomes all'is. For further information, see the footnotes and the remarks subjoined to the Index.
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1. All words ending in ë (in Troilus) have the close sound of e, with the sole exception of sec, sea (A.S. së). Owing to the paucity of rimes for it, it forms a permissible rime with other words in ë. It occurs in II. 64, III. 2, IV. 222, V. 127, 260. In IV. 147, së means ‘seat.’

2. Of words in êche, teche has the open e (A.S. têcan); soche and biseche have close e (A.S. sëcan). Other words are eche, v. (to eke), teche, preche, and speche; (b)æche, speche are found together more than 20 times.

3. The ê is open; from A.S. ea, as in A.S. brêad, dêad, hêafod, rêad; or from A.S. ë, as in rêd. To these add goodliheid (cf. A.S. hûd). No example of close ê in this set.

4. In these particular instances, ê is open, from A.S. ëa or ë. From ëa, as in A.S. dêad, lêad, rêad. From ë, as in A.S. brêdu, dêd, drêdan, lêdan, mëd, rêdan, sprêdan, vrêde. To these add goodlihed, womanhed, kinred. (For an explanation of unstable ë, see below.)

5. Here ê is close, from A.S. ëo or ê. From ëo, as in A.S. brêdan, for-brêdan, êode, nêcod. From ê, as in A.S. blêdan, brêdan, crêda, fêdan, gled, hêdan, spêdan, sêda. To these add Diomede, proverde, of French origin.

6. Here open ê seems to rime with close ë. In Troilus, it only occurs (in rimes in êde) when one of the words is the sb. drede, dread; or else, in one case only, when the words are Diomede, hade (heed), brede (breath), V. 237; or else, in one case only, when one of the words is dade (deed), II. 49. Observe that drede chiefly occurs in supplemental phrases, such as out of drede, I. 111, IV. 11, V. 109, 156; or without drede, II. 96. III. 60, 70; or for drede, I. 83. II. 107. III. 104. V. 29. For a further explanation of these exceptional rimes, see below.
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7 Here open ê is from A.S. ə lengthened, in the words breke, speke, wrecce: from brecan, sprekkan, wrécčan.
8 Here belong meke (A.S. *mêce), seke (A.S. séčan); with long close e.
9 Here we find bisseke, with long close e, from A.S. séčan, rining with êke (cf. A.S. êce) and cheke (A.S. céce). See pp. 25*, 26*.
10 The words are: dêl, stil, wêl, whêl, with the F. adjs. eternel, temporel. The ə is close, except in dêl (A.S. dêl) and in eternel, temporel, which give admissible rimes.
11 The words are dêle (A.S. dêle), hêle (A.S. hêlo).
12 The words are fêle (A.S. fêlan), hêle (A.S. hêla), knele (A.S. cnêvelian).
13 Here the open ê is from A.S. êa or ə, and mod. E. spelling has ea, as in bean, clean, tean, mean.
14 Here the close ê is from A.S. ə or ê, and mod. E. spelling has ee, as in between, green, keen, quœen, teœen, secœn. But in sœne, yœne, shœne, the ê is doubtful. In V. 2, read shœne (not clêne), grœne, quœne.
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15 The è is open, from A.S. ëa or ëe, as in A.S. hëap, hlëapan; doubtful in slepe. Cf. mod. E. heap, leap.
16 The è is close, from A.S. ë or ëo, as in A.S. ëëpan, wëpan, ëëop. Cf. mod. E. keep, weep, deep.
17 The è is close, but words are allowed to rhyme with slepe; cf. A.S. slëapan, by-form of slëapan, and mod. E. sleep.
18 Here belong words with open ë from A.S. ëa and ëe: of these, there, were, where still have the open sound, and ear, fear, gear, tear, sb. (lacruma) are now spelt with ëa. Eere, a bier, is from A.S. bëër. In III. 241, enquire has the open e, correctly; see Ten Brink, § 68.
19 Here belong words with accented open e from A.S. ç, which was lengthened. The A.S. forms are beran (to bear), dieran (to harm), swerian (to swear), teran (to tear); also ber (a bear), sper (a spear), wer (a weir); hëre (M. E. here, i.e. her); styrian (M. E. statien, to stir). A.S. lëdrere, a leader, is used in the form lëdrer-e. Note that, in II. 238, the word here, riming with forbere, must be the acc. of the fem. pronoun, meaning 'her.' It does not mean 'to hear.' The context thus becomes clearer.
20 Here belong words with close è from A.S. ë and ëo. Examples are seen in fer (A.S. gefera, companion), here (A.S. hér, here), here (A.S. héran,
to hear), dere (A.S. dëore, dear), of which the three last recur with great frequency. Also fere, variant of fure (A.S. ðyr, fire). Also the French words appere, chere, clere, manere, materce, pere (peer), prayere, refere, requerere, rivere, sperre (sphere). It is interesting to note that sperre, a spear, with open e, does not rime with the same class of words as sperre, a sphere, with close e. Hence, e.g., sperre in the Complaint of Mars, 137, has a close e, and must mean 'sphere'; whilst in the Parz. Foules, 135, it has an open e, and must mean 'spear.' (The e in here, to hear, and fere, fire, is variable; see note 21.)

21 These are the exceptional cases. In I. 33, fere (fire) is rime with were (were), store (stir), with open e, whereas it is elsewhere rime as if with close e. In II. 14, 226, III. 134, IV. 63, V. 23, we find dere (A.S. lëran), which should have open e, rimeing with here (here), here (hear), and dere (dear). In III. 35, V. 168, yere (year) rimes with dere (dear), here (here); but A.S. has the form gër as well as gëar. In IV. 169, 173, bëre (bier) is treated as if with close e.
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ève (èève): I. 49. 68. 99. 143. II. 34. 60. 163. III. 44. 144. IV. 12. 87. 139. 201. 237. V. 149. 234.29
eve (èève, ëève): II. 105 (in some MSS). V. 85. 88.30

