William Fowler

William Fowler’s translation of Petrarch’s *Triumphi* is extant in two manuscript sources:

- Edinburgh University Library, MS De.I.10/1
- National Library of Scotland, MS Hawthornden 2063, fol. 39.

Only the first contains the complete text of the *Triumphi* translation, not in Fowler’s hand: it is written in a clear secretary hand, rather different from Fowler’s. The second manuscript includes only a short opening section from the *Triumphus Cupidinis*, corresponding to lines 1-32 in the University Library version.

Among the paratextual material, the opening sonnet, by James VI, appears also in London, British Library, Additional MS 24195, fol. 35r; the ‘E.D.’ sonnets appear also in NLS Hawthornden 2065, fol. 4v, while the other commendatory poems appear only in MS De.I.10. Henry Meikle, in his edition of Fowler’s works, inserted the translation of Petrarch in the first volume, dedicated to poetry (published in 1914), and transcribed the Hawthornden version separately. The present edition is based on both manuscript and printed sources, and it reproduces, as far as possible, the graphic features of MS De.I.10, indicating variants in footnotes.
THE TRIUMPHS OF THE
MOST FAMOUS POET M. R
FRANCES PETRARKE
TRANSLATED OUT OF
italian into englisch by M. R
W. M. Fouler P. of
Hawicke.

Given to the college of Ermab.
William Shenmowd.
1627.
THE TRIUMPHS OF THE MOST FAMOUS POET M'.

FRANCES PETRARKE

TRANSLATED OUT OF ITALIAN INTO ENGLISH BY M'. WM. FOWLER P. OF HAUICKE.

THE CONTENTS OF THIS BOOKE.

1. The triumph of Love.
2. The triumph of Chastety.
3. The triumph of Death.
4. The triumph of Fame.
5. The triumph of Time.
6. The triumph of Eternity.

Ingenio stat sine morte decus.

1 A second ‘f’ has been erased.
2 This title takes up fol. 1r; at the bottom of the page we read, in a different hand: ‘Given to the college of Edinb. by William Drummond. 1627’.
TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE

and most verteous Ladye IEANE FLEMING Ladye

THIRLSTAINE spous to the right honorable Sir

IOHNE MAETLAND Knight, prencipal SECRETAIR to the KING

his Ma:ie. and great

CHANCELLAR

of

SCOTLAND.

Madame, thair be twoe causes speaking morally whiche boithe in weir and in peace encourageth men in the interpryse and executioun of great things The first is honour and renowne, The seconde is proffeit and commodetie / Noble harts and generous high aspyring mynds dois cheiflie choose the first, the baiser and les noble searchis for the other whiche ar the wages only off avarice. So that these things being so well considered by that ornat oratour, Mark. cicero he is mowed in his oraisoun for Archia Poeta to sett doun for a setled sentence that by nature we ar all driwen to a desire of praise and commendatioun and that he that is of most account and most gretest is most cowetouse of renoune and seiketh for no other guerdon of his vertew than glorye. And in his pithye and eloquent defence of his accused Milo subiyneth that the valiant men and maist indewed with wisdome dois not endeuer them selfs so muche to practise and exercise thair vertewis for rewarde of gane, than for the praise and honour that arysis of thair actionis. Which things being so well ingrawed in the marble breists and more deiplie imprented in the plotts of the Romane harts than of anye other natioun. Thay hawe sought bothe abowe and beyonde all others besyds the recompence of proffeit; by the pryce of eternall fame and ever leving glorye to illustrat and make more
commendable the names of their verteous, wysest, and valiant victors by thries hunder and twentye victorious and vndecayinge Triumphs vnto the declyning tyme of thair decayinge impyre after PROBRUS. In imitatioun whairof our Laureat Poet Francis Petrarch a noble Florentine hes dewysed and erected these Triumphs in the honour of her whome he lowed thairby to mak hir more glorious and him self no lefs famous. which when I had fullye perversed and finding thame bothe full and fraughted in statelye verse with morall sentences godlye sayings brawe discoursis proper and pithie arguments and with a store of sindrie sort of historeis enbelleshed and inbroudered with the curious pasmentis of poesie and golden freinyeis of Eloquence. I wes spurred thairby and pricked forword incontinent be translatioun to mak thame sumwhat more populare then they ar in thair fol. 2v Italian originall, And especiallye when as I perceawed bothe in Frenche and Inglish traductionis this work not onelie traduced, bot evin as It war magled and in evaer member miserable maimed and dismembered besydis the barbar grosnes of boyth thair translationis whiche I culd sett doun by prwif (wer not for prolixitie) in twoe hundreth passages and moe / BOT MADAME, as I purpose not be debaising of thair doingis to enhawse my awin nor by extenuating thair travellis and derogating from thair desertis to arrogat more praise to my self So do I now expose the same to the sight and vew of all the world whose iudgeme and censeur I must vnderlye: And consecratis tham to your ladishipe whose courtesie, gravitie godlines goodnes wisdome honestie and honour is suche that it dryweth not only the deuotioun of tham who ar acquainted with the same in a farder continuance and lyking of your ll. bot enforced also the vnacquented beholders and hearers thairof with wonder to reuerence and almost amaisd to merwell at the same. Which thing as they bring furth in yow the desartis and prwifes of perfyte praise, So I rather chwise to be a trew reportar thairof when I am asked than with my vnexercised style debaise suche graces so worthye ane highest commendatioun. Nather am I ashamed in this point to mak confessioun of my weaknes who now standing at the brink and riwer syde of my Lord chancellours your husbands and your l. owen proper prayses to mak a willing entrie and passage therein, am letted in my interpryse and stayed in the promptitude of my intentioun through the largnes and deipnes of the same who more
increasing and inlarging by his famous vertewis the great glorye his worthye father hes left him and
his peerles Prence procwred him dois deserwe the first place amangis these whose names and
renowns surwiweth to this day. Bot Madame seing I hawe to muche mater ministred onto me and
both your honour and your praises be more then my page I am forced to shorten this preface
surceasing whill better tyme and oportunitie afford the occasioun to pen sum day your praises in a
more larger discourse which now abruptlye I drywe to a short connectioun. bot in this I rest
satisfied that although I am not a sufficient praiser of both your vertewis / yet your honouris desartis
sal be ane oppin testimonie of my opiioni. And the world sall sie that, albeit I want cunning to
commend yow I laik not good will to speik what I think of yow trewlye / These things than
considered to whome ather in respect of former fauour present credeit or future fortoun and better
happ (if poetts may be propheitts) more fitlye can be offred these Triumphs then to a triumphing
ladye Triumphing over all vice and who has ellis passed her ouations and fixed Trophees in all
vertew. So haifing assured hope of your l. accustumed courtesie, that your honour will fauorablye
receawe this voluntarye obligatioun as pledge of my gretar service and affectioun I humblie tak my
leawe. Submitting my selff to the censeur of the learned and committing your ll. to the protectioun
of the almightie from Edinburght the 12 of December 1587

Your honouris humbly to command

M. W. F.\(^3\)

fol. 3r

Sonnet to the authoure.\(^4\)

We finde by prwif that into euerie aige
In phoebus art sum glistring starr did shyne,

\(^3\) As noted by Meikle, the initials are added in a different hand, possibly Drummond’s. The same hand has also inserted corrections.

\(^4\) In Additional 24195, the poem is headed ‘A Sonnet on M' W. Fullers translation of Petrarchs triumpe of loue’. This, together with line 13 of the sonnet, makes it possible that, when he wrote the sonnet, the King had seen only a partial translation.
Who worthye Scollaris to the muses saige
Fulfild thair countreis with thair works dewyne
So Homer was a sounding trumpet fyne
Amanst the Greikis into his learned dayes
So Virgill was amongst the Romans syne
A spreit sublimed, a pillar of thair prayse
So loftye Petrark his renoun did blayse
In tounge Italique in a sugred style
and to the circled skyes his name did rayse
For he by poems that he did compyle
Led in Triumphe lowe chaistnes death and fame
bot thow triumphs ouer PETRARCHS propper name.  

I. REX.

fol. 3v

E.D. in praise of Mr. Wm foular her freind.

The glorious greiks dois praise thair HOMERS quill
And citeis sevin dois strywe quhair he was borne
The Latins dois of Virgill vant at will
And Sulmo thinks her Ouid dois adorne
The Spanyoll laughs (sawe Lucan) all to scorne
And France for RONSARD stands and settis him owt
The better sort for BARTAS blawis the horne

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5 Additional: ‘We find by prooffe that into euerie age | In Phoebus art sume glistring starre did shine | Who worthie schollers to the Muses sage | Fullfil’d thare countries with thare workes diuine | So Homere was a sounding trumpett fine | Amongst the Greeks into his learned dayes | So Virgill was amongst the Romanes sine | A spirit sublimed, a piller of thare praise | So loftie Petarch his renoume did blaze | In tounge Italique in a sugred stile | And to the circled skies his name did raise | For he by poëms that he did compile | In triumphe ledde loue chastnes deathe and fame, | Bot thou triumphes ouer Petarchs propper name.’ The editions of Craigie and Meikle coincide perfectly.
And Ingland thinks thair SURRYE first but dout
To praise thair owen these countreis gois about
Italians lykes PETRACHAS proper noble grace
Who well deserwis first place amangs that rout
Bot FOULAR thow dois now thame all deface
    No vanting grece nor Romane now will strywe
    Thay all do yeild Sen foular doith arrywe

E.D. in commendatioun of the authour and of his choise

When ALEXANDER entered PHRYGIAN land
Achilles toumbe he weping did behoulde
O happie wight who suche a trumpet fand
And happie thow who hes his verteuis toulde
Than happie LAURA thow by fame inroulde
And happ to the o petrarch, dois befall
Thye glorie shee, hir praise thow dois vnfoulde
How may thye fame, O FOULAR than be small
Who sings Dame Lauras praise, but feinzeit all
This vertewis Dame to quhome thy work thow gevis,
To hir of right these triumphs sing thow sall
No Laura heir, bot LADYE IEANE it is
    O Ladye liwe. thy foular the extolls,
    Whose golden pen thy name in fame Inrolls

fol. 4r
Sonnet in M’ W⁰ Froulars commendatioun

I saw ones all the MUSES in my thought
With poets als bedeckt in scarlet gowynes
before with sacred troupe MERCURIUS brought
a youth vpon whose face was yet bot downes
Thair saw I thame present him laurell crownes
And with the rest the TOSCAN PETRARCH came
Who said, my Sonne, receawe these right renownes
As he who dewlie dois deserve the same
Bot more triumphant hes thow maid thy name
Vpon the Throne of Memorie to stand
To chwise for Patron suche a worthye Dame
Who onely is the LAURA of this land

Than Fowlars laude so lowde I herd them sound
That through the world his praise sall ay rebound.

RO. HUDSOUN.

In commendatioun of the Translatour and the Ladye to whome thir Triumphs ar derected.

If pithye PETRARCH wha thir poemes pend
Hes purchest prayse promulgat ells by fame
Reviving her quhais lyfe by death twik end
And after death triumphant maid her name
Than Poetts prease his Triumphe to proclame
Whaise compast course conducted hes with cair
From FLORENCE heir, and fraughted PETRARCH hame

Deckt with his Dames ascending in the air

Into triumph, and to augment It mair,

To yow madame thir Dames be all derect

Wha (ane) including all thair vertewis rair

Is with Triumph abowe them all erect

**As PETRARCH plaist triumphing heir we sie**

**So FOULAR self, and yow MADAME, all thrie.**

M. R. COKBURNE.

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**fol. 4v**

Ane Summarye and a Sonett vpon the Triumphs and the Translatour.⁶

If conquering Cupid captane of Renoune

Who chaines his captiwes to his chariot bright

By CHASTETIE is chaist and beaten doune

and by her vertew spoyled is of might.

If DEATHE the daunter of the humane wight

Triumphe vpon that Dame and doeth hir thrall

Surviving FAME clames bot hir propper right

To liue through land or lak, as doth befall

Bot thow O TYME that long and short we call

The Triumphe of the rest thow wouldest retane

Wer not ETERNITIE confounds tham all

as nothing more Triumphant may remane

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⁶ On the margin, the appearance of each Triumph is marked by a number.
Than what abyds to Fowlar thame hes pend
Eternitie, to which he dois pretend.

TH. HUDSOUN

When matcheles Homere his Achilles sings
Achilles onely meaning to decore
Him selfe to greater prayse by praysing brings
And so begetts, by geving all his glore

So Fouler aeternised hes his name
With noble Petrarch and his Laura’s fame.7

A. COLUILLE

fol. 5r

The Argument.

Oure famous and morall Poet in these his morall Triumphs purposeth to descrywe the dywerss states and conditionis of Man. who being formed mortall is indowed with two principall powers and faculteis: The one is a sensuall appetite, the other is a naturall reasoun / The one of these haveing soveraintie in his youthe, at that tyme when the senses hes most force and vigeur. The other agane when youth and lustines decayeth. Who being deid yit hes his memorie surviving by his famous actis through a more and longer fame, which at last evin as all other things vnder heaven, is ouercummed and vanquished by TYME, which intoumbethfame in an eternall obluioun Yit seing that turning tyme is a thing bounded limited and in it self finit dois remane subdewed by Immoweable Immortalitie be whose ayd and help fame is delyvered from the Iniurie of consuming /
tyme dois liue as fermour in the revenewis and possessionis of Eternitie. For whiche causs The first

7 These six lines are in a different hand from the rest of MS De.I.10.
Triumpe of our sensuall parts and youthlie affectioune is decyphered by Lowe. The seconde is of Reason when we by more rypar and mature aige with the wings of discretioun dois subdew our affectioun. And this Is figured vnder the name of CHASTETIE in the persoun of his ladye LAURA. The thrid is of Death who defaces all the operationis of our appetite and power of our reasoun which wer wonnt to be wrought during our lyfetyme / The fourt is of fame when men after thair death recreasis and refloorishis thair renoune. The fyift is of TYME, that suppressis and extinguishis the same. The sext and last Is of IMMORTALITIE that ouercummeth all tyme, becaus of things that ar infinit thair is no proportioun. It is more to be noted that these first two Triumphs of LOWE and CHASTETIE ar in this lyfe the thrid when our saule is in departeing from our bodye and the other thrie after it is frie of the same. Which sex Triumphs our Poet dois depaint partlye by visioun, partly by Imaginatioun, particularlye interlaceinge the discourse of his estait and his ladeyis and how her chastetic ouercame him / and agane death hir / yit how by FAME she reviveth agane, when although that TYME dois prease to dark the glorye of hir famous name / yit shall it be through Immortalitie ETERNALL.

fol. 5v is blank; fol. 6r

THE TRIVMPHS OF M°. FRANCES PETRARCHA.