22 Here belong words with long open e from A.S. ūa (A.S. bēatan, great), or from A.S. ō (A.S. hōtel, lētan, spēlan, s'rēl, svēltan, svēl). Also e ō (A.S. lēton), II. 170. Also the F. words counterete, plate, tretete, Polifete.
23 Here belong words from A.S. ē (A.S. bētan, grētan, mētan, svēte) and from A.S. ē (A.S. flētan); also from Lat. ē (Admetē, Arieτē, mansvetē, planete, quiete).
24 Here the e in bigete is open, and has been lengthened from A.S. bigetēn.
25 The rimes are: (a) svēte (A.S. svēete), bigete (cf. A.S. bchētan); (b) svēte (A.S. svēete), mete (A.S. mētan); (c) grete (A.S. grētan), svēte (A.S. svēete), mete (A.S. mētan); (d) svēte (A.S. svēete), bete (A.S. bētan), strelte (A.S. strēlē). The exceptional or variable words are bigete, mete, strelte.
26 The e is open, from A.S. ē; as in elan, forgietan.
27 Open long e, from A.S. ēa; as in preietan, bēatan.
28 Here belong words with open long e from A.S. ēa (as reian, biēran, liēaf, leave), or from A.S. ō (as ēfēan, eve, leīfan, to leave); also greve, a grove (cf. A.S. grēf). But the e in eve is variable; see below.
29 Here belong leve, to believe (A.S. gelēfian); leve, dear (from A.S. leof), sīve, a sleeve; also the F. words acheve, greve, meve, preve, releve, reprove. But the e in leve, to b.lieve, is variable.
30 Doubtful cases: II. 105 (leve, sb. leave, bīleve, v. to believe); V. 85,
(grieve, to grieve, lave, dear, bileve, belief); V. 88 (lave, leave, to cleave, to cleave, divide; eve, eve).

31 English: aweye, b., biwor., dr., kr., l., pl., s., tw., w., ur. French: chimeneye, ob., pr., purveye. The Scand. word deye (die) rimes with most of these, viz. with awc., l., pl., pr., pur., s., w., twecye. It rimes with seye 29 times. In II. 63, the form dye occurs also, riming with crye and viliane. Hence the double form dye, deyse is established. We may contrast dreye, adj. dry (III. 51) with drye, v. to suffer (V. 6). The word 'high' is hye, not heye.
III. 

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one (ümne): II. 46 (sone, sone). 


32 All words with long open a from A.S. à; except the F. words jo (III. 5) and Ascpohilo (V. 46). 

33 Only to, do, fordo; with close ö (A.S. ö). 

34 Exceptional forms. In I. 11. 119, II. 2. 4. 114, öö is rimed with open ö, as frequently elsewhere (Ten Brink). In II. 24, we find twö, dö, tó, where töö is put for töö by the influence of the w; hence mod. E. two (tun). In II. 155, we find sö, wó, hó; where hó should rather be hó (Icel. hó). In IV. 154, we find hértó, só; where só, for sö, is due to the influence of the w in súw. In I. 78 (540), for to read ma, as in Th. H2. 

35 I.e. ook, stook, with open ö (A.S. ë). 

36 I.e. book, forsook, look, quook, look; wool; wool (A.S. ó). 

37 With open ö, originally short. 

38 From A.S. eax, Mercian a, lengthened to a; hence with open long a. 

Exceptional: woldc, widołde, III. 17. 

39 These words sholde, wolde, nolde (ne wolde) are usually rimed together, as if these were preferred to riming them with other words. The only exception is in III. 17 (bithold, woldc). sholde rimes with woldc and nolde only. 

40 I.e. asonder, thonder, wonder, yonder. Hence yonder is treated as yonder; cf. M. E. yund, in Strattmann, s.v. yeond. 

41 With open long a, from A.S à; only allone, one, grone, mone (moan). Also the F. words Dion, Elicone.
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>(ūnne)</td>
<td>II. 65. 81. 192. III. 35. 50.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>(anno)</td>
<td>139. 151. IV. 19. 54. 95.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>(foon, noon, sooon)</td>
<td>103. 118. 129. 161. 193. 214.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>(sone)</td>
<td>V. 4. 7. 8. 47. 97. 106. 117.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>(oon, noon, stoon)</td>
<td>171. 194. 239. 248. 48.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>(moone)</td>
<td>ore (ōre): II. 202. IV. 143. 149. V. 4. 49.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

42 With close long o, from A.S. o; only bone (boon), dōne (gerund), moone (moon), sone. Also the F. words persone, dispone, trone; of which trone also appears as trōne, which is a better form.
43 With open long o, from A.S. ā; bones, nones, ones, (oon is), stones.
44 With close long o, from A.S. ē; cīfsones, to done is.
45 With open long o from A.S. ā; as alloon, anoon, atoon, boon, foon (foes), goon, noon, stoon, also roon (pt. t. rained) roon (quantity). Add F. Palladion.
46 The rimes are anōn, agōn, doon. Here dōn is a permissible rime, because doon is a very common word, but rimes for it are scarce.
47 The rimes are Antenor, Polinester; and boor, hoor, i.e. boar, hoar (A.S. ā).
48 With open long o, from A.S. ā; viz. lore, more, rore, sore, yore. Also the F. words Antenore, pore (poor), restore. For V. 4, see next note.
49 With open o, but originally short, from A.S. ō; viz. biforn, bore, pp., forlore, pp., more (a root, A.S. mōru), therfore, tofore, yerhore, yshore, pp. Chaucer clearly distinguishes between the long and broad open o (A.S. ā) and the somewhat shorter o (A.S. ō), in V. 4; which stands thus:—

This Troilus without rede or löre,
As man that hath his loyes eek forlōre,
Was waiting on his lady evermōre,
As she that was the soothfast crop and mōre
Of all his lust, or loyes heer-bifōre.
orie (ôôrië): III. 119. V. 84. 236.
ories (ôôriës): III. 152.
orn: I. 32. 54. 130. II. 21. 43. 82. 182. III. 44. 154. 158. 175. 235. IV. 52. 140. 157. 179. 212. V. 23. 41. 207 (bifôrn, born, corn, lorn, thorn, sworn, tofôrn, torn).
orne, orneth: see ourne, ourneth.
ors: see ours.
ort: I. 76. 85. II. 251. III. 20. IV. 45. 122. (All French.)
orte: II. 239. III. 162. V. 200. (French.)
orten: IV. 104. (French.)
ôse (ôôse ?): II. 180. IV. 202. 211. (French.)
öst (ôôst): I. 103. II. 196. 202. III. 10. 36. 43. IV. 86. 232. 50
ôt, oot (ôôt): II. 128. 171. IV. 181. 51
ôt, oot (ôôt): III. 171. 52
ôte (ôôte): IV. 84. 53
ôte (ôôte): II. 50. 197. V. 96. 178. 54
ôth, ooth (ôôth): III. 105. 150. 159. 55
ôth, ooth (ôôth): II. 27. 184. 56
ôthe (ôôthe, ôôthe): IV. 148. 58
other: II. 208. 232. III. 36. IV. 58. 66. 87. V. 216. (another, brother, other).
ou: see ow.
ough: II. 147. 228. III. 13. 29. V. 15. 168.
oules, oul is: V. 55.
oun (uun): I. 8. 16. 21. 27. 31. 43. 50. 67. 69. 80. 98. 102. 113. 154. II. 37. 43. 55. 70. 76. 81. 95. 160. 186. 203. III. 75. 149. 191. 228. 255. IV. 5. 16. 18. 28. 30. 65. 107. 142. 184. 185. 198. V. 1. 62. 81. 110. 119. 123. 139. 142. 144. 147. 188. 221. 236.
ounde (uunde): I. 123.153. 156.