The first triumpe of Loue.

CAP. I.

THAT tyme\(^8\) that did my sobbing sobbs and sorye syghs\(^9\) renew

Through sweitt rememberance of that day on which my lowe first grew\(^{10}\)

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\(^8\) Hawthornden: ‘In that time’.

\(^9\) Hawthornden: ‘my sobbs | and heauie sighs’.

\(^{10}\) ‘The couplets are highlighted not only by the rhyming scheme, but also by the layout and by the use of a capital letter only at the beginning of the first line of each couplet (this is not always regular; in my edition I follow the scribe’s usage throughout).
Which was the first beginnar of my paines and future smart\textsuperscript{11} and of my longsome\textsuperscript{12} martyrdome that martered\textsuperscript{13} had my hart

The SUNN alreddye warmed\textsuperscript{14} had the BULL his doubled horne

and TITHUS\textsuperscript{15} wyfe\textsuperscript{16} Aurora cleir vprising reade at morne

All yce and most froste\textsuperscript{17} lyk had then hir selff adrest

ve to hir wonnted ancient place hir auld frequented rest.\textsuperscript{18}

Lowe greif\textsuperscript{19} disdanis and planing\textsuperscript{20} plaintis and seasoun of the ȝeir

had caused me to a secreit place my self for to retiere\textsuperscript{21}

Whair all the causes and fashereis that did oppres my hart\textsuperscript{22}

might thairby all affected be and all my doole auert.\textsuperscript{23}

Thair on the grass and plesand grene\textsuperscript{24} my voyce be plaints maid waik\textsuperscript{25}

my watching eyne orcumd through sleip\textsuperscript{26} at lenth sum rest did tak\textsuperscript{27}

Quhair\textsuperscript{28} then I saw a Meruellous light\textsuperscript{29} and in the same muche wo

with litill Ioy\textsuperscript{30} and sadnes full\textsuperscript{31} and as me seamed, Lo

Amidst thairof I saw\textsuperscript{32} a duke victorious high of might

\begin{flushright}
11 Hawthornden: ‘longing smart’.
12 Hawthornden: ‘this longsome’.
13 Hawthornden: ‘which galled’.
14 Hawthornden: ‘scortched’.
15 A later hand has corrected thus; the original reads ‘Titans’.
16 This is also a correction, in the same later hand; the original reads ‘chylde’. Hawthornden: ‘Titans chyld’.
17 Hawthornden: ‘frozen’.
18 Hawthornden: ‘her mansion and her rest’.
19 Hawthornden: ‘rage’.
20 Hawthornden: ‘blubbring’.
21 Hawthornden: ‘did leede me to a schut-vp place | to which I did reteere’.
22 Hawthornden: ‘where euery weried hart, o’rcharged | with bondles of there greif’.
23 Hawthornden: ‘doth lay thame vp and set asyde | for there more fresh releeif’.
24 Hawthornden: ‘There then amongst the hearbs and grass’.
26 Hawthornden: ‘and weryed eeys o’rcummd with caire’.
27 Hawthornden: ‘sleepe did to rest enforce’.
28 Hawthornden: ‘Whils’.
29 Hawthornden: ‘a lightning greate’.
30 Hawthornden: ‘solace schort’.
31 Hawthornden: ‘breef delyte’.
32 Hawthornden: ‘spyped’.
\end{flushright}
Lyk on who to the capitoll triumphd in chariot bright
Than I who was not muche acquent with such vnqueted sight
evin through this noysum wicked world so full of craft and slight
In whiche to long I liwe alace and it of valeur voyde
bot full of pryde of graces bair which vertew hes destroyde
The habit proude vnsene vnvsd all new and vn acquent
I thair beheld with cairfull eyes both heavie tyrd and faint
Through lingring lowe and drowsie sleip this sight I did discerne
for that I had no other ioy than such a sight to lerne.

Thair than I saw four coursers fair more whyte than anye snaw
a chyldish boy and youngling raw in fyrie chair to draw

**fol. 6v**

Who in his hand his bow did beare his arrowes be his syde
as nother helmet nor yit targe thair pearcing shottis can byde
Abowe his shoulders ther wer plaist twoe fleing feddered wings
Imbrowdered with Ten thousand hewis all bair in other things
And round about him thair did stand and round about his chair
a number of suche mortall men that none can tham declair
Whereof than some wer prisoners by him in battall tane

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33 Hawthornden: ‘I not much wont for to enioy | Such aspect grace and sight’.
34 Hawthornden: ‘In which I liue alas to long’.
35 Hawthornden: ‘verteu’.
36 Hawthornden: ‘and emptie of al worthines | yet filled is with pryde’.
37 Hawthornden: ‘The proud attyre and fashion strange | vnved and al new’.
38 Hawthornden: ‘be rearing vp my fainting eyeis | and heauie I did veue’.
39 Hawthornden: ‘and in this moode and drousines’.
40 Hawthornden: ‘things vnsene’.
41 Hawthornden: ‘Vpon a fyrie chariot | a youngling boy to draw’ (‘a youngling boy’ is also inserted at the end of the first line, and then crossed out).
42 Hawthornden: ‘might’.
43 Hawthornden: ‘a thousand’.
some pearced by his pearcing darts and som by him lay slane/

I wandring than to know sum newis of him and of his trane
and so far fordwart marched on all weryed all with pane
Did than perceawe my selff evin one of such a flok to be
when lowe from lyfe long tyme befoir had far dewyded me/
Than stayed I a whyle to see if onye one I knew
within the thikkest of that troup that lowe so with him drew
Who is a king that fasting is and houngrie ay for teares
who makks men die, and daylie dois tham feid with lingring feares
Bot none thair wes I culd discerne and yit if thair was one
with whome I ones acquented was and now to death is gone
His face wes chaingd and countenance by preasoun or by death
whome crwell weird or fatall parks bereaued of his breath
Thus$^{44}$ as I wes astonished and looking thair and heir
behould thair did ranneer me and to me did appeir
A sight and shadow sumwhat less then that I saw befoir
sad pansiwe dark obsewir and paill vnknowen to me the moir
Which be my name me cald and said Let no thing this thee mowe
for all this Pompe and this Triumphe is purchessed by lowe
Whair at I merveld verye mucho and said in speaches plane
how kenst thow me when swirlye I do know the not agane
He answerd than this cums to pass and this dois so appeare
evin through the burden of my bands and chanes that I do beare
And be this thick congested air and be this foggie mist

$^{44}$ Meikle: ‘this’.
which duskish is that so thy eyes with darknes dois resist

Bot I am he evin he thy freind to the was traist and trew

In thoskan bred and thairin borne whair first our freindship grew

His speaches than and freindlie words and reason which of ould

he wonnt to vse did quickly than this muche to me vnfould

Discovering at that instant tyme that which his face did hyde

as efterwart we satt ws doun eache one at others syde

**fol. 7r**

Whair he began to speik to me Long tyme is sen I thought

To sie the heir with ws among and in this band be brought.

Becaus that we evin from thy aige and tender yeares did sie

the verye sings within thy face that lowe shuld captiwe the

Than ansuerd I that is most trew at forst I was so bent

and trewlie I had yeild to lowe my hart and whole consent

Bot oh alace these troubled cryes that lovers do sustane

afrayd me and maid me from that course for to refrane

So that I left my interpryse to which I first did tend

bot in my breist the reviuing ragge of lowe may yit be kend

So said I than bot as yit as he did heir in what a sort

I ansuer maid he smyling than to me did this report

O my deir chyld. what flams for the be kendled and prepaird

bot oh alas at that tyme I did not his words regaird

Which no so deiplie be imprent within my head eache one,

that none more fast nor solidlie be grawed in marble stone

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45 The final *d* is a later correction; originally the manuscript has ‘troubles’.
Syne I whoe be my neirest aige which so dois rage and burne
alreddie learnd both toung and mynde the vse to speik and murne/

Demanded of this shaddow dark I pray the tell of grace
and courtesie what folk be these that marches in this place
Than he replyed Within short tyme thow by thyselff sall knaw,
for of this cumpanye thow shalbe evin one of thame I shaw
And be this lord thow salbe led so fettred fast and bound
this thow sall prowe and yit not knaw how thow may cwir thy wound
Thy fortoun is thy fates ar so thy destineis and thy lott
that this sal chanse or thow dissolue or yit vnloose that knott
Thow first thy plesant face sall change thy hairis sall first be gray
er from thy neck and rebell feit these bands be tane away

Bot yit that I may satisfie the in thy young desyrs
what thow now crawist I will the tell and shaw what thow requyrs
And first of him I will declair that gretest is of state
who dois at ones the lyfe of man and libertie abait
The sam is he who by this world is names bitter Lowe,
bot better sall thow know the sam and better sall it prowe
When that his force sall the subdew and so sall captiwe the
that ouer the he salbe lord and thow his vassall be
In youthe a meik and modest chyld bot in his yeiris and aige
A cancard throward Tyran strong of fearsnes full and rage

**fol. 7v**

Woe woe to him that kenst so weill and thow the same sall knaw
before a thousand yeares be past awake for I it shaw
He also gendred is and bred of idilnes and slouth
with wantonnes of mankynds mynd his nurishing and his grouth
Is of suche thoughts within tham selfs dois some both douce and sweit
And deyfeid and made a god of pepill in discreit 110

To whome he is thair only death and whome with hardest lawes
dois vnder thousand chaines and nailles keip fast within his clawes
Thay leiding on and drawing furth thair dayis and lingring lyfe
sharpe hard seveir and bitter als all full of sturt and stryfe
This is the principall of this pompe and heigh triumphant Lord
whose Triumphe is be many man so gloriouslie Decord
But whom thow seest so lordlyke goe and staitlie first dois come
It is the Monark CAESAR greit the empriour first of Rome
Whome that aegiptian CLEOPATRA in aegipt land did binde
among the flouers with bewtye brawe and bountye of the minde 120
Now she ouer him triumpheth so with reasoun lowe and ryght
that he who did the world ourcum so with his manlye might
Suld be subdewed by hir agane and he suche change might see
And that the victors honour might the vanqueists glorye bee

The nixt to him It is his sone AUGUSTUS greit by name
whose fervent lowe more loyall was and iustar more his flame
Who though he might his LIUIA by force hir gett and gane
yet would he with maist humble suit vnto hir love attane
And by his husbands owen consent obtened hir at his hand
suppose she was with chyld that tyme to ioyne in mariage band

The thrid that marched with these twoe wes NERO the vniust
dispytfull bloodie cruell fearse and faythles voyde of trust
Who passed on with visage full of yre and proud disdane
and yit for all his force and strength SABINA hes him tane
And MARK AURELIUS lykwyse thair went with this valiant king
full of all praise and honour als in glorye moist conding
Whose golden toung and sacred breist full of philosophie
was for the luif of FAUSTINE maid a sing and mark to be

These other two that standeth by so fearfull be mistrust
Is ALEXANDER PHEREUS and DYNNEISS the vniust
Tane bothe in lowe and in thair lowe afrayed night and day
Whose ielous mynds through ielousie did purches thair decay

fol. 8r
And this effect thairof did ryse. Now he who nixt comes on
Is that AENEAS that lamentis vpone ANCANDRUM stone
Dame CREUSAS death king PRIAMS chyld who reft from him his wyiff,
quha from EUANDER tooke his sone and reft him of his lyiff
Hes ever thow hard one reasoun of or yit of him to talk
that to his stepdames furious lust and bed wald no wayes walk
Quhome PHAEDRA so with prayers prayd with lovelie lookes and sight
yit he thairto did talk no heade but shund that Dame by flight
Bot woe alace his chaist intent his goodlie thoughts and mynde
did bring his death and als hir hate bothe terrible and vnkynde
And yit thairthrough shee wrought hir death be love she thairto ran
a vengeance iust for HIPPOLITE whome she exyled than

For THESEUS consent thairto and also ARIADNE

from whome hir sister ref hir spous and had from hir withhadden

But yit not iustlye may shee plaine nor think hir much misvsd

she wrought hir brothers dreidfull death and father had abusd

SOME PEPILL BE WHO OTHERS BLAMES WHEN THEY THAME SELFS SULD BLAME

AND SPYETH FAULTES IN OTHER MEN AND SEING NOT THAIR SCHAME

YET HE WHO MAKETH SPORTS AND PLAY AND DOIS IN FRAUDE DELYTE

HE SULD NOT MUCH BE GREUED BE IF HE GET QUYTE FOR QUYTE.

Thair saw I then his father nixt with all his pompe and praise

Led prisoner in that Triumpe on whome my eis did gaise

To sie him thair tuix sisteris two brought thair in that convoye

And ARIADNE of his death and he of PHEDRAS Ioy

He that is nixt is HERCULES that martiall man so bould

by DIANIRE and IOLE and OMPHALE maid thrauld

The other who dois fauour him is that ACHILLES stout

quho in his lwiff had all his lwkt evin full of doole and dout

Heir standeth lykwyse DEMOPHON with him dois PHILLIS mwiff

quho for his stay and long abode did hang hir selff for lwiff

This Iason is with him his Dame MEDEA aetas chyld

that followed him and lowe also through tounes and deserts wyild

And looke how muche she guyltie wes aganis hir father deir

or cruell in his brothers death so voyde of shame and feir

So wes she more crueler and mowed in furious Ire

in grit despyte aganis Iasons love to sett his houss in fyre
And not content with this reweng she forder of did go
To cutt in blads befoir his eyes the children of tham two

fol. 8v
Sche thought this rigour no thing greit nor yit to hurt hir hart,
Not yit beleued that by hir fact REUENG did pass desert

Than after cam HYSIPHYLE who semed to complane
that be the barbar lowe of one she was brought in disdane
Than saw I hir who by hir face of bewtye beare the name
fair HELENE MENELAUS wyff the farrest grecian Dame
Who had with hir that Shiphirdd thair that to his great disgrace
did fixt his eyes and gaised vpon hir fair and hevinlie face
Wheare through greit tempests of grit wars grit murders wyld and strange
did ryse thairbye and all the world did wp and dounsyid change

I after hard OENOME amangs these Troups full sad
weip for the death of PARIS toe and for his luiff die mad.
Thair lykwise MENELAUS was who did for HELENE mone
To sie hir thoughts not fixt on him bot on him that was gone
And after wes HERMINONE who for ORESTES cryed
To succour hir from PYRRHUS hands who had hir bewtye spyed

Thair also I did beho thair behould ACCASTUS daughter fair
LAODOMIE, muche makking for hir PROTESILAUS cair/
With hir I saw trew ARGIA most fayithfull to hir spous
that maid his funerallis for his corss evin with his teares and vowes
More iust more trew and fayithfull more more loveing in effect
than ERIPHYLE that for a chaine AMPHIARUS did detect

O PETRARK heare the sad complaints the sighs and grevous sounds
That from these lovers miserable so miserablie rebounds
Who ar about to rander wp to him thair spreits and lyfe
that in suche sort thame governeth and gwydeth in such stryfe
I can not all thair names reherse that wer about that chair
not onlye men wes tham amongs bot evin the gods wer thair
Thair press and number wes so great quhom CUPID led in chanes
that all the shaddowing MIRTELL woods wer filled with thair tranes

For thair I saw the CYPRIAN dame, dame VENUS bright and fair
with Mightie MARS both neck feitt armes bound be VULCANS snair
And PLUTO that PROSERPINA did revish to the hell
who half the yeare did with hir dam, the other with him did dwell
Thair IUNO IELOUS did I see and brawe APOLLO bright
that did despise CUPIDOIS aige his youth his bow and might

fol. 9r
Yit for all that this youngling boy his puissance maid him prow
when in THESSALIA he him shakt and maid him for to lowe

What sall I say than to be breiff and in this passage short
behoulde these goddis and goddessis that VARRO dois report
All Prisoners and captiwed now and charged with thousand chaines
and with the same evin IOUE him self his charged leggs furth straines
And goes infettered hard afore this high Triumphant chair
subdewed be LOUE and led by Lowe to mak his pompe more fair

Finis i cap.

fol. 9v

The Seconde Chapter of the First Triumphe of Lowe.

Alreddye these my weryed eyes all weryed so to vew
that brave Triumphe and princelie pomp that bravely did ensew
And yit thairwith not satisfied desyrous more to sie
now heir and thair to this and that I did convert myne ee
Which things for to repeate and shaw as I did sie thame frame
so short a houer will not permit nor thole I shaw the same
Than did my hart from thoughts to thoughts by intercourse so pass
when as I spyed two folkis a part togeather them amass
And hand in hand so ioyntlie ioyned promening softlie went
and reasoning in swetest words they thus thair progres spent
Thair vncouth habit light and strange did mak me much to muse
and speache vnknowen, to me obscwre, which none bot they did vse
Yit all thair talk and conference which was betuix these twane
my marrow and interpretar and truiche man maid it plane
And after that I knew thame bothe I nerer did approche
And bouldlye did my selff inqyre and on thame bothe encrochte
Quhair I perceaved the one to be a freind vnto our name
The other ane adversar seveir and ennemie to the same

Vnto the first I me adrest And thus began to say
O MASSINISSA princelie prince forgiwe me I the pray

Evin for thy SCIPIONS sake, and hirs be whome I now begin

that thou would pardoun what I speik and not be grewed heirin

Thairefter than he me beheld and speiking thus began,

I willinglie than first would know quhat art thou for a man

Sen thou well\(^{46}\) in me hed spyed and dois so well discerne

my double lowe vnto these twoe so stable and eterne

I humblie answered him agane O peirles prince of praise

my pwir estate will not permit that thou me know these dayes

Bass is my port obscure I am my meanes ar meane and might

and from my small flam that far ar plaist they\(^{47}\) can not com grit light

But thy renowne and royall fame through all the world arrywes

whose force is suche that is coniones the hartis the spreittis and lywes

Of those that never hes the sene nor sal heirafter see

with knottis and bandes of lasting lowe that sall ay lasting be

Now tell me if this gratious DUKE in whose Triumphe yow go

if that in peace and quietnes he dois conduct yow two

fol. 10r

Whiche couple makis me thinke such things to be so strange and rare

and of the Faythfull rarest Fayth that anye can declair

Than answered he thy young dois prove In naming me so prest

that thou dois knaw evin by thy self my state and all the rest?

Yit for to chaise far from my hart the doole which dois it grewe

and so results evin by hir death who now no more dois lewe

\(^{46}\) Meikle inserts ‘so’ before ‘well’.

\(^{47}\) Meikle: ‘thair’.
To thy requeist I yeild consent.

I having than my hart

vpone that high victorious Duke whose lowe hes wrought my smart

So stedfastlye implaist on him which no thing might supplant

that LELIUS in this respect with no small pane could vant

Whairevir might his standart than or ensein3e be found

thair wes I lykwyse prest in armes to combat on the ground

To him was fortoun favorable from him she did not swerve

yit not so far as did his actis and doughtie deids deserve

Suche valeur was implaist in him suche manhoode in his mynde

his lyke was never sene befoir nor yit sall com behynde

Now after that the ROMANE armes with honour wes besprent

and sparpled to the vtmaist parts of east and occident

With him I me adioyned then, and lowe with hir me ioyned

in such a sort that deathe hir self yit not hes vs disioyned

Was never suche a sweitlie flame two lovers breistis did burne

nor never sall as I belewe for which I mone and murne

And wepeth that suche few short nights which makis me cair and crye

suld all my pleasouris ouercross and my deserts all drye

For being in vane conducted both vnto our mariage bed

and all our iust and lawfull links to brokken be and shed

And thairwith all my trew despysed and no excuse prewaill

In this my fwrie and my lowe that did me so assaill

Be him whose valour in it selfff than all the world was more

be him whose words wer holy all and full of fame and glore

Be him who had no pittye on of both our sighs and wo
be him and by his holye speache we parted wer in two.

From thence alas did ryse our doole and yit I must confes
in doing so he hes done weill suppose my Ioyes ar less
I saw suche perfyte proofes of grace in him suche vertew flame
within the mynde of SCIPIO that ay sall liwe in fame.

fol. 10v

And as the man is stony blinde that can not see the Sun
even so Is 48 that not remarques the splendure he hes wunn

greit justice is to louers trew a sore and greit offence
so that his counsell grawe and wyse that stayed our gude pretence
Was evin a rok and craggye stone to brek that interpryse
which we by force of fervent lowe amangs ws did dewyse
By aige to me he brother was by lowe my sone I say
by honour evin my father deir quhome I must neids obey
Suppose I was with heavie hart with sadnes full and wo
and with a lowring countenance constrained to do so.

From whose command and counsell cam My SOPHONISBAS death
quho seing hir selff so prosecute by romans spytelfull wreath
And almost brought within thair bands she chused first to die
than to be brought in servitude, and through thame shamed be
And I my selff evin of hir death the minister even was
she prayed me to do that whiche her prayers brought to pass
So doing that whiche she desyred and bringing it to end
hawe wrought offence against my selff that would not hir offend

48 Meikle inserts 'he'.
So that I than hir sent a coupe within a poysened drink
with such a wofull sort of thoughts and sorrow you may think
As I do know and she beliues and how thy self may trow
if that suche coales of kendled flames hed kendled bene in you

And now the heareshipp which I haue and partage be my wyfe
ar Oneleie PLANTS, GREIF, and WOE and Long and Lasting stryfe
In hir did rest my onelie hoipe in hir wes all my bliss
there haue I lost for to conserwe my fayith but stane or miss
But searche gif that thow now may see in all this trowpe and dance
a thing so wonderfull and strange and of so rare a chanse
Considder this in tyme becaus the tyme is light and swift
and thair is mater more than day that bydis a longer drift

As I was pausung full of reuthe and pittie for thame two
and of the short tyme of thair lowe so wrapped full off wo
Togeather with thair fervent fyre which feirslie had begun
me thought my hart wes maid of Snow and set against the sun
And thusways musing in my mynd I hard hir as she went
say to hir lowe this man me grewis, and makis me malcontent
I firmelie keip within my mynd and earnistlie in thought
to hate him for his nationis saik who our distruction wrought.

Than this to hir I spake agane do this for my requeist
o SOPHONISBA beat peace and put your mynde to rest

\[49\) Meikle adds ‘DOOLE,’.
\[50\) Meikle: ‘pansing’.
Your CARTHAGE hes be these our handis bene wrackt and ruined thryse
and at the thrid tyme all vpraisd and on the ground now lyiss
Bot quicklye she this spak agane shaw me this other thing
quhen AFRIK weipt did ITALYE than ather laugh or sing
For proove heirof cast ower your bookes and these your stories wryte
and they will shaw gif yow enquyre for thay of bothe Indyte
And thus our freind hir lowe also did smyling than depairt
and to the thikkest of the Troup thair stepps they did convert
So that these eyes these lights of myne that on thame gaised afore
through multitude evin of the press culd not behoulde thame more

Than as a man by doutfull wayes dois at adventure ryde
now standis now restis at euerye place and can not tell quhat syde
Or yit quhat way to turne him to bot looketh heir and thair
so that his doubtfull wandring thoughts his passage dois empair
Evin so the number of these men who captiwed went with lowe
did mak my going doubtfull slow whair evir I did mowe
And yit I had a more desyre and semed more content
To know how muche and through what fyre these lowers all wer brent
Quhair on my left hand I had espyed without the commoun way
evin one who dois resemble him who earnistlie dois pray
And cowittis things with greit desyre and in his suit hes sped
bothe blythe and blushinglie departs his former stepps to tred
Evin in suche sort I saw that king who gawe his loving wyiff
and chosen spous vnto his sone to lenght his lingring lyiff
O lowe o lowe in high degre / O courtesie most strange
O wounder greit more far agane to see hir in that change
And that excambion so content that she but blusht for ioy
this marching on they to thair troupe did then thame selfs conwoy 140
Conferring on thair sweit desyris bot sighing that she cost
The SYRIAN scepter and hir crowne and kingdome thairby lost

I drew me neir vnto these spreitts that wer about to stay
consulting how that thay might go and tak a nother way
And saying to the formest man that narest wes my syde 145
I pray the now maist instantaulye that thow wold me abyde.

fol. 11v
And he evin at the first resound of that my latine toung
with troubled face depaint with Ire vnto a musing doung
Restrained his stepps to know who cald and quiklie did dewyne
what wes my will and my desyre and so me answered syne 150
I am SELEUCUS heir with me ANTIOCHUS gois my sone
who had grit warrs against yow all and both by them vndone
Bot right nor reason contrar force hes nather rowme nor place
and this is she first wes my wyiff whome now my sone dois brace
Whome I did quyte and did resing to be his lauchefull wyiff 155
to free from death and chase away the danger of his lyiff
To whiche his lowelie hid desyris and closet secreit flame
conducted him. and so that gift wes lawchfull than but blame
STRATONICA she named is and so our chanse and lott
is as how seist indiuisible and by this sing the knott 160
Of this our long and lasting lowe is yit so tewche and strong
that no thing that can seperat which first was ws among

Schee was content to quyte to me the kingdome, I my wyiff
than my beloved deirlye spouss and he agane his lyiff

So warlye went he in his lowe so far by reason furth
that he more maid him so estemed of one and other wurth

And if it had not bene by skill by help and ayd discreit
of that expert physicien with practise full compleit

Who well espyed where lay the caus that did his helth doun ding

his youth evin in hir flowris had endit and finisht in hir spring

For he in scilence and in lowe did ryn vnto his death.

his feitt him failed his voyce was weik his powers lyfe & breath

FATES caused him lowe his VERTEW maid him hyde it to the end

and my paternall pietie the succour hes extend

Thus as he spak, than as a man that dois mak change for change

of hailsing others mutuallye dois boythe by other range

So at the end of these his words he turned his stepps and heill

that I with grit difficultie might bid him than fairweill

Than after that from these my eyes the shade away had gone

which wer with pittie heavie maid I sighing progres one

For that my hart from these words was not vnbound nor losted

bot reuthfullie remembered that which he to me disclosed

At last to me that tyme wes said thow standeth to to muche

vpone one thought indywers so and of varietie suche

fol. 12r

Whiche shortnes of the slyding tyme as thow to weill dois knaw
will not permit in large discourse that I thame to the shaw