50 I. e. almost, most, wost, with long open o from A.S. Æ; also bost, ost (host).
51 I. e. hoot, noot, woot, wroot (A.S. hât, nât, wât, wrât). With open ë.
52 I. e. foot, moot, soot (A.S. fût, mût, sût). With close ë.
53 I. e. hole (from A.S. hât); also note, grote. With open ë.
54 I. e. bothe, fote, rote, suote (with A.S. ë). With close ë.
55 I. e. clooth, gooth, looth, ooth, wrooth (with A.S. ë). With open ë.
56 I. e. dooth, sooth (A.S. ë); with close ë.
57 I. e. bothe, wroth(A.S. ë); with open ë.
58 The rimes are: for sothe, bothe. Sothe (A.S. sôth) has close ë; bothe (A.S. hâ) has open ë. The rime is admissible, from the paucity of rimes in -ôthe.
II. 23. III. 74. 243. IV. 7. 11. 35. 85. 90. 238. V. 120. 184. 208. 215.
ound (uunded): II. 77.
oune, owne (uune): II. 82.
III. 27. 82. 156. IV. 30. 84.
ouns (uunz): V. 53. 54.
our (uur): I. 114.
oure (uure): I. 66. II. 57. 84. 244. III. 20. IV. 77. V. 92.
ouren (uuren): III. 181.
ourse (uurse): I. 122. III. 103. 212. V. 45. 69. 86. 193.
tourne, distourne, retourne, souiourne, urne, Saturne).
ourneth, orneth (urneth): I. 47. II. 114. V. 31 (borneth, souiorneth, sporneth, torneth).
ours (uurs): II. 194 (recours, socours).
ous (uus): I. 127. V. 83 (bounteous, gracious, melodious, hous = A.S. hüst). With
long u. See further under us.
IV. 58. 98. 103. 183. 225. V. 10. 13. 58. 79. 185. 208.
214. 217. 235.
outhe (uuth): I. 84. 110. 141.
II. 50. 70. 95. 137. 144. 163. 183. 215. III. 18. 128. 216.
IV. 211. 213. 230. 239. V. 143. 157. 198. 227. 241.
öve (óove): III. 204 (hove, Jove).
öve (uve): I. 33. 134. II. 122.
III. 126. 147. V. 144. 262.
264 (above, love, shove, pp.).
ow, ou (uu): I. 48. II. 144.
206. 238. III. 47. 145. 158.
212. 224. 236. IV. 15. 126.
190. V. 19. 48. 113. 249.
(how, now, prow, thou, yow).
owe: I. 55. 92. II. 99. 123.
133. 146. 172. 237. III. 203. IV. 1. 24. 55. 69. V. 209.
owed: I. 139 (bestowed, rowed).
owen: III. 252 (frowen, grown). owen, owre: see owne, oure.
yoe: (= o ye) I. 1. 17. 87. II. 20. 92. 107. 126. III. 51.
113. 125. 206. 208. 245. IV. 8. 40. 48. 187. 206. 233. V.
4. 17. 57. 61. 87. 88. 105.
112. 133. 195. 221.
ué: II. 100 (argue, eschue). See ewe, uwe.
ulle: I. 30. II. 148 (dulle, fulle, pulle).
úne (yyne = üüne): I. 121. IV. 1. 56 (comune, untune, fortune).
unge: see onge (unge).
urbe: see orbe.
ure (yyre = üüre): I. 5. 15. 17.
41. 53. 67. 82. 98. 101. 112.
156. II. 32. 41. 60. 103. 106.
217. III. 2. 146. 149. 174.
196. IV. 36. 43. 47. 56.
108. 110. 190. 240. V. 7.

60 In I. 30, the words are E. (from A.S. í), viz. browe (brow), rowe, adj. (rough). In III. 128, V. 33, we find awoe, (en)dow, rescowe (French).
I. 22. 30. 35. 43. 50. 55. 102. 116. 119. 207. 220. 232. 243. urne, urneth: see urne, urcheth.

urthe, yrthe: III. 103 (murrthe, burthe).


use: II. 2. III. 81 (excuse, muse, use).

used: II.155 (excused, accused).

usen: III. 147 (useen, excusen).

uwe, ewe, uē: I. 50. 55. II. 100. 146. 180. III. 86. 255. IV. 71. 188 (argue, eschue, meve, misconstrue, saluwe, sewe (to follow), stewe (stew, s.), truwe, i.e. true: all French). See ewe.

y, I (ii): I. 12. 55. 60. 62. 142. II. 3. 27. 35. 38. 78. 90. 97. 144. 183. 204. 220. 240. 246. III. 10. 23. 31. 108. 165. 213. IV. 17. 94. 99. 127. 135. 146. 151. 181. V. 12. 38. 71. 82. 154. 161. 165.

yce, ice (iiise with voiceless s): I. 141. II. 104. 123. III. 47. 199. 206. 258. IV. 86. V. 244. Compare yse below.

ýces, íces, íce is: I. 99 (cyces, vyce is).


ýö (ii-e): I. 28. 60. 65. 78. 104. II. 13. 43. 58. 63. 67. 69. 108. 111. 130. 154. 167. 184. 213. 216. 228. 245. III. 27. 40. 57. 82. 89. 120. 124. 126. 141. 146. 148. 198. 215. 225. 250. IV. 3. 17. 22. 40. 57. 101. 172. 175. 198. 210. 216. 232. 237. V. 6. 10. 26. 38. 46. 47. 52. 53. 64. 66. 70. 78. 80. 89. 101. 108. 129. 131. 173. 174. 176. 184. 212. 218. 219. 236. 256. 259.


ýën (ii-en): I. 44. II. 47. 77. 93. 124. III. 27. 163. 208. V. 117.

ýës (ii-es): IV. 201.

ýëth (ii-eth): IV. 46. 120.

ýf (iii): II. 112. 120. III. 16. 186. V. 49.

ýk (iiik): II. 149.