Not XERXES to the seis of grece convoyed suche a band

of armed men by Nawall host as thair with thame did stand

Evin suche a trowpe of lowers all both nacked bound and tane

as that my eyes vnable wer to suche a sight sustane

They wer in toungis so different and of suche dywers landis

as scarslye I evin one can name of thousands led in bandis

So that the storye which I wryte and Poeme I compyle

sall be of these and thame a few whome I thair knew that whyle

AND PERSEUS first sall prease in place whose lowe maid me desyre

to knaw how that ANDROMEDA did sett his hart on fyre

And how in AETHIOPIA land that virgine blak of hew

did with his eyes and crisped hair him to his lowe subdew

Nixt him wes thair that lower vane quhose bewtye was his wrack

Who through to muche desyre wes quyte destroyed and all sackt

And onelie pwir maid by his welth and by abundance skant

and now transformed in a flour that seid and fruitt dois want

Besydis him was that ECHO nympe who for NARCISSUS cryed

whose corse wes changed in a stone and voyce in rocks was dryed

With hir wes Iphis in that rank so bent vnto hir deathe,

That hate hir selff for others lowe and reft hir self of breathe

And manye other damned soules condemmed to lyke pane

and in thair marche did all lyke cross and fortoun hard sustane

A pepill who through to muche lowe did lothe in lyfe lo liwe

through rigour of thair cairles dames whose pryde thame most did griwe
Quhair also I did thair perceawe of this our aige ane ost
whose names for to recount or tell wer work and labour lost

With thame wer those whome lowe hes maid Eternall marrowis two
Trew iust and fayifthful CEICE and constant ALCIO
Who at the border of the seis and at the shoers his syde
did bring thair nests evin at the best and calme of wintar tyd
Along from thame wes ESACUS who pansiwe thair did stand
and searching for EPERIA now sitting on the land
Than on the watrie floods agane and now to mount more highe
and SYLLA NISOS cruell chyld far from hir father flie

"fol. 12v"
Thair than I ATALANTA saw be aplies thrie of gould
and with the bewtye of a face ourcummed and controud
With hir, hir lower HIPPOmenes who far abowe the rest
of all that Troupe of lowers wer and wretched rinners best
Who only by his valeur did hir vowes and othes supplant
And Ioyfull of the victorie so marching on did vant

Among the faboulus lovers vane which poetts dois reherse
was GALATEA ATIS eik, and POLIPHEME so ferse
Who Atis slew whils as he did within hir bosome ly
and so with noyse and rumour greit these thrie than passed by
Thair GLAUCUS fleting on the wawes to enter in that band
but SYLLA whome he did desyre and with such zeale demand
And blameing CIRCE named her a lower fell and ferss
with them wes then these other two which OUID dois reherss

CANENCE with hir PICUS chaist sumtyme one of our kingis

bot now by CIRCE maid a fowle that chatters and not singis

Whose sorcerye did change him from his name and browdered robbs

for which hir weilbeloued lowe ay sighing waillis and sobbs.

I saw lykwise EGENAS teares and SCYLLA haif for bones

in place thairof a hard sharpe rock that sounds that rores and grones

And from hir name the crage so called so that vnito that sie

whair it is plaist dois ever grow greit shame and infamie

I also CANACE beheld who haveing in one hand

a fatal nacked sworde as did hir father hir command

And in his right a pen to wryte in doole and deip dispair

and to hir lower than hir lowe hir dolent deathe declair

With hir wes thair PIGMALION with him his dame did byid

and thousandis moe, who singing then wer at the fountanis syid

OF AGANIPP and CASTALIE. whear then I saw in end

CYDIPPE with that aples scorned ACCONTIUS did hir send.

Finis • 2 • cap.

fol. 13r

The thrid chapter of the first Triumphe of Loue.

SO MUCHE my hart wes then amaised so much of mervell full

that I thair stoode euен as a man that stupid stands and dull

And can not speik bot holdis his toung and lwikis if anye man
be neir of yit him round about to giwe him counsell than

When that my shaddow and my freind began thus for to say 5
quhat dois thow now quhat looks thow on quhairon thy thoughs dois stay

Knawis thow not weill that I am one evin of this troupe and band
whome lowe dois leade with whome I go that can not him with stand

Than answered I my brother deir thow best my state dois knaw
and als the lowe that in my breist dois to suche kendling grow 10

Whose force is suche that evin what thingis of the I suld require
togeather with suche lyke affairis ar stayid by greit desire

Than he thus spak agane and said alreddie I hawe knawen
thought thow through Silence speik no thing what thow woldest hawe the shawen

Sen thow wold know what folk be these and pepill thow hes spyed 15
I will the tell if to my toung the vse be not denyed

Behold that greit and glorious man so honoured of all
he POMPEI is that leidis with him CORNELIA with all

Who with hir salt and wattrye teares condooles his dolent death
which PTOLOME that vyld did caus through terrour more then wreath 20
He whome thow seis more farrer off is that greit valiant greik
conductour of the valiant ost. And heir EGISTUS eik

That murderer adulterer that poltroun paliard preist
This cruell CLYTEMNESTRA is that cruell godles beist

Be whome it may now weill be knowen and be thame we may fynde 25
if lowe inconstant be and vane / Incensat furious blynde
Bot yit behold yon other Dame of gretar fayith and lowe
that fayithfull HYPERMESTIA fair and so did LINUS prowede 

See PYRAMUS and THISBE both to stand the shadow by 

with HERO at the window and in seis LEANDER ly 

This shaddow that thow pansiwe seis is that VLISSES whome 
his chaistfull wyiff dois long exspect and prayeth to come home 

fol. 13v

Bot CIRCES that enchanteress through lowe dois him detane 

and dois empesh his fordwart stepps and maks him stay agane 

This other whome thow dois behold it is AMILCARS sone 

bold HANNIBALL who stoutlye did with the ROMANS conione 

Whome Rome thought not in manye yeares nor Italie might abaise 
yit hes ane abiect woman him of PULIA led in lace 

Sche that with hair both cutt and short dois follow so hir Lord 

was quene of PONTUS that for lowe dois now to this accord 

With servile clothis and suche attyre MITHRIDATES to serwe 

that in his Iornayis and conflicts from him did never swerwe 

This other Dame is PORTIA bould Brutus fayithfull wyiff’ 

that sharps hir sword hard by the coalis and ends by tham hir lyiff’ 

Thair also IULIA thow may sie that weped for hir spous 

for that vnto his second flamms he more Inclynes and bowes 

Now turne thyne ene and thame convwert vnto that other syde 

whair our greit father IACOB scorne ddoi with these folke abyde 

And yit for all that dois not forthink or mened from hir to swerve 

for whome with constant loyall lowe he twyse sevin yeres did serwe
O lywelie lowe O force most strange that dois not only lest
bot growis be greifs and alwayes Is by troubles more encrest
Behold the father of this man with him his guidshir toe
deeping from his duelling place and SARA lyk to doe
Than after lwik how cruell lowe and weked, DAUID wan,
enforcing him to do that work from whence he after than
Within a dark and secreit cawe withdrawing him a part
weipt for his faults and for his sinnis in anguish of his hart

Behold also how suche a mist and suche lyke darkned clwde
dois so obscure his sone his face and darknes owershruede
And cowet the praise of all his Witt and mak the sam the\textsuperscript{51} smored,
which publisht wes through all the world by our supernall Lord
Than AMNON spye whoe at one tyme did THAMAR lowe and hate
and how she Then to ABSALON hir brother did repeate
Disdanefull and maist dolorous the caus of all hir woe
his raging lust and hate agane his kyndnes to ourthroe
Before a litill thow may see one stronger more then wyse
I SAMPSON meane who with his wyiff did foolishly dewyse
And through hir clattering trifling tryes than she did than delair
did putt his heid within hir lappe that cutt away his hair

\textbf{fol. 14r}

Beholde also how that amangis so manye speares and swordis
LOUE SLEIP and als a wedow fair with manie plesant wordis

\textsuperscript{51} Meikle ‘be’.
And with hir cumlye cleenelye cheikis accumpaned with hir maid
hes killed holipherne the proude and vengeance him repayid
And thay returnyng to thair toun and in thair handis his heid
at midnyght gevin god the thankis to which thay haist with speid
See SICHEM and with him his bloode how that the same is mixt
with circumcisiuson and with death and with the slaughter nixt
OF bothe his father and all these that pisht aganis the wall
of force of lowe both strong and greit that maid such suddane fall
beholde ASSUERUS in what sort he begging seikis his lowe
that he in peace may heir possess and how he dois remowe
And so vnloose his former knottis and frie him of these bandis
that bound him fast I meane his wyiff that keipt not his commandis
And how that be ane other knott agane he hes him bound
whiche onle is the salve that may in contrare lowe be found
And all suche malice to efface, thair is no better thing
EUEN AS A WADGE ANE OTHER DOITH AND NAIL AND NAILL FURTH BRING

Now wold thow sie within one hart the bitter with the sweitt
and lothesomnes with lowe agane evin in one mynd to fleit
Behold HERODES cruell fearse of kyndnes full and rage,
whome lowe with crueltie and hate so long tyme dois assuage
Regaird how that the first dois burne and lye in fervent flame
and after how he gnawes52 hart in memorie of the same
And calling for his MARION which than dois not him heir
To late he now repented him of suche his rage sever

52 Meikle adds ‘his’.
Beholde agane these other thrie both good of lyfe and lowe

deidamia with arthemise and procris so did prowe

Now sie lykwys these thrie so curst and toucht with raging flame

semiramis with bibli sike and myrrha voyde of schame

how ewerye one of thame appeiris for shame to blush and stay

that thay can hawe no licence for to walk with tham that way

But for to tak the throwen streit and evin of that denyde

beholde that Troupe that fillis with dreames the papers on all syd.

Quhose workis dois mak the vulgar sort to reid thame and requyre

and vanelye through thair erring dreames so for thame haif desyre

fol. 14v

These ar the wandring loveing knights of arthurs table round

wheare geneure with hir lancelot with others may be found

As tristan with isota fair the king of cornuallis wyiff

And als that counte of aremine who lost for lowe thair lyiff

lord paul of matatestas hous and franshescina fair

in makking mone and sad lamentis and wailing marched thair

Thus as my freind and shaddow spak I at that tyme did stand

Evin as a man that is afrayid for ill that is at hand

And trembleth fast before he heir the Trumpet shaw his dome

and feilis his dolent deathe befoir the same by sentence come

So was my state evin at that tyme my face such cullour keipt

as one drawin furth evin of his grawe wherin he long did sleip

Quhen than with palish face and wan befoir me I espyde
a lywelye Nymphe more fairer than a dow stand by my syde
Who thair me twik and captiwe led and I who wold have sworne
to haif defended well my selff and men of armes ourborne
Was with the smyrcling of her eyes and smyling of hir face
and with hir plesant gratious words than snared in hir lace

As I was thinking on this thing and for the treuthe to shaw
My freind more nerer did approche and towardis me did draw
And lawghin rounded in my eare (whose laughter caused my wo
That at my losses he suld smyle) and thus began he so
Now hes thow licence for to speik evin quhat thow and pleis,
To shaw how lowe evin in his moode dois both the pane and eiss
Sen now we both saill in one bark and both one liquour lik
and bothe Together marked lyke, and touched with one pik
I Than becam as one of those who more is discontent
of others happ and better lwck and prosperous event
Than of my loss and haples chance and so more grewed wes I
when as I did the Dame me led in peace and fredome spy
And after as to late my loss and dommage I did knaw
so from the bewtye of my dame I maid my death to grow
For brunt with lowe and with his flame and with Inwy enrage
And IELOUSIE was than my hart which nothing culd asswage
Nor wold I turne my staring eyes away from hir fair face
bot as a man by feawers weakt so semed I in that cace
Who, thought he seik and feaverous be, yit hes a gredie will
FOR THAT WHICHE TO HIS TAIST IS SUEIT BOT TO HIS HELTH IS ILL
So that to anye other Ioy which more might glaid my mynde
my eares war deaffe and stopped bothe my eyes wer shutt and blynde
In following hir whose steppis me led by manie doubtfull pace
so that in thinking on the same I tremble yit allace

For ay since syne my eyes through teares wer on the ground fixt wak
my hart was sad and pansiwe ay the INS that I did tak
And solitarye resting place was then the wellis and woods
the fountanis rivers mountanis hillis the craggie rokkis and floods
Sensyne the papers and the scrollis which I haif sperst alwayes
with thoughts with teares with Ink to pen my panis and paint hir praise
Sometymes through lowe sometymes through wreath I forced was and spyte
to teare them all in peaces small and ower agane to wryte

Sensyne I know how lowe retanis within his cloyster now
DOUBT, DREID DISPAIR AND DEIP DISTRUST AND HOPE with constant wow
So that the man that weill wold knaw the feates and fruittis of lowe
the panis the plagues the lingring tymes that lowers hourlie prowe
Gif he can reade than lift his eyes vnto my forrett now
when he sall sie all these effectis fair writtin on my brow
And hir I sie so cairles walk that fair and gallant dame
not toucht with rewth for all my panis bot cairless of the same
And rekles bothe of them and me she taketh no account
now whither I sink or yit I fleit I fall or yit I mount
Sic graces now dois grow in hir such bewtye she dois shroude
that of hir vertew now she gois and of my spuilzei proude