ýke (iiike): I. 86. 119. II. 62.

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a All French; avaryce, cherfee, malyce, nyce, officye, punyce, vyce. Note that chercee, punyce are now cherish, punish.

b English: drye (to suffer), dye, hye (high), hye (haste), hye (to hie), lye (to lie), slye, syc (to sink), thyre, wrye, ye (eye), y-wrye. French; armonyse, astronoyse, aspye, baudere, companye, cyre, curtayse, denye, enrye, fantasye, folye, freensye, glorifye, glotonye, gye, langlere, lelounsye, lupartye, bylaryse, maladye, melancolyse, melodye, multiplye, notifye, notcrlye, plye, poesye, prophasye, pyre, remedye, signyfe, spye, s., trechcroye, vilanye. Dye (to die) occurs repeatedly as a by-form of drye; see I. 60, 104, 148, &c. The word 'eye' appears as ye; see I. 65, III. 58, 130, IV. 57, 237, V. 64, 80, 129, &c. Compare note 31.
(rimes with -yte) 127. 182.
V. 194. 64
ýle (iîle): I. 47. 103. II. 39.
73. 241. III. 111. 154. IV.
1. 38. V. 58. 126. 183.
ýme (iîme): I. 51. 76. II. 142.
157. 223. V. 68.
ýn (iîn): III. 40. IV. 69.
(engyn, fyn, myn, thyyn).
56. 68. V. 1. 39. 42. 111.
161.
ýr (iîr): II. 191. III. 70. 234
(desyr, fyr, spyr, wyr).
ýre (iîre): III. 4. 102. IV. 18.
27. 73. 117. V. 85. 103. 210.
yrthe: see urthe.
ýs (iis): IV. 60 (wys, avys).
ýse, ise (iiize, with voiced s): I.
12. 24. 40. 48. 52. 100. 137.
138. 142. II. 5. 11. 40. 56.
97. 103. 131. 152. 199. 205.
*209. 221. 229. 239. 243. III.
6. 8. 10. 19. 23. 29. 34. 48.
60. 63. 66. 68. 77. 88. 122.
135. 139. 164. 170. 184. 199.
244. 257. 260. IV. 12. 34.
37. 57. 74. 105. 116. 119.

A few peculiar stanzas may be noticed. Thus we find the endings -ý and -ýë in the same stanza in I. 60, IV. 17, V. 38; and in the last two instances they are used alternately. In III. 27, the endings -ýen and -ýë occur alternately. In IV. 137, and V. 202, we find, alternately, the endings -eye and -ay (-ey). In V. 3, 4, we have very instructive examples. In the former of these stanzas, we find the first and third lines ending with Diomédé, blâde, with close e; whilst the second, fourth, and fifth lines end with lîde, rôde, rôde, with open e. In the

63 English: agrys, aryse, forbyse, rysse, wyse, sb., and adj. French avysse, covetysse, cowardysse, dervysse, dyspyse, emprysse, gysse, sacrifysse, sb. servysse, suffysse. Note that we now say cowardice, sacrifice, service, suffice; with voiceless s. In III. 199 we find both dyspyse, covetysse, and nycc, rysse.
64 In II. 127, if the reading is correct, we fynd syte used as rime with endyte, whyte; which merely gives an assonance. (Read syte, to grieve.)
latter, we have the rimes lōre, evermōre, with long open o, and forlōre, mōre, tofōre, in which the o was originally short, and had probably not yet attained its full length. Prof. Lounsbury (Studies in Chaucer, I. 393) calls attention to these stanzas as shewing evidence of carelessness on the poet's part; whereas they prove precisely the contrary. In connection with this subject, the student should look for himself at Anelida, li. 299—307, where we find a stanza precisely parallel to that in ll. 238—246 above. The rimes womanhēde, dēde, lēde, drēde, sēde, all shew the open e (cf. A.S. -hād, dēd, lēdan, drēdan, sēdan); whilst the rimes nēde, bēde, mēde, hēde, all shew the close e (cf. A.S. nōod, bōdan, mēd, hēdan). This looks very much as if Chaucer had anticipated the charge of carelessness as being like to arise, and had prepared a trap for his accusers.65

So again, in IV. 208, we have the rimes stēre (stir, A.S. styrian), bēre (bear), ledēre (leader), as distinct from the rimes dēre, yfēre. In the former set, the e is open, and originally short; in the latter pair, it is long and close.

Yet again, in V. 32, we have dere, clere, with long close e, and where, were, tere (tear), with long open e.

When these peculiarities are properly understood, we may sometimes even gain a clue to the sense intended. Thus, in the last stanza cited, IV. 208, the word stēre has an open e, originally short; it therefore means 'stir,' i.e. employ, put in practice, and cannot mean steer, or direct, as in IV. 41, where it rimes with manēre and dēre. The scribe of the Cambridge MS. was aware of this, and employs the spelling stīre; but the scribe of MS. Harl. 2280 was not aware of it, and alters the word to steere, as printed by Dr. Morris in the Aldine edition, vol. iv. p. 359, where the stanza is misnumbered 204. For a like reason, as already shewn above, the word hēre, in III. 238, must mean 'her,' not 'hear'; in III. 39, the same word hēre rimes with swēre, whilst the very same stanza ends with dēre, yfēre.

65 I can only here protest, generally, against the inaccuracy of the numerous accusations brought against Chaucer in the work to which I refer. To a large number of the statements there made I take exception altogether; the linguistic and grammatical "facts" are frequently misstated or misinterpreted. At the same time, let me testify to the literary value of the work.
EXPLANATION OF APPARENT EXCEPTIONS.

In the above list, I have purposely drawn attention to apparent exceptions. Thus, to take the case of the ending ëde, we have examples of (ëede) with long open e, of (ëede) with long close e, and a third set in which these two classes of words seem to be confused. It remains to be shewn how such exceptions arose.

As regards close and open e, the endings (ëene) and (ëene) are never confused in Troilus. The chief cases to be considered are those in which the endings are ë, ëche, ëde, ëke, ële, ëpe, ëre, ëte, ëve.

Of course, it will be readily understood that, for most of my results, I am indebted to the standard and very remarkable work upon the subject familiarly known as Ten Brink's Chaucer's Sprache und Verskunst; though it is due to Dr. Weymouth to remember that he first called attention to the different sounds of e in his paper on "Here and There in Chaucer"; see Essays on Chaucer, p. 311. But it is one of my points, that a few of the results given by Ten Brink are not to be accepted, as they tell against the author's own arguments. Thus, when he states, at p. 20, that the words clene and lene sometimes appear with close e, it is obvious that, if such were really the case, we may as well give up all distinctions between open and close e at once. These characteristic words are still spelt with ea (clean, lean) in modern English, and the e in them must always have been open. When we look at the evidence, I find (1) that they always have open e in Troilus, and (2) that they do not occur in the Rime-Index to the Minor Poems at all. Consequently, all the evidence is limited to the fact that, in the Canterbury Tales, each of them once rimes with y-sene. And I shall shew below that the e in y-sene is variable, and is not to be relied upon as furnishing evidence either way. This is another of my points, viz. that the variable vowel which appears as ëe and ë in A.S., and ë in Mercian, occurs as a variable vowel in Chaucer, and rimes with a long e of either quality.

In order to arrive at the general principles, it will suffice to take a few examples; and I shall further limit the investigation by considering only words of English origin, and disregarding the French ones.

The simple general rule is that the M.E. long open ë arises from A.S. ëa, or ë, or from lengthening of short e, or even of y. There are other sources, duly enumerated by Ten Brink, but these will suffice for my purpose. I shall also
leave out of sight for the present the lengthenings of short e, as Chaucer usually keeps words with original short e and y apart from the rest.

On the other hand the M.E. long close ē usually arises from A.S. ē or ēo; and, amongst the values of A.S. ē, we must include the cases in which it is equivalent to A.S. ē or ıe arising from mutation. This last case, however, presents difficulties, as I shall presently shew.

And the general principle is, that words with open ē and words with close ē are not, in general, allowed to rime with one another.

To take a few examples.

In II. 8, we find rede, red, riming with made, mead, and sprede, to spread. Here the A.S. forms are rēad, mēd, sprādan; and by the rule, the ē is open in each case. See further instances in footnote 4, p. 8.*

Again, in II. 90, we find steda, a steed, riming with blede, to bleed. The A.S. forms are stēda, blēdan; and the ē, in both instances, is close. See further instances in footnote 5.

But further search soon lands us in difficulties. Thus, in I. 72, we find the rimes drede, heđe, blede. Here drede is allied to A.S. drādan, and we should expect the ē (apparently from A.S. ē) to be open; whilst we are quite sure that in blede (from A.S. blēdan) it is close. This shews at once that the general rule given above is, here at any rate, in fault.

The matter must be looked into a little more closely; and the difficulty will then be found to resolve itself into this. There are (as duly noted by Ten Brink, p. 19) two values of the A.S. ā, which must be carefully distinguished. The first, which I shall call stable ā, because it regularly produces an open ē in M.E., answers to Germanic and Goth. ai, and is usually due to mutation. Thus sprede, to spread, A.S. sprādan, answers to a Goth. *sprāðjan, for, although the Gothic form does not occur, we can infer its vowel-sound from comparison with the G. spreiten. It therefore rimes exactly with rēde, red, from A.S. rēad, as in II. 8.

The second kind of ā, which I shall call unstable ā, because it occurs in forms which are treated both ways in Chaucer, answers to an original Germanic ā, Gothic ē, and does not arise from mutation, though it may arise from gradation. Thus the M.E. dēde, deed, A.S. dēd, answers to Goth. gadēz, a deed, G. That, and the contrast between the vowel in G. That and that in spreiten, to spread, is very marked. It is from words of this class that all the trouble arises.

If we further enquire, why there should have been any difference of development in such cases, and how the same form should, to all appearances, yield both an open ē and a
close one, I believe the answer is really quite clear. For it is in precisely such cases that we find different forms in A.S. and in Old Mercian. Thus, whilst the A.S. form of 'deed' is ðeòd, it is equally clear that the Mercian form was ðæíd; see Sweet’s O. E. Texts, p. 606. It is perhaps even more to the purpose to note that our mod. E. deed is Mercian, and not Southern, and that is why it is not spelt with ēu in Tudor English. Hence Chaucer had, ready to his use, two forms of this word. One was the Southern ðeòd, with open ē, from A.S. dēd; and the other was the Midland ðééd, with close e; and, as the Midland dialect was rapidly gaining the ascendancy, he could hardly go wrong if he sometimes used the more popular form. This I believe to be the simple solution of the whole mystery. Chaucer knew nothing of etymology, but he knew how words were pronounced by his cotemporaries. In words with ð from A.S. ðāa 66 or from stable A.S. ðē, the e was always open, and he so treated it. In words from A.S. ē or ðō, the e was always close, and he so treated it. In words from A.S. unstable ðē, i.e. a vowel which remained as open ð in Southern English, but became close ð in Midland, he had a choice of forms; and we cannot be surprised that he took advantage of the fact.

All that remains to be done is to make a list of such variable words, and to set them aside; we shall then have a certain number left of which the pronunciation was not, to his ear, doubtful; and such words will form most valuable rime-tests, because, as will appear from examination, Lydgate (to mention no one else) paid not the slightest heed to any such nice distinctions. In fact, we shall never appreciate Chaucer’s rimes till we realise that, in respect of them, his language is decidedly archaic. So far from being the first of a new school, he was (as regards his rimes, at any rate) the last of the old school; a fact which has been profoundly disregarded and neglected.

To complete these remarks, I must note that yet one difficulty remains; and it is one which Ten Brink has not explained. Cases occur in which a long e that should be close, appears to be open. There is a capital example in the Prologue, l. 592, where lēne, lean (A.S. hlēne) with open e, rimes with ysēne, visible, A.S. gesýne. The explanation is parallel to the case above. There are really two kinds of long e which we should expect to be close. The one is stable; viz. the e seen in blēde, to bleed, A.S. blēdan, where the e arises from mutation of ð, as well as the stable vowel in dēpe, from A.S. ðō in dēop; and there is the unstable vowel in ysēne, visible. For the

66 An apparent exception occurs in chēke, A.S. cēca, Anglian cēc, mod. E. check; with unstable e. Its ðē is unusual, and due to the preceding e.
A.S. forms of this word are various; we find gesiene, gesyne, and gesene, all three. Of these, gesiene is the earlier form for gesyne, and may here be neglected; but gesyne and gesene remain. Gesyne is the usual A.S. form, whilst gesene is Midland and Northern; see Sweet, O. E. Texts, p. 608, and the A.S. Dictionary. From the Midland gesene came M. E. ysene, with close e, regularly; and this is the form which Chaucer usually adopts, though not in the passage here considered. The A.S. gesyne would have developed regularly into ysyne, with y = long i, just as the A.S. myys became mys, mod. E. mice. But the y-sound was difficult of treatment, as the old sound of it was lost; and Ten Brink has noted the variation in the development of A.S. short y, which become sometimes short i and sometimes short open e. In the same way, I should suppose that this A.S. long y may sometimes have corresponded to long open e; which would make ysene (with open e) a Southern (probably a Kentish) form. There is a remarkable parallel to this in the development of A.S. fyr, fire. This usually becomes fyr in Chaucer, with long i; but in I. 33, we have the remarkable form fere, riming with were, were (A.S. wēron) and stere, to stir (A.S. styrian), both with open e; indeed, stere, to stir, is really another example of the same development, as the e in it is merely lengthened from A.S. y. This long open ē, corresponding to A.S. long y, is, in fact, Kentish; the form fer occurs in Shoreham, and ver in the Ayenbite of Inwyt.