And on the other part I spy and seis on other syde

evin lowe him self to stand in feare and from hir him to hyd 170

Although he winneth all the world he can not hir subdew

so that past hope of help am I nor lowe can mak reskew

In my defence thair none that standis no succour comes to me

and in my ayde no boldnes can nor force can make supplie

For lowe him self in whome I hoipe and confidence dois byde 175

whose custume is most cruellie to flyte if lowers hyde

And fleisch with myne thair skin from thame\textsuperscript{53} dalley with his dame

and flatteringlye carressis hir / yit cairis she not the same

Nor anye be that more or less may force yit or constrane

This R\textsc{AMMAGE} and rebelling mayde with lowe for to remane 180

\textit{fol. 15v}

Bot going be hir self allone, and frie from lowe his lace

with drawis hir from his enseinghe a long and distant space

And trewlye in his bewtye shee and in hir port and pace

and in hir smyles and high disdanis and in hir wordis and grace

Sche in this sort surpassis so compared with other dames 185

evin as the sun the litill sparkis excedeth be his flames

So fair appeiris hir hair to be that they do seme of goulde

all shaking softlye by the winde which dois thair tress vnfoulde

Her eyes lyke hevinlie lamps and lighs that so inflams my hart

\textsuperscript{53} Meikle adds ‘dois’.
that through thair grace I am content that they increas my smart

Quho can with hir behaviour and angelyke address

with maners meik and custumes high compair or yit expres

For he who would in poeme prase condinglie to report

hir vertewis deidis and glorious acts I think he suld come short

It far my learning dois surpass my wawering pen dois shake

my style my verse my voyce my phrase ar owerbass and wake

No pen can more depaint hir praise or yit aduance hir glore

than litill strandis the largest seis dois be thair course mak more

O thingis most new and never sene befoir vnto this day

nor more bot ones nor after sall thair glorye more bewray

It is a thing sall never be hir lyke sall never cume

and on hir vertew and hir grace all voyces salbe dume

So do I now finde my self now bound and she in fredome frie

and I exclaming in this sort O starr how gydis thow me

O cursed starr o fates vniust what thingis do ye portend

how chanseinth it that for my panis I rype no fruit in end

I day and night bewaillis my woe and ay dois call and pray

to hir quho cairis not for my moane nor yit to heir will stay

So that with grit difficultie with travell toyle and pane

I skarslye for ten thousand wordis can one obtane agane

O law seveir of Cupidis court yit thought it crooked be

and inderect yit must we all to follow it aggric

Becaus It is so ancient so vniuersall ould
that it conioyntes to the heavin earth so law & could
Whose potent power and strong effect not onlye men has proven
bot evin the Manhoode of the gods by it hes bene ourthrowen

fol. 16r

And now sen lowe hes me subdued I know and half espied
how that he does the hart of man far from his cors dewyid
And how he can gif pane and peace long lasting weirs with trewis
and doolefull tydingis to dispair and than more better newis
And how he forces outwardly men for to hyde thair woe
when Inwardly thair breistis brunt suppose it seeme not so
And how evin in one instant tyme the blwid in haist departis
and quiklye from his vanes dois rin and in his cheikis convertis
If so it chance that anye feare dois than his mynde posses
or shamefastnes constrane him blush or terour him oppres
I know how that the serpent lyis all hid within the floure
The snaris the girnis the nettis and baitts the loweris dois devoure
And also how he Ielous walkis and sleipis in dreid and doubt
suspecting ay his riwall foe by lowe shuld thrust him owt
I also know how this my lyfe dois languish by dispair
and how I dieing never die nor death can end my cair
I also know how for to trace the fitsteppis of my foe
and how for feare to find hir syne I stand in dreid than goe
I also know in quhat a sort and quhat a guyse so strange
the lingring lower in his lowe dois him transforme and change
And how among so longsome sighs and shortned smylingis I
can change my state my will and hew and cullour sone thairbye
And how to liwe and stand but lyfe when as my wofull hart
Is soundred from his spreit and soule her lyfliye vitall part
I also know how lowe hes led me in this danse this whyle
a thousand wayes and vane deceittis my selff for to beguyle
I also know how for to burne in following so my fyre
wheare it dois flie and how at hand so fresis my desyre
And farder of dois rage agane and burne in gretar flame
and nearer than how I congeall and fresis in the same
I also know how lowe dois bray and rout abowe the mynd
and how it dois all reasons moore and chaise vnto the mynd
I also know the dywers artis that lowe through craft dois vse
For to subwert the lowers hart and how him to abuse

fol. 16v

I know how that a gentle mynd is suddanlie disgraist
and how that be a litill Cord it stronglie Is vnlaist
When it is left vnto hir selff disarmed of reason than
and when none Is to mak defence aganis the lustis of man
I also know how luiff dois shutt and than dois flie away
how that he boastis and stryketh both and puttis all in a fray
I also know how that he rubbis and playis the theif perforce
how that he revis and spuilzeis all his pillage but remorce

And how instable is his wheill how doubtfull is his hoipe
how certan is his wrack and woe and how his course and scope
Is for to mak such promesis that ar of fayith dewoide
by which the trew and fayithfull hart is scorned and destroide
I also know how in his bonis the raging flam dois lurk
how in his vanis the hiddin hurt dois his consumption wurk
From whence dois cum his oppin death and fyre through smoakis exprest
that secreitlie in secreit did harbour in his breist

In end, for one conclusioun I know the lowers lyfe
to be inconstant wandring vane and full of sturt and stryfe
both feirfull and bothe hardye to and how dois lowe repay
the litill sweit with bitterness so long to lest for ay
I know thair custumes maners vse thair sighis thair gronis & song
thair brokken words thair suddane peace thair silence dombe and long
Thair shortest smylis thair long complaints thair teares thair grevous fall
thair pleasours with displeasour crosst thair honye mixt with gall.

Finis 3. cap.

fol. 17r

Quhen after that my fortoun had and lowe me forwards thrust
within ane others force and strenght and so had brought to dust
And cutt in two the vains and nervis and fredome of my will
and libertie which long tyme I frie remained still
Than I who was afore als frie and wyld as hony hart
was quiklyie tamed and sone subdued with litill pane and art
And brought to knaw the lukles lott and vnexspected chanse
with these my marrowis miserable whome lowe led in his danse
Than did I spye thair Trawell panis thair cummer and lament
The throwin wayes the crwiked lanis the paith and stratis they went 10
And be what art and labour they conducted thairto wer
quhair all that lowelie flok and troupe did then so wandring err
And quhillis I rold in ewerye syd my gasing restles ene
gif I culd spy thair any man whose fame so cleir hes bene
Be historeis of ancient tymes or Poems is our dayes 15
in which more late and recentlie included is his praise

I saw evin then fair ORPHEUS of him I first will tell
who onelie lowed EURIDICES and following hir to hell
Obtened his with him agane yit lost his than agane
and being deid yit callis on her with toung most could in vane 20
I ALCEUS saw so pregnant promp of lowe that culd indyte
And PINDAR with ANACREON that of the same did wryte
Who had thair muse thair rymes and verse all penned in behowe
OF CUPIDS court whose poems lay within the port of lowe
I VIRGILL saw and him about his brawe companions stwide 25
brawe poettis of ane high ingyne and of a mirrie mwide
Whose works this world so estemes. that they them first elect
extolling thame in highest praise and honorable respect
OUIDIUS with CORINNA caught and TIBULL PLANIA
PROPERTIUS who so whotlie song in praise of CYNTHIA 30
CATULLUS also thair I spyed whome LESBIA led in lowe
with hir that lerned SAPHO greik that passionis lyke did prow.
Resounding with hir noble voyce with Poettis who wiw\textsuperscript{54} thair hir swetest songs and shew hir style to gallant be and raire

So lwiking heir and thair agane to this and to that syid vpone ane flowrye plesant grene I quiklye than espyid A pepill speiking on to walk and reasoning as they went and so I saw than first appeir evin DANT incontinent With BEATRICE SELUAGGIA nixt and CIN OF PISTOI bred and GUIDO OF ARESSO was with thame in that trowpe led That semed for to be displeased and angrie malcontent that he was not thair first with lowe and formest with him went With them two other GUIDOS wer and those of SCICILIE and that gude natured BOLONNESE a honest man was he SENNICIO with FRANCESCHIN thair lykwyse did tham shaw the gentlest men and courtesest that evir men did knaw And after such a sort of folk In vulgar clothis I spyed and habittis of suche strange attyre that marched on that syd Amongst them first they wer in preiss ARNALDO DANIELL a maistir gritt in CUPIDS court that did in lowe excell Who yit dois by his plesant speiche and his Inventionis new renown his native countrye soyle by these thair sight and vew Thair also was whome lightlye lowe with litill pane ourcame on PETER, and ARNALDO. wes the other of less fame Thair also was these sort of men subdued by gretar war two of one name ROMBALDI cald that song in mountferrar

\textsuperscript{54} Meikle: ‘wer’.
Vpon thair Dames fair BEATRICE with him GIRALDUS loe

and aged PETER of Averne with him was FELCHETTO

That gaue the name to MARSEILS toun and did from GENIS awfer

and changed his countrye clothes and state and better had for war

GIAUFRE RUDD also was who more through lowe than wreath

did vse the speid of saillis and ores to speid his fereth death

And also thair that WILLIAM was who with this lowers songs

dois frie his name from all decay that muche his praise prolongs

AMERIGUS and BERNARD to and HUGO with ANSELME

and thousand moe who vsed ther toungs for lanss, sword, bukler, helme

And now since it is semelie that my dollour I dewyd

I haue conwert my daseled eyes all weryed to that syd

Wheare I haif spyd my fayithfull freind good THOMAS that dois grace

BELONGNA toun with lasting fame, and makis his praise encress

fol. 18r

And by his songs and sonetts so MESSINA makis to grow

more fatt in praise and ratcher more and more in brawer show

O FLEING SUEIT! O FAIDING Ioy! O WERYED PANEFULL LYFE!

who is it that dois vnto me procwre this sturt and stryfe

Who is it hath than tane from me my freind and onelie Ioy

who quiklye now befoir his tyme dois him to grawe conwoy

But whome and but whose cumpanye such now is my mishapp

that I can nather space nor pase not forther go a stapp

Well now I knaw which thing I might haue better knownen afore

how that the lyfe of mortall men whairin so much we glore
And lyketh in the same to liue is but a stage of noyes
a seik mans dreame or foolis conceat and fable full of toyes

I was a litill sumwhat furth owt of the vulgar way
when Socrates and Lelius did first thame selfis bewray
With thame it me behowed than to walk and farder go
and searche for leirning in their workis and for thair scyence know

O what abundance of my freinds with vertew so decord
wes led at that Triumphant chair whose gifts non can record
Whose ornat talk and eloquence nor witt can none reherse
in facill prose in loftye style in ryme and staitlye verse
And with these two I walking went and searched dywers wayes
to thame I opned wp my plaintis and hurt my hart assayes
From thame no nather tyme nor place sall evir me dewyde
bot as I wish to do I hoipe with tham so long to byde
Vnto the last gaspe of my breath and never to reteir
vntill the Cynders of my corsso be burned on the pire
For with these two I hawe obtened that glorious laurell bough
which dois the Tempills of my heade environ and my brow
Whiche hes perchance befoir the tyme my forrett so bedeckt
in mynde of hyr whome yit I lowe and dois so muche respect
Bot yit of hir whose praise I paint and fillis my hart with thought
I never culd get branche nor leaffe which I with service sought
Nor anye pleasour culd obteane so stable wes the rwit
and so vniust to which she leaned that I culd rype no fruitt
From whense althought sumtymes my greiff and grevous doole did ryse as his who hes ressaued offence to stay his interpryse
Yit she on whome my eyes did gase so rewled and ranged my will that now no more I do regrait that she refused me till
A mater swir of stately style and of heroicall verse
To which no dolts nor ignorantis can yit attane or perse.

Nor yit suche Poets of suche stuff of base and vulgar ryme may well conceawe how I did see CUPIDO tane that tyme
But first to tell I will proceid and first I will recount how lowe so leading ws in linkis did so ower ws surmount
Than after this I sall furth shaw what he of hir sustaned and how my Dame did vanqueish lowe and all his artis disdaned
This work and subiect is not myne nor only maid by me bot long before by ORPHEUS pend and HOMER semes to be.
Than followed we the noyse and sound of CUPIDS purple penns and of his fleing horss that ran through thousand dykis & denrs
And through a thousand hillis and daillis at last in end we came vnto his mothers countrie whair soiorned then that dame
And in whiche way whair we through brayes through brearis & busses went through montanis medowis hillis and wooddis our chaines did not relent
Nor yit wer we vnloused of thame but hurlet meinyeit riwin as none of ws knew whair he was nor wist how he wes drewin

Beyond whair that EGEUM sea dois sigh and murne so oft thair lyes ane Ile delectable more plesant plane and soft
Than anye vther Ile that is bothe wett and washt with see or warmed with the SUNNYE beames or yit enflammed be
In midst thairof thair is a hill of shaddow full and greene with sawour sweit and fragrant sent with water sweit & clene Whose vertew is and whose effect to tak owt of the mynde all sad and pansiwe blottis & markis that hes with greif it pynde
This is the land wherwith so much fair VENUS is content Which consecrat was to that QUENE that tyme be mens consent Whillis as the treuth was lying hid and veritie vnshowen and chrystist his incarnatioun was not reweilled nor knownen And yit albeit this day it be of vertew leane and bair yit dois it holde and it retenis some custumes keiped thair That seames to these whose reasoun lowe & vertew dois exclude both pleasant sweit and verye douce and bittar to the gude

Thair than Triumphed ower ws that souerane gentle lord and caried at his golden chair thair coupled in a cord These whome he twik in circling so the world round about Evin from the Inds to Thule Ile the westmest part without Thair in that place he did expose his spoyle his pray and gane and from his bosome pulled furth the LOUERS thoughtis most vane He had thair VANITIE in his armes thair SUDDEN fleing Ioy thair constant woe thair solide greiff thair stable firme anoy

fol. 19r

Thair roses gathered in that tyme when wintaris blast dois boast
Thair Ice evin\textsuperscript{55} on the hatest dayes at Midsommer thair froist

He also had before him than DISTRUST and doutfull hope

and bakward on his shulders than agane he caryed bound with rope

Repentance with displeasour sore and anguish with anoy

most lyke the same that wes in Rome & in the waisted Troy

The valley quhair this Triumphe was with mormour did rebound

off watters brookes of Birdis and fowles that gaif a clamorous sound

Whose bankis wer all imbroudered with flouers of variant hew

some whyte some grene and some agane red yellow & some blew

And thair besydis cleir riwers from so lywelie fountanis ran

whair than vpone the colde freshe herbis the SUNN to shyne began

Thair also was a shaddow thick of Treis both high and fair

owt of the which than did cum owt a sweit and breathing air

And after when the wintar tyd dois mak the seasoun coulde

yit thair the SUN so dois his flames most temperatlie vnfoulde

And so dois mak the place and ground and meits almost lew warme

and through a Idilnes all slow the simple hartes incharme

And as that place so wes the tyme and seasoun than I say

quhen as the AEQUINOCTIAL lyne dois victor mak the Day

And when that PROGNE laughs and chantis and dois at morning spring

returning to hir sister than on thair lowers to sing

O TRUSTLES STAY, O STAYLES FAYTHE of all our chanse and lott

for to resist or to withstand that lord It vailed nott

within that place that seasoun tyme and in that instant hower

whaire lowe required ws from our eyes at larger dew to power

\textsuperscript{55} This word in the manuscript is half erased.
He in that hour that place and tyme whome vulgar dois adore
wald than Triumphe in chariot bright as vittor full of glorie
So thair I saw what service he and servill death dois prowe
and to what vengeance is he brought that is infect with lowe
And sen the tyme and place is shown so will I now declair
which things war than plaist round about his high Triumphant chair
FIRST ERROR nixt DELUDING DREAMES and deadlie SHAPES and paill
And FALSE OPINION at the Port That dois ower myndis prewaill
Than SLIPPER HOPE and Slyding trust wes in the ladder stapps
and DAMNED GANE with gaining lost that castis men in mishapps
The nature of the Greis was suche that they that highest went
The lawer and the deiper doun agane was thair dissent
Than WERYED REST was on the heigh and thair repose in pane
with oppin shame and glore obscwre and duskish did remane

fol. 19v

VNFAITHFULL FAYTHE DISLOYALL LOWE and othes bot trew in shaw
SOLISTFULL FURYE MADFULL CAIR and reasoun sweir and slaw
Tuix these a preiss it was to which we cam by oppin way
but narowlie with straitnes pane our owtgait did assay
The steps thairof and entries\textsuperscript{56} was both downward sliding quik
the passage owt and going furthe wes high and rair vnthik
Within wes all confusioun and trouble mixt with noy
a fray of Certen Woe and doole and of incertan Ioy
These Illis did never broyle so fast nor bray in burning rage
of VULCAN ishia lppari whose flams non can asswage

\textsuperscript{56} Meikle: ‘enteres’.
Nor STROMBOLIS with AETNA mount MONTGIBELL cald by name
as did that place and presoun strong combur in burning flame.
So that I think he hates him self and less him self dois lowe
that would be practise know that yok and by his perrell prowe.

Within that Cage and dungeoun dark, that preasoun stark & strong
we captiuat wer prisoneris and thair enclosed long
Wheare that my hairis and wonnted flight wer turned be tymes ecclips
and vnto pailnes all the fresh and rudenes of my lipps
So that my soule so toucht with cair for that hir fredome past
which greit desyre makis prompt and light was conforted at last
When as it spyed (thought but in dreme) these thingis so hard & strange
coequall with my state and plagis and so go in thair change
Bot vewing thair so manye spreittis which in that pitt did wun
my piteous hart did melt lyke snow so sett against the Sun
And lyke as one who in short tyme dois vew sum picturis long
wherin ar draught and variant lynes and storeis tham among
With one fwte fordwart goeth on / yit after with his Ee
dois backwart lwkt with better sight the more to mark and see
Evin so did I thair cast my eyes and roll thame round about
the more perfytlie for to vew that band agane and rowt.

Finis Triumphi amoris.

fol. 20r

The Seconde Triumphe called the Triumphe of chastetie.
When then I saw evin at one tyme and in the self same place
the courage dantound of the gods whome lowe did so deface
And lykwise with these gods evin those who mortall men wer cald
and to the world did liwe lyke Sants subdewed all and thrald
By thair estait and guiltie fall I did example tak
and by thair losses and thair harmes this proffeit did I mak
So thairbe confort cam to me which eased of me of my woe
when as I spyed me tred that trace when gods and men did go
For thair I saw and did beholde fair PHOEBUS full of glore
with CUPIDS bow and with his dart lye strukned verye sore
With him also that lustie youthe LEANDER HEROS lowe
the one a god the other a man, and so his death did prowe.
I lykwise saw within one snair with IUNO DIDO led,
who for the woe hir husband deid hir vitall blood furth shed
Not as the publict voyce dois bruit or commoun fame dois tell
becaus AENEAS went his way and would not with hir duell
Thus seing than wherfore suld I regrett or yit lament
or yit bewaill my fredome lost or yit seme malcontent
Yf now I be by lowe ourcum whils as I wes but armes
young rekles and not well adwyised vnwar of all my harmes
Or wherfore suld I than complane if LOUE and not my lowe
or might not mak my freindlie foe his puissant power prowe
Nor yit haif I iust caus of doole that thair I saw agane
lowe in habit naked spoyld so pwrelie thair remane
Berewed of his feddered wings, and spoyled of his flight
though sorrow maid me to complane for to behoulde that sight
And thus when Cupid sone espyed Evin as wyld Lyons two
with roring rumour other beasts in rage rancounters so
Or as two thundring thunderbolts doun dingeth heir and thair
all thingis, they find whair ever they light in heavin earth and air
No otherwyse I Cupid spayed adres him to my dame
with all the argumentis he might hir to his yok reclame
Bot shee vpone the other part against him did proceid
with swifter courss so that she past both wind and fyre through speid
No gretar sound more terrible did Aetna mountane mak
evin at that tyme Enceladus the giant it dois shak
Nor Scylla with Charibdis, seis so ragis in thair Ire
that day nor night thair sturdie stormes dois ather waist or tyre.

fol. 20v

Than wes evin at the first conflict for to be sene and hard
so full of doubt wes that assault it can not be declaird
Than euerie man retired him self vnto the highest place
the better for to mark and vew who in that cruell cace
And interpryse so horrible victorious maist suld be
with hart and eyes of Plaster maid such success for to see

This conquerour who first did prease to giwe the first on sett
did tak in his right hand his dart in left his bow did gett
Than for to put my dame in fray and in a gretar feare
he had alreddye bended It and drawin it to his eare
And this did he so hastelie that not the flying hart
more spedelie to foord and wood his course dois so convert

Persewed by the Leopard discharged of his chane

or yit that in the wydest woodis in fredome dois remane

Yea they had both bene Late and slow thair in respect of lowe

who with his visage full of flams did fast him fordwartis mowe

Thair might be sene within my breist which all wes set in fyre

a sore conflict and doubtfull feyght tuix pitie and desyre

Desyre me mowed for to desyre that lowe suld victor be

and that my dame by him subdewed I might my marrow see

Bot Pittie than di
did pleade remorse and caused me say agane

It pittie war, and hard to sie My LAURA so lye slane.

Yet vertew that dois neuer from the Verteous folke estrange

evin at that instant shaw hir self that she dois never change

Nor yit thame leawe who trustis in hir thought sum thairbe hir blame

from whome she hes hir self withdrawen to ludge them nixt thair shame

Was never suche a scrimeur than so able war and quik

for to awaird or to eshew the blow the stogg and prik

Was neuer Mariner so prompt nor so reddie a hand

To turne the shipp furth of the rokkis and from the sinking sand

Thair was my Ladie LAURA fair who with a bould defence

with honestie and shamefastnes did lett his high pretence

Sche suddenlye hir visage fair did from his strykes so hyde

That she both sharpe and egerlie did lowis assaults abyde

I was that tyme with eyes attent and bent for to behoulde

the succes and the end of this greit feyght and battell boulde
And hoping that the victorie suld fall on Cupids syid
whair it is wonnt and not from Lowe hir self dois oft dewyd
And in this hope I so became than through to muche desyre
evin as a man vnmeasurablie who dois sum thing requyre

*fol. 21r*

And⁵⁷ first his suit first putt in writt or he to speik begin
And in his eyes and forrett hes his toung and talk within
I would I say O thow my lord if thou me worthie think
that with this Dame if thow ourcum I chaned wer and link
Feare not I swerwe from thy impyre or yit my self sall frie
furthe of these knottis wharwith thow hes so bund and coupled me
Whils thus I spak and this did say I saw my dame agane
with face depainted full of Ire and full of proude disdane
Demeur within hir countenance sad sober and so grawe
that no man is to shaw the same or able to conceawe
Althought his wittis wer singular and almost all dewyne
how than can I the same display that is of base ingyne
For thair it might hawre weill besene CUPIDOIS golden darts
that kendled wer in fyrie flams and waisted so mens harts
Through outwart blast of beautie brawe with honestie quyte quñainshed
and through the coldnes of my dame his ardent pleasouris stanched
So greit hir mynde and courage was with valeur of the same
that nather was the VOLSIAN QUENE nor AMAZONIAN dame
That did support the TROIANIS and the GREIKIS of lyfe bereft
and vshed ay for to combat and shute ay with the left

⁵⁷ Meikle notes that the catchword is ‘Hes’, and decides to substitute it to ‘And’.
In anye point of worthines with LAURA to be compared
whose valeur far surpast thame bothe that I afore declared
Not CAESAR great that worthye wight who in PHARSALIA feild
defaited POMPEI with his host and maid him to him yeild
Wes neuer so scharpe nor ardentar or bouldar on his foes
than was my dame in contrare him who dois all armour lose

With hir than armed wer at ones evin all the verteus faire
o what a hevinlie cumpanie and glorious troupe was thaire
Thay progresst so in this thair pompe and braue triumphant band
all pair and pair and two with two and marching hand in hand
Vpoun the vanguard thair wes plaist high HONESTIE that dame
with shamefastnes who trimlie did conduct and guyde the same
Two noble vertews of great praise and in thame selfs dewyne
which maid my ladie LAURA fair abowe the rest to shyne
WITT than with MODESTIE ensewid and wer thair neighbouris nixt
DELYTE and GOOD BEHAUIOUR, who in her wer fixt;
Than PERSEUERANCE marched on and GLORYE cam behind
ENTREATIE fair with GOODE ADUYSE of ane forseing mynd.
And round about that valiant dame they wer in midle guarde
RARE COURTESIE AND CLENELINES for which sche muche ay cairde

fol. 21v

Than FEARE OF SCHAME, DESYRE OF GLORE and thoughts in youthfull age
and CONCORDE RARE (within this world) all rancour to assuage
In ARIREGUARD TREW CHASTETIE and BEUTYE braue did go
and in this sort my ladie fair went to hir feighting so
Against that souerane lord of LOWE with full intent to win
with fauour of the heavinis and all the blissed sowlis thairin
And as my eyes vnable war thair fulnes to behoulde
so is my toung the meanest part thairof for to vnfoulde

Thair saw I this cleir cumpanie from lowe and from his bandis
a thousand thousand famous sonnes spoyle by thair spyling handis
And shake and stryfe furth of the same with victors voyce and psalmes
a thousand thousand branches brawe of cleir victorious Palmes
That sudden fall and ouerthrow was never than so strange
To ANNIBALL that victor long who did the ROMANIS range
And sextene yeares in ITALIE did brangill thair estait
and in the end by SCIPIO was vanqueist and defait
Nor yit that GIANT GOLIATH with feare was more abasht
when that the HEBREW chyld his branes and head with stones had dasht
No CYRUS more astonished when that wedow came
and killed him and all his route with lasting glore and fame
As than that tyme appeared LOUE who stoode evin in that place
resembling him who now is whole but in a litill space
Is suddenlie in seiknes brought with wonder is amased
to sie his weilfair and his helth so suddanlie vpraised
Or evin as one who touchte for doole for thingis he not forsees
dois with his handis bothe wype and rubb sham furth owt of his eyes
LOUE evin so did thair remane yea in a worser state
for all hisforcis and his folkis wer brawelie thair defait
Thair might be sene than in his face both dollour dreid and feare
and at one traitt both shame and yre and anger greit appeare
The stormye seis not ragis so when they so angrye grow
and by thair contrare wyndie tydis thair bordouris dois ourflow
Not yit that LE INARIME which lyes on Tipeus bake
which he with boyling fowing rage and panefull pane dois shake
Nor yit MOUNTGIBELL brayeth so when that ENCELADUS sighs
And brusteth furth his rageing sobbs from bouldned breast & lighs
As lowe did than both chawfe and rage and sighinlie did plane
To sie him self and all his folkis discomfited remane

fol. 22r

Thus passed this greit cumpanie so glorious in thair trane
that for to tell thair valiancie my toung I must restrane
I am vnable that charge to tak lest I thair praise impair
I thairfoir turne vnto my Dame and to the rest wer thair