If we sum up the results thus obtained, we see that, in considering Chaucer's forms, we must set aside, as unstable, all words in which long e corresponds either to a Germanic œ (Gothic ę, German ë), or otherwise to A.S. unstable y (Mercian ē). It remains to enumerate the chief of these, as occurring in Troilus. See footnotes on pp. 8*—12*.

Eche. The verb éche, to eke, answers to A.S. ēcan. Leche, a leech, is allied to Goth. lēkeis, a physician. Špeche, speech, is from the stem seen in sprēc-on, they spoke, with the same vowel as in Goth. brēkun, they broke. All these words have unstable e.

Ede. Dede, deed; A.S. dēd, Goth. gādās. Drede, to dread, A.S. on-drōdan, O. H. G. trātan. From V. 237, it is difficult to draw any clear inference; brede should have open ē (cf. A.S. brād, Goth. braids); hede, heed, goes with A.S. hīdan, and its vowel is unstable; and Diomed, though the e should be close, is a proper name, and needs no exact treatment.

Eke. Besides the correct form ēk (A.S. ēac), Chaucer has a form eke, with unoriginal final e; he probably connected it with the verb eche, to eke, in which the e is unstable, as it arose from mutation.
Cheke answers to A.S. cēce, Anglian cēce, mod. E. cheek; but here the ēa is not the usual A.S. ēa, being merely due to the initial e, and the Germanic type is *kakā (New E. Dict.) whence the A.S. original form *cēce; so that the e is unstable, by the rule above given.

Ele; ene. Rimes in ele and ene are all regular. See also ene, emeth. The rimes in ene are imperfect.

Eve. Slepe has unstable e; cf. Goth. slepan.

Ewe. Unstable e occurs in fere, fire, as explained above; also in here, to hear, A.S. hīran, hēran. Also in yere, year, because the ēa in A.S. gēar is not the usual diphthong ēa, but due to the preceding g; the Goth. form is jēr, so that the M. E. e is unstable, by the rule. Bere, a bier, is from the verbal stem bēr-on, corresponding to Goth. bērun; hence the e is unstable.

But a real difficulty occurs in the riming of lere, to teach, with here, here, and dere, dear. Lere, A.S. lēran, Goth. laisjan, should have the open e; but it here rimes with words in which the e is close. This is one of the exceptional words noted by Ten Brink (Chaucer’s Sprache, §25). No explanation is offered, and I know of none, unless it be that it was confused with lere, cheek, from A.S. hlēor. But we must note the fact.

Ete. The exceptional words are bihete, mete (to dream), strete, street. Bihete is really a false form for bihote (A.S. bihātan); the e is due to confusion with the pt. t. bihēt, where hēt is for A.S. keht, the result of contraction; hence the e is doubtful and unstable. Mete, to dream, is from A.S. mehtan, of unknown origin; hence we may regard the e as doubtful. Strete, a street, answers to A.S. strēt, Mercian strēt, mod. E. street; hence the e is unstable, as explained above.

Eve. Ten Brink (Ch. Studien, §§25, 23), thinks that leve, sb., leave, was treated as if with close e by confusion with bīeven, to believe, which, he says, has close e. Whatever be the right explanation, we must set aside leve, leave, as an exceptional word. So also eve, eve, A.S. āfēn, Mercian ēfēn, has a variable vowel; see Sweet, O. E. Texts, p. 602.

Having now considered the doubtful cases, which may be altogether set aside, it remains to draw up the list of words in which the quality of the long e, at least in Troilus, admits of no doubt. The result gives us a valuable set of test-rimes, by which the genuineness of a poem attributed to Chaucer may be investigated. Of course, a few divergences may admit of explanation; but the presence of a large number of them should make us extremely suspicious.

The list is as follows.

(A) The following words (in Troilus) have open e only. (I omit
some doubtful cases, in addition to those discussed above; 
and only give those which ought certainly to have the 
open vowel.)

tech, to teach.

dede, dead; lede, lead (the metal); rede, rcd. Also lede, to 
lead; sprede, to spread. The other words in ede are 
doubtful.

breke, to break, speke, to speak, wreke, to wreak, have open e; 
but it was originally short, and these words are kept 
apart from others.

bene, bean; clene, clean; lene, lean; mene, to mean.

hepe, heap; lepe, to leap.

there, there; were, were; where, where. Also ere, ear; gere, 
gear; tere, a tear. (Fere, fear, has unstable e; cf. G. 
Gefahr.)

bere, to bear, dere, to harm, swere, to swear, tere, to tear, 
besides bere, a bear, spere, a spear, were, a weir, here, her, 
stere, to stir, likewise have open e; but the e was 
originally short, and these words are kept apart.

bete, to beat; grete, great; hete, heat; spete, to spit, swete, to 
sweat, threte, to threat. Also ête, to eat, foryête, to 
forget; see notes 26, 27. (I omit doubtful cases.)

reve, to reave; grove, a grove. (But leve, to leave, is doubtful.)

(B) The following (in Troilus) have close long e only.

seche, to seek; biseche, to beseech.

forbide, to forbid; nede, need; yede, went. Also bide, to 
offer, blede, to bleed; brede, to breed; fede, to feed;

glede, a glowing coal; spede, to speed; stede, a steed.

meke, meek; seke, to seek.

bitwene, between; grene, green; kene, keen; quene, queen;
tene, vexation; wene, to ween.

kepe, to keep; wepe, to weep; also depe, deep.
fere, companion; yfere, together; here, here; dere, dear.
bete, fete, grete, mete, to mend, float, greet, meet; swete, sweet.

lev, dear.

Of course, the rime-tests consist in this, that not one of the 
words in class A can possibly rime with one of those in class 
B, either in Troilus or in any genuine work of Chaucer.