Sche had that tyme vpone hi r bak a glorious gowne of whyte
and in hir hand That CRISTALL targe that wrought medusa spyte
And in the same a Piller was erect of IASPAR stone
wherin a chane of DIAMANTS wer placed one by one
And Topassis mixt in the midst which virteus dames did vse
bot now no more they keip that vse sen they them selfs abuse
Thair saw I hir before my ene so fast CUPIDO tye
and plaging him so cruellie whair he did vanqueist lye
That suirlie than it semed to me the vengence to to muche
bot yit I wes content thairwith and thairat did not grucht
My wittis ar waik my MUSE to slow and slender my ingyne
To pen the number of these Dames and virgins maist dewyne
Nor CLIO with CALLIOPE and all these of that sect
be able what these ladeis wer to shaw or yit detect
Off manye yit few sall suffice and of these will I tell
who on the TOPP of HONESTIE and dignitie did duell

Amangs the number of these Dames that staitlie thair did stand
was fair LUCRETIA first in place and keped the right hand
To whome PENEOPE wes nixt who by hir force and might
bespoyled lowe of all his armes and of his winged flight
And reaving from that froward lord his quawer bow and darts
they crusht they brust they threw and brake tham in a thousand parts
Than nixt approchte VIRGINIA with hir father ferse
armed with disdane and pietie and with a blaid to perse
And wound his chaistlie dochters breist which bothe to hir and Rome
brought change of state and by hir death thair fredomes both did come

Than afterwart the GERMANE DAMES marcht fordwart in that band
who for to sawe thair chastetie did in thame selfis putt hand
JUDITHA chaist that Hebrew dame and wedow wyse and stronge
wes with these other daintie dames triumphing thame amonge
Nixt hir that brawe courteous dame that HIPPO heght by name
To sawe hir body ondefylit and frie hir selfff from shame

Did with a valiant worthy mynde hir hard mishapp to sawe
that to hir chaist and cumlie corss she maid the sea hir grawe
With hir and other blissed Santis I saw Triumphe in glory
my Dame and Lowe who ouer the world had first Triumpht before

Amangs the same I thair perceawed the VESTALL virgine chaist
fair THUCIA who falslie wes by Infamie disgraist
Who for to purge hir of the same this miracle did giwe
she brought from Tiber floode to church furth water in a siwe
And after hir HERSILIA that brawe SABINIAN dame
whose worthines dois euerie booke and storye furth proclame
With hir was these hir countrye maids whome Romanis through defait
had rawishit to be thair wyiffis for to prolong thair state
And thair amangis these strangeris alss I hir did thair espye
that for hir fayithfull loveing spous did tak hir death thairbye
Lat then\textsuperscript{58} the vulgar people peace It DIDO is I say
who for the doole of SICHEUS death she put hir self away
Thought VIRGILL wryte and publict bruit by AENEE do hir shame
It was but cair of honestie that poust hir to the same
And in the end thair prest in place one who did hir enclose
within a place at ARNO syde bot she hir tyme did lose
For what she would effectuat and purpose bring to pass
his honest thoughts and chaistfull mynde by force impeached was

This valiant and victorious band went fordwart in that tyme
when that the wintar waxed hote and spring was in his pryme

\textsuperscript{58} Meikle: ‘then’.
And so they all past joyfullie togeather in that way
wheare that the saltish watrie wawes dois brek on bayas bay
And so they walked on a pace and towards the right hand
they marched on till they did come vnto that solide land
from whense betuix these mountainis two of BARBARE and AUERNE
they progresst on till they did come vnto SIBILLA derne
And further of they passed on vntill LINTERNO fort
in which so solitare a place that great man did resort
And chiften brawe who hes his name from Aphrica with prayse
for that he was the first who thair did by his sworde mak wayes
Who did not thair in anye sort diminishe or abate
by his renoun and purchest glore the newnes of thair state
Bot with his eyes most plesantlye thame pleased with Mirrie cheir
AND SHEE THAT WES MAIST CHAIST IN LYFE MOST FAIREST DID APPEIR

fol. 23r
In others pompe It would him grewed so in thair bandis to walk
who onelye was (gif mens beleiff be not in vane and talk)59
The onelye man born to Truimphe and thairto to aspyre
and onelye bred to countreis win and conquess ane Impyre
Whair after they and all arrywed vnto that souerane toun
and first vnto that holye church so famous by renoun
Which CHAIST SULPICIA had erect and to that end did frame
to quensht within the mynde of man all mad and rageing flame
And after they thair progress maid vnto that church whose name
Is CHASTETIE that honorable and maist renouned Dame

59 Meikle closes the parenthesis here. It remains open in the manuscript.
Who kendleth in a gentle hart chaist will and high desyre
Not of the vulgar sort bot such as vnto praise aspyre

Quhair in that church that Glorious dame did all hir spoyle expose
before that goddes godlie feitt and thair lykywyse depose
Victorious leawes and sacred Palmes which she before had tane
and reft from lowe that to hir glore the same might thair remane
Thair was with hir that TOSKANE YOUTHE SPURINNA heght by name
that Maigled had his visage fair for to eshew defame
Whose Bewtye was of such great force all wemen to subdew
that they wer win all to his lowe at his first blinke and wew
Thair did that youth with LAURA fair display and did vnhyde
his bloodie wondis and magled cheikis with CHASTETIE to byde
With hir compered manye moe whose names my Guyde did knaw
and at the tyme of Thair Triumphe he did thame to me shaw
Who did dispysce CUPIDOIS force and power in that band
And whome amongs fair HIPPOLITE and IOSEPH iust did stand.

Finis Triumphi Castitatis

fol. 23v

The thrid Triumphe of Deathe.
Cap. i.

THIS STATELIE braue and weill disposed this gallant glorious Dame
that is a naked spreit and peace of earth within the same
Who sometymes was the Pillar heigh the fortrest full of store
of Valeur and of worthines returned bak with glore

Moist Joyfullie from these hir wayes triumphing over hir foe

that all the world dois with his craft and his desait ourthroe

And not with other armes or strenght this foe she hes subvert

than with a visage fair and mylde and with a chaistly hart

With thoughts most poore with speache most wyse with langage most discreet

that ay wer freindis to honestie with shamefastnes repleit

A wounder great it wes to sie a thing bothe strange and rare

the armes the bow the shafts of lowe for to ly brokned thair

And round about him to aspye sa manie thair lye slane

with manye captiwed presoners that did in lyfe remane

This Ladie with hir chosen folk bak makking thair retrait

from hir Triumphant victorie marched vnder clothe of stait

In number few hir people were this is no strange to heir

BECAUS THAT TREW AND SOLIDE GLORE IS SEILDOME SENE APPEIR

Yit everie one who wes with hir deserued worthie praise

in historie in lofye verse in statelie style and phraise

At that tyme was thair Enseingie within a feild of grene

ane ERMIND whyte depainted was all lyllie whyte and clene

Whose nek did beare a TOPAS chane insert with fnest gold

To witnes weill that puritie which they did alwayes hold

No humane pace nor earthlie stepps thair walking was & trace

bot hevinlie all and all thair wordis wer full of hevinlie grace

O blist be these weill be these blist and happie thryse agane
that to such destine creat be and such good fate sustane

As Twinkling starris they all appered in midst a Sun of light
decoring thame evin with these beames which daisled not thair sight

fol. 24r

Thair headis with garlandis wer bedect of reid incarnat rose
with violes of brawest hewis and flouers of brawest chose
And as a noble gentle hart great glorie dois obteane
so did this Ioyfull cumpanie with Ioy eache fitsteppe trane

Quhen then I saw evin suddanelie a banner borne of blak,
and in the same of that same hew a furious woman shak
Sad paill obscure and sensles shee appeared alace to me
with fureis wrapt and fureis wore at that tyme seamed shee
The sight heirof so hideous was as skairstlye I can tell
gif suche a sight at PHLEGIA was when that The Giantis fell

Than did this greizelie ghaislie ghaist addres hir to me dame
with trotting trace and haistie voyce did call hir by hir name
O Ladie fair, that so dois go decord with youthe and grace
and dois not knaw of this thy lyfe the fixed terme and space
I she am she that importune and Cruell cald by yow
who ar a people deafe and Blind and makis all creaturis bow
Who fearfullye dois all arrest evin be my force and might
that shortis the day and haistis before or evening come the night
I she am she that hes conwoyed the GREIKIS vnto thair end
the TROIANS and the ROMANS to I haif maid to descend
Within thair dreidfull grave and tombe be this my fatall brand
that sheares and slayes that prikis and cuttis and killeth owt of hand
With manye other people moe both Barbar gross and strange
arryving first before they know thair lyfe for death to change
Ransakking all thair pansiwe thoughts long ludged in thair mynde
and brakking doun thair vane conceattis to death they haif declynede
And now to yow when yow must list to liwe in lyfe so long
I do adres my deidlie course with deadlie Dart and strong
Before dame fortoun with his wheill in sum vnhappie houer
with luckles happ ourcross your hope and mixt your sweit with souer

Than answered sh
she who was within. this world onlye one
thow hes not in these cumpaneis no right nor reasoun none
Thow may in me far less pretend bot gif that thow wilt haiff
the onelye spoyle is that thow shalt my corss conwoy to graiff
Bot thair is one who sall hawe more displeasour be my deathe
for in my weilfair and my helth depends his lyfe and breathe
It sall to me most thankfull be / from this world to goe
which is the Port of Miserie and harbrough for our woe

fol. 24v

Than as a man who bendis his eyes on vncouthe things & new
and seing thame more than first he spyeth far vtherwayes ensew
With wounder is astonished, and than him self dois blame,
so dois this ferse and cruell Death with wounder pause for shame
And as be chance she mused awhyle these words at lenth she spak
I know the tyme wherin my teith ar drest to spoyle and sak
So afterwart with calmie face less vglie than before
she thus began to speik O dame adorned so with glore,
That dois conduct this chaistlye band yit though thow hes not knowen
my poysned shafts and deidlie dartis which many hes ourthrowen
if to my counsell at this tyme thow bothe gif trust and eare
what I enforse is for the best and so it sall appeare
Ould harie lothesom crooked age I far from the sall chase
with all the cairis and fashereis that dois with age recrease
I am resolwed and purposed now suche honour the to doe
Sawe the to none was never before such fauour shawin vnto
Thou shalt exchange thy lyiff for death thy spreit sal part but feare
no sorrow thairby sall thow feill Nor dollour sall the deir
This earthlie Sant this spak agane evin as it pless the lord
that standis in heavin to rewll from thence all thingis in gude accord
Who gowerneth all this vniuerss and reullis this massiue round
do he to me and in suche sort as other folkes hes found
Thus as she spak then suddanlie behold the spacious place
was quiklye with deid bodeis filled whom death did so deface
The number was so hudge and greit as none culd hawe tham pend
suppose he shuld in prose and verse thame prease to comprehend
OF INDIA CATAIA with MARRACOS and of Spane
of all these people wes the midst replenisht with the plane
The lowest partis and hollow place the multitude vpfilled
whom death with longer tract of tyme had cruellie so killed
Thair was these men whom men most cald most happie & most blist
Triumphant kings and emperors and Popes whose feet men kist,
who now lies spoyle of their Pompe and skant dois plague their pryde
and poorer are then beggaris be who oft for crommes hes cryed
Now tell me than whair is their wealth whear is their glorie great?
whair ar their Gems and pretious stones and Sceptaris of estait
Whair ar they now whair ar they gone whair ar their princelie crownis
whair ar their forked myters now whair ar their purple gownis
O wretched he and Miser more that fixis so his trust
on mortall things to which all men that mortall be hawe lust

**fol. 25r**

But who is he that does not so? yit they salbe in end
with reasoun justlye scorned and scuft that to that course did tend
O blinded folk to toss yow so what Ioy can yow befall
vnto your mother ould yow must returne bothe one and all
And than your titillis and your stylis sall so obscured lye
that yow sall all forgotten be none sall yow hawe theirbye
Than tell me now for what effect do yow youre cair intend
although one gane for thousand panis do to yow ryse in end
Who does not see all is vane a folye flatt exprest
or what awaillis that be your force suche countreyis be posest
Which ar not yours and Tributare to mak the strangeris sole
with dommage of your corpss and soule that for your sinnis sall thole
Or after perrebellous interpryse bothe bloodye vane and wrong
to purchess land be loss of bloode that dois yow not belong
Or yit to muk and gather gold and so your handis defyle
It better for your soules had bene to liwed with breid this whyle
And water more had yow beseamed, rough treis and brittill glass
had more besett than Gems and gould in which your glorie wass
Bot now will I draw in my saillis and to my purpose Turne
which is the subject of my woe that makis me so to murne

So when I say the houer was come Alace that latter houer
of that hir short and glorious lyfe which death did so dewouer
Wherein she must that doubtfull pace and passage than assey
whereof the fearfull world standis in dreid and in a fray
Thair cam a troupe of valerus dames a band so chaist and fair
To sie if this fair ladie lewed or deathe hir lyfe would spair
About hir bed they gathered thame to mark and vew the end
To which bot ones bot no more oft, must all inclyne and tend
As all his freindis and nighbouris neir, hir bewtie did behould
death rooted wp and did dissolue hir hair as fyne as gould
So that the choisen fairest flouer that is this world did sprout
death fouly to the worldis disgrace did rywe and pull it owt
Nor for to hate nor yit Envye that he to it did beare
but that in thingis most excellent his pouer might appeare
Sore sad laments and sparpled teares deip sighs and reuthfull cryes
was thair amongs these wemen all that rave to reuth the skyes
O what a hart brek was it to see these eyes so fair and bright
for which I manye a Sonet maid to lose thair lucent light
Betuix sa manye scalding sighs and havie layes of woe
betuix sa manye shrilling shotts, and sobbis in number moe

fol. 25v
That hevinlie Dame that Ladie fair did peacelye sit but bruit
and of hir vertewis deidis did rype the glorious gane & fruit 150