To test this, we must first refer to Cromie's Rime-Index to 
the Canterbury Tales, under the headings, eche, ede (eede), eke, 
en, epe, ere, etc., eve.

The only apparent exceptions that I can find are two; and 
they are worth notice.

Under epe, we are told that leep e, 3 s. perf., rimes with 
keep e, n. obj. The reference is to Group A. 2688. When we 
look, we find that the Ellesmere MS. has wrong spellings; 
the words should be leep, keep. Or rather, we find that the
final e is not real, but only represents a meaningless flourish in the MS. Now it is a neat point of grammar that, although lepen, to leap (A.S. hléapan) has an open e, its past tense (A.S. hléop) has a close e; so that the rime is quite correct. In both words, the e is close. The other case (A 1422) is worth citing. Mr. Cromie says, at p. 108, that here, adv., rimes with the inf. bere, to bear; which is, in my view, impossible. The lines run thus:

"He fil in office with a chamberlyn,
The which that dwelling was with Emelye.
For he was wys, and coude some aspye
Of every servaunt, which that serveth here.
Wel coude he hewen wode, and water bere."

This is a case where the sound decides the sense. The e in bere is properly short; hence the same is true of here. Accordingly, here is not an adverb, nor does it mean ‘here’; it is the personal pronoun, A.S. hire, and it means ‘her’; precisely as it does in Troilus, II. 238.

In the Minor Poems, the following passages are the only ones that I can find that present any difficulty.

In the Death of Blaunche, 1253, we find need riming with heed (head); so that need has here apparently, an open e. Ten Brink has noted this exception (at p. 20), and explains it by remarking that there is a double form of the word in A.S., viz. něad as well as něod. At any rate, we see that the word nede cannot be relied on as a test-word, and must be struck out; though there is only this one example of its use with open e.

In the Death of Blaunche, 773, we find dere ( dear) riming with were, were. This, again, is exceptional. We might say that, as A.S. wēron answers to Goth. wesen, the e in it is unstable. But once more, viz. in Clk. Ta. 882, we again find were riming with dere; and, after all, dere (see below) has unstable e. The Death of Blaunche presents many difficulties, and the text of it is far more uncertain and unsatisfactory than that of any other genuine poem.

In the House of Fame, 1885, we find the rime here (here), lere (to teach). This only shews that lere is here once more used with the close e; I have already said (p. 26*) that it is no sure test-word.

I just note the rime of here (here) with were (perplexity); H. Fame, 980. Were is of F. origin; and several such words have the close e; see Ten Brink, p. 48.

In the Legend of Good Women, 1870, we have the unusual rime there (there) with dere ( dear). Ten Brink has noted this (p. 20). He remarks that it is the only example in which
there seems to have close e; but it is rather one of three cases in which dere has open e (from A.S. dyre). See p. 28.

These are all the difficulties which I could find, after a search through the Index to the Minor Poems. The only modifications they suggest are these: the word need is once found riming with heed (head); and the word dere (though it usually has a close e) really has unstable e (A.S. déore, dyre).

It is interesting to apply the results to other Poems.

The beautiful Roundels entitled Merciless Beauty answer the test surprisingly. In the first stanza, the author uses the rimes sustene, kene, grene, quene, sene, where all the vowels are close, if we include sene, which has the variable e (close in Midland). In the second stanza, the rimes are pleyne, cheyne, feyne, atteyne, pleyne, all of French origin, in which the sound is slightly varied to that of the nearest diphthong. And in the third stanza, we find lene, bene, mene, v., clene, mene, s., in which the e is now open.

In the poem called A Complent to his Lady, the final stanza of which, with Chaucer's name appended, was discovered by Dr. Furnivall after I had claimed it for Chaucer, every rime is entirely perfect, and many of them are highly characteristic of him, being used elsewhere very freely.

The poem which I have called An Amorous Complaint has every rime perfect, except in I. 16, where the author rimes do (with close o) with wo, go (with open o). But do rimes with go in Troilus, I. 11, and II. 114, and with wo in Troilus, I. 119; see footnote 34.

This shews one side of the argument. It is instructive to turn to a piece like The Complaint of the Black Knight, which we now know to be Lydgate's, as printed in the Aldine Chaucer, vi. 235. In the very first stanza we find white riming with brighte and nighte, which, to the student of Chaucer, is sufficiently astonishing. Other non-Chaucerian rimes are seen in pitously, malady (st. 20), where the form should be maladye, and the same error occurs in st. 27; in ageyn, tweyn, peyn (34), where the latter forms should be tweyne, peyne; in forged, excused (40), which is not a true rime at all; in yereke, clepe (41), a mere assonance; in faithfully, cry (65), where I cry should rather be I crye; in wrecche, with short e, riming with leche, seche (68); seyn, peyn (for peyn-e, 82); went (for went-e), pt. t., shent, pp. (93); peyn (for peyn-e), ageyn (93); quen-e, disyllabic, seen (miswritten sene), monosyllabic, (97). Here are twelve difficulties in the course of 97 stanzas; but there are more behind. For the test-words already given above would alone suffice. In st. 4, we find swete, sweet, paired off with hète, heat; in st. 18, we find gréne paired off with cléne; and in st. 86, we have rède, red, paired off with spède, to
speed. That is, we have here three exceptions in the course of 97 stanzas, being more than can be found in the whole of Chaucer's genuine works put together. In fact, the indiscriminate riming of close and open e is a capital test for Lydgate and for work of the fifteenth century. Using this test alone, we should see cause to suspect The Flower and the Leaf, which has three false rimes of this class, viz. été, to eat, suête, sweet (st. 13); bite, pp. beaten, actually riming with the pp. set (31); and grêne riming with clêne (42); not to mention that the author makes the dissyllabic words wene, grene, rime with the pp. seen (36); and again, grene, tene rime with the pp. been (56); and yet again, grene rime with the pp. seen (57), and with been (77). On this point alone, the author differs from Chaucer seven times!

The Court of Love differs from Chaucer in instances too many to enumerate; but, as to this particular point, I only observe the riming of grêne with clêne, l. 816; and of dere with require, l. 851; but we may alter require to the Chaucerian form requere. At l. 79, we find the dissyllabic grene; it rimes with the monosyllable been.

Similar tests apply to open and close o, for which see the Index. We might arrange these, similarly, into two classes, viz. (A) with the open sound, and (B) with the close sound; and we should find that they do not rime together; i.e., if we first eliminate those words which are observed to be of a variable character. I give the list below.

It is also curious to observe that, in Troilus, the words wolde, nolde, sholde, usually rime together. Wolde rimes with bisholde once only, III. 17; but sholde never rimes with any words but wolde and nolde. In the Cant. Tales, wolde rimes with several words, but sholde only with wolde and nolde. The only exception is in the Book of the Duchess, 1200, where sholde rimes with tolde. It would greatly improve the sense as well as the metre to substitute wolde for sholde in this passage.

Another point I wish to mention is the distinction, in Chaucer, between the voiceless and voiced sounds of s in certain words. Thus he has wyce, vice, with the c as at present; and, contrariwise, ryse, rise, with s as z, also at present; but in certain words his usage is just the opposite of what it is now. See footnote no. 63. This peculiarity may also, perhaps, serve, in some instances, to detect spurious poems.

Now that I have exemplified the mode of using these test-words, I give fuller lists, slightly augmented by help of Mr. Cromie’s Rime-Index, and adding a third class (C) of words which have a variable vowel, and are therefore not available as test-words; for it is useful to know the character of these also.

The following is the key to the meaning of the lists.
1. (A) contains words with open long e and open long o. The chief sources of open long e are (a) A.S. ða and (b) the stable A.S. ð answering to Goth. ai (O. H. G. ei) and usually due to mutation of A.S. ā. We may include words with A.S. short e, though these often keep the vowel somewhat short; perhaps it was only half-long.

The sources of open long o are (a) A.S. ā and (b) a lengthening of A.S. short o; perhaps the latter was only half-long.

2. (B) contains words with close long e and close long o. The chief sources of close long e are (a) A.S. ðo and (b) A.S. ð. The chief source of close long o is A.S. ā.

3. (C) contains words with variable long e and variable long o. The chief source of variable long e is the unstable A.S. ð answering to Gothic ð (G. ð); this ð occurs in sprêcan, third stem of the strong verb sprêcan, and in its derivative sprêce. It also appears to arise from Mercian ð, corresponding to A.S. ðe, ð, mutation of ða, ðo.

**Results.** Words in (A) rime with each other, but never rime with words in (B). Words in (B) rime with each other, but never with words in (A). Words in (C) rime with words both in (A) and (B).

**Eche.** (A) tèche, bitèche. (B) séche, bisèche. (C) eche, to eke, leche, speche.

**Ede.** (A) dede, dead, hede, head, lede, lead (metal), rede, red, sprede, to spread. (B) bede, to offer, bledy, v., brede, v., crede, fedé, forbede, glede, nede*, spedé, v., stede, a steed. (C) dede, deed, drede, s. and v., hede, to heed, rede, to advise. Words in -hede almost always shew open e, but a few exceptions occur.

**Eke.** (A) brêke, v., spêke, v., wrêke, v., awrêke, ywârêke, with short e; leke, leek. (B) meke, seke, v., seke, sick, bisèke.

**Ene.** (A) bene, bean, clene, lene, adj., mene, to mean, unclene. (B) bitwene, grene, kene, quene, tene, vexation, ucene, v. (C) sene, adj., visible, y-sene (the same), shene, bright.

**Epe.** (A) chepe, to buy, hope, lepe, v., stope, bright. (B) crepe, v., depe, kepe, wepe. (C) stepe.

**Ere.** (A) bëre, a bear, bëre, to bear, dëre, to harm, êre, to plough, hëre, her, spëre, spear, stëre, to stir, swëre, to swear, tëre, to tear, wëre, a weir, wëre, to defend; all with (original) short e. Also ere, ear, gere, gear, tere, tear; and there,† were,‡ where. (B) dere,§ dear, jere, companion, here, here, yfere, together. (Here belong the common F.

*Nede once occurs as need, riming with hîed, head, B. Duch. 1253.
† There once rimes with dere, adj., Legend, 1870.
‡ Were twice rimes with dere, adj., B. Duch. 773, Clk. Ta. 822.
§ Dere usually has close e (A.S. dôre); but it also rimes with there, were; see above, and cf. A.S. dyre.
words chere; céré, manere, matère.) (C) bere, bier, fere, fear, here, to hear, lere, to teach, yere, year; see p. 26.*

ete. (A) bete, to beat, grete, great, hete, heat, spatè, to spit, swete, to sweat, thrête, v., vete, wet, ybete, beaten. Also été, to eat, fôytête, to forget, métè, meat (originally with short e). (B) bete, to mend, flete, to groet, greet, swete, sweet. (C) bíhetè, to promise, forlète, to let go, lète, to let, mete, to dream, shete, sheet, strete, street.

eve. (A) bireve, deve, pl., deaf; greve, grove, reve, to reave. (B) leve, dear, reève, a reeve. (C) eève, eve, leve, to believe, bìleve, belief, leve, to permit. Note that yève, to give, usually rimes with live, to live, as in mod. English.

o. All words in o seem to rime together; of these, to, thereto, unto, do, fordo, should have the close sound.

olde. Nolde, sholde, wolde, usually rime together. Occasionally wolde rimes with other words. In only one case does sholde rime with tolde (B. Duch. 1200), where wolde would make better sense.

one. (A) alone, echone, bone, bone, grove, to groan, lone, loan, mone, to moan, one, one. (B) bone, boon, eftsonne, mone, moon, sone, soon. (C) done, to do. [Note that sîne, son, wîne, to dwell, are really written for sune, wîne, and only rime with each other.]

ônge. [Note that songe, pp., spronge, pp., tonge, yonge, are really written for suinge, sprunge, tunque, yunge. They rime together, but are quite distinct from fonge, honge, longe, stronge, wronge; just as in mod. English.]

ook. (A) ook, strook. (B) owook, book, cook, forsook, hook, look, quook, shook, look, wook.

oot. (A) boot, he bit, gout, goat, hoot, hot, nout, know not, smoot, smote, woot, know, wroot, wrote. (B) foot, moot, must, soot.

ooth. (A) cooth, gooth, looth, ooth, wrooth. (B) dooth, sooth, tooth.

ore. Bifore, bore, pp. born, forlore, pp., more, a root, shore, pp., swore, pp., thersore, wherfore, originally had a short o, and usually rime together. Horé, pl., hoary, lore, more, rore, sore, yore, have open long o, and usually rime together. In a few cases, words in one set rime with words in the other.

ote. (A) groke, groat, hote, hot, throte, throat. (B) bote, satisfaction, fote, rote, root, swoote, sweet.

In conclusion, I offer these lists for what they are worth. I believe them to be fairly correct; but I do not suppose that they are altogether free from blunders. Some peculiarities may have escaped my notice; and some of my references may be incorrect, owing to natural human imperfection.