O mortall goddes go thou hence in peace dois thou depairt
so said the people who wer thair with sad and murnfull hart
Quhat sall be cum or yit befall to others mortall wights
sen suche a dame hes brunt and fresed and past in such few nights
Thair speache forsuith deserved praise bot it not muche awaileld 155
against that death that in hir rage so roughlye hir assailld
O Trustles hope of humane thingis O hope bothe blind & vane
Incerten ar thou in thye course and so sall ay remane

If that for pittie of hir death the earth was washt with teares
as he best knowest who saw it so / so lat him think that heares 160
It wes the sex day of Appryle thairof the Primal houer
in whiche my fervent flam began be cupids puissant pouer
And looke what houer she did me in her loyall lowe insnair
The self same tyme now by hir death renewed hes my cair
Att that same day that hes me bound the same hes sett me frie 165
As fortoun in hir fickill course hir style dois change we sie

None evir d yit did so complane none ever so bewaileld
his fredome lost or dreidfull death that over him prewaild
Than I of this my libertie brought by hir loss of lyfe
whose threid by gretar richt suld bene first cutt by fatall knyfe 170
For thow suld first o death me kild my debt by age wes dew
that formast stood vpoun that front from which hir glorye grew
Who can beleif my doolefull woe my dollour and my cair
my sadnes and my loude lamentis my sorrow and dispair
No none thair is Imagine may the greatnes of the same
how than can I in prose and verse them bouldlye furth proclame

These ladeis fair that stoode about that ladeis chaistlie bed
with wofull woe with murning mone and cheikis with teares ourspreid
Began to crye now now alace Dame vertew is decayid
fair BEUTYE now hes lost hir lampe and courtsie is astrayed
Woe woe alace who sall ws sawe, what sal be come of ws
since she is deid what sall we hope who sall this doubt discus
Who evir saw in suche a dame suche perfyte proofes of praise
who evir hard so sweit a speache so full of wit alwayes
Who evir hard or yit did sie though he suld liwe so long
from suche ane Angell Angellis voyce so Angelic a song

Her spreit before it did depairt from bosome of hir rest
and from that place which to toe short is shortlie had possest

fol. 26r

With all his vertewis and his giftis conioyned vnto one
did light the air in euerie part and cleir the heavinis anone
Nor none of all the furious Spreittis durst than ones vndertak
for to compeir before that dame with visage foule and blak
Before alace that dreidfull death that dame but blame or fault
vpone hir chaistlye cumelie corss had finisht his assault
Bot after they had end thair plaintis and left thair lowde lament
and by dispair war maid secur thay had thair eyes all bent
Vpon hir visage meik and myld and markt hir angellis face
Most bewtifull most angelik and full of hevinlie grace

Not as a fyre or flamming flame blawen owt by busling blast
bot as a spark that through hir self consumis and dieth\(^{60}\) last
And as we sie a sweit cleir light that cummeth to decay
whose nurishing by peice and pece dois softlye weir away
And to the end his ancient vse and custumes keipis eache on
so to his fading deing lyfe hir deing day drew neir on
And so but pane so dyed my Dame hir lyfe so past and went
hir hevinlie soule to hevinlie rest in peace did part content
Not Paill that lowely ladie lay bot whytar than the snow
which gathered is in flokkis but winde and dois togeather row
And as a man through Trawell long and exercise is faint
in suche a sort my ladie lay when deathe did hir attaint
Her soule than being parted so that which maid foolish men
callis vglie Death a plesant Sleip did in his eyes seme then
So that the deidlie Monster wyld that dois all folk disgrace
did than appeir most bewtifull within my Ladeis face /

Finis .i. cap.

\(^{60}\) Meikle: ‘deith’.

The Secounde chapter of the Triumphe of Deathe
The night that after did ensue this wofull and grieuous chance
that death me dame so suddenly did her grave advance
That night in manner maid the Sun his lucent light to lose
and sped him from the earth in haste in heauen to repose
So being left in knew not well whose first steps for to trace
I lost my guide and I did like a blinded man remaine

Quhen that the sweet and sommer frost was sparplied by the air
and quhill Aurora did begin again to earth repair
That does despoyle and take away evin by her wholesome streames
the coverture and mantle braid of fals confused dreams
Evin at that tyme a Ladie fair did to my sight appeir
resembling right on euery point the season of the yeir
Sche was bedect with precious pearle and crouned with orient stones
yes crowned she was with thousand crownes of Iewellis brave at ones
Who moweing softlye in her self she towards me did walk
and lowinglye besydis my syd did sett hir doun to talk
And streaching owt hir pleasant hand that hand so long desyrd
she sighing speiking yeild it furth and me to speik requyrd
From whens his risen the pleasant Ioy & that eternal bliss
that in my woefull have hart so long so judged Is.

Knowst thow not hir thus spak my dame who first thy wandring pace
hers turnd asyd from vulgar way and from the vulgar race
Knowst thow not hir who the withheld from that which youth did rage
whose chastlie hart both caused thy lowe and als thy lust did swage

This pansiwe dame in deids most wyse and in hir actis discreit

satt doun quhair meiklie she did me to sit with hir intreit

It was a pleasing bank that place whairon we than reposed

with laurell grene and branchely beach ourshadowed all and closed

Than answered I eu'n as a man who speiking shedds his teares

and through the greitnes of his greiff his toung from talk forbeares

O LAURA thow O Ladye fair O goddes of my mynd

my eyes dois knaw the verie weill o glore of womankynd

Tell me my Dame tell hevinlie soule from whense my grace dois grow

if thow be leving or yit deid becaus I long to knaw

I am in lyfe not deid sayis she I liwe and thow is deid

and salbe whill the later houer that death to earth the leid

And now for that the tyme is short our will is alwayes long

I counsell that thow [ ] It that so thow go not wrong

fol. 27r

Lose not the brydill to the same thy speache to goode employ

before the day that draweth neir the to thy grave conwoy

Than I in end replyed thus tell me, my hevinlie dame

that now in lyfe and death hes prowin the practise of the same

And knowst the proofe what is to liwe and what to die agane

if death a thing so feirfull be or yit so full of pane

Than answered she so long as thow with vulgar folk will hould

whose judgement is ay wauering and to thair will Inthrauld

And thair opinionis so embrace that blinde ar hard and auld
thow nevir happie salbe named nor blissed salbe cald

To noble spreittis and gentle myndis death is the end of cair
of presoun strong of Dungeonis dark of dollour and dispair
Bot vnto these who hes thair thoughts so fixt on earthlie things
to suche eternall noy and sturt and sorrow death inbringis
And this my woefull doolefull death for which thow hes lament
for whiche thow hes sae manie teares so vanelie shed and spent
I am assured suld confort the and quyte efface thy noy
if that thow felt the thousand part of this my hevinlie ioy

Quhen thus she spak she cwist hir eyes vnto the highest heavin
and then her roselye lipps war closed and I to purpose dreavin
O dame said I these tyrantis strong that rewld that last empyre
as SYLLA, MARIUS, NERO vyld that sett all Rome in fyre
CALLIGULA MAXENTIUS with murder so acquent
that daylie so to torture men all Tormentis did Invent
The burning boyling feaveris whote the seiknes in the breist
the sorenes in the Limms and nervis that so dois men molest
Makis death for to accounted be with euerie one and all
abhorred be and so estemed more bitter than the gall

I can not weill denye sayis she but that the pane and woe
that goeth before or death dois come dois mak ws think it soe
Bot that which greweth most of all it is that dreidfull feare
to loss our long and lasting lyfe this is that most ws deare
Bot to the spreit that dois in god his confort all repose
and to that hart that for his sinnis his waiknes dois disclose
Vnto that hart and to that spreit What death can vther be
than evin a short and litill sigh as men dois breath we sie

fol. 27v

The prooffe thatirof evin be my self most planelie may be proven
who nerest was my latest course or death had me ourthrowen
When flesche was frayle and bodie seik & spreit more prompe agane
I hard with heavie sound a voyce most heavelie complane
O wretched he and misereable that rekneth LAURAS dayes
to whome each one a thousand yeares appeares to him alwayes
He euerie houer hes suche desyre to visie hir and sie
and if he sie hir not euerie hour he can not happie bee
He seikis for hir through all the earth bot yit can not hir finde
and euerie hour and moment small he hes hir in his mynde
He seikis for hir the fomeing seis and searcheth all the bankis,
the bayes the brayes the brookes the floods the deip and warie stankis
Whair euerie he walkt or holdis his stepps ay holding still one style
to think on hir to speik on hir and verse of hir compyle
Than hearing thus my fanting ee I turned to that syde
from which that heavie sounding sound I hard and had espyde
And thair persaweth that GENTLE DAME that long thy passionis knew
that thrust me fordwart in thy lowe and bakwart the with drew
The sugred wordis owt from hir mouth did mak hir knowen to me
hir visage and hir countenance did shaw the same wes she
That oftentymes my wofull hart reconforted and glad
when heavines did it assayle or sorrow made it sad

Sche was acquent with our effaires with witt she was repleit
and fayithfull was she in our lowe and at my deathe discreit

And planelie now I will the tell Evin in my brawest state
and in my grene and growing yeares to the both brawe and feate
Which caused hes the thoughts and toungs of men to talk and think
in praise of that which was the chaine that did in lowe ws link
That lyfe which I that tyme than ledd more bittar wes to me
and swetar than my gentle death that hes me maid to die
A thing most rare to mortall men and strange it is to heir
that death to me more better semed than bitter did appeir
Becaus to me that passage wes more ioyfull and content
than he that from that exyle is cummed and to his countrye went
The thing that onlye dois me vex and most my mynde dois grewe
Is that thow in this wicked world so long alace sall lewe

Than answered I and spak agane O pretious perle of praise
I the adjeur by that same fayt that all the world dois blaise

**fol. 28r**
Whiche tyme I trow hes manifest and oppinlie dois proclame
and now the more in sight of him that liwis in lasting fame
Dois more appeir whose eyes dois perse and seis in euerie part
than tell me if thow ever had ones pittie on my smart
Or one the panis that lowe has ludgt within my macered breist
or of the thoughts that in suche hudge did long my heade molest
Not leving of your chaistlye wayes nor honest interpyse,
which yow wer wont for to oppone aganis my rauthfull cryes;
For that your pleasant gratious Ire and these your sweit disdanes,
so mixt with lowe and than with heate redoubling so my panes
Togeather with the platt of peace imprented in your eyes,
the Seales of grace the nest of bliss that all my sorrow seis
Did holde so long my whote desyris in such incertan sort
as ay my mynde dois stand in doubt dispairing of support
I skarslie had my wofull wordis owt from my mouth declaird
when as I saw a smyrcling smyle with douce and sweit regaird
Pass from the passage of hir eyes which sometymes of my Ioy
was both the salve and medicine for to abaitt my noy
So afterhend she sighing said O Petrark iust and trew
mark weill my wordis and credeit giwe to that which dois ensew
My hart nor yit my lasting lowe did euer from the depart
Nor yit that lowe my hart had ones death euer sall subwert
Bot warlye I prowydid so To temper so thy flame
with coy regaird to mitigat the fearsnes of the same
Becaus they wer no other way to keip in honest fame
my chastetie and thye renoun of ewill bruit and blame
And so thow ought not for to think that LAURA not the loved
or had not pittie on thy plains or yit to reuth not mowed
For looke how that a mother deir dois chastise so hir sonne
correctis him for amendiment to frame in better toone
Evin so did I so vse my selff and to my self oft said
PETRARCHA lowis not but dois burne / this fyre must than be stayd
It is my part for to foirsee these ewillis before they grow
less commoun bruit vnto our shame our Infamie furth blow
Bot so to do It is verie hard for how can they provyde
against these things for which they feare and ernistlie abyde
Fame would ay evin as I did the to my lowe reclame
but slaunder maid me ay mistrust and feare a gretar shame
And to my selff I oft hawe said he markis but owtward thingis.
yit Inwardlie he seis it not that so me woundis and stingis

fol. 28v
I vsed this craft to draw the bak and spur the thick agane
Evin as a brydle backwart beares the Wantonn horss and vane
And yit this more I will confess a thousand tymes hes Ire
depanted in my face what lowe within had sett on fyre
And thousand tymes my face hes showen and thousand tymes exprest
the sore conflictis and Inwart flamms that brunt my hart & breist
And looke how muche thye lowe appeird so swirlie greit wes myne
bot WILL did not my REASOUN rewll nor maid from right repyne
And after when I the beheld ourcome by lowe his rage
than sweitlie wold I cast my eyes thy sorrowis to assuage
With purpose and with full intent and with a cairfull cair
to sawe thy honour with my lyfe that languisht by dispair
And when the passionis that the paind so panefull did appeir
I purposed then to confort the with visage calme and cleir
So that my forrett and my voyce did for thy saiftye mowe
now full of woe than full of Ioy and dreid full mixt with lowe
This was the practise of my hart these war my honest wayes
that I through honour with the vsed vntill my deing dayes
Now shawen furth a blythe aspect all gathered full of grace
and than agane a coy disdane and than a sourer face
Thow knowst that all these thingis be trew thy Sonettis this reveillis
and all thy songs proclames the same which of thy woe bewaillis
In end I vsed such sindrie salwes to salwe thy sore diseis
that bothe my cair and studie was how the pane and pleis
For when I saw thy watrye eyes so full of streames of teares
which trickling doun in suche a pace did wash thy cheaks and eares
Than would I say this man dois rin a course vnto his deathe
I sie things thairfoir must help prolong his lyfelie breathe
And Thairfore than I did prowye some help and honest ayde
To eiss thy woes redress thy soares and mak thye state be stayde
Then when I saw sa manie spurris so fordwart in thy syde
than would I say an harder bitt must mak this man abyde
And thus when then I so espyde how thow had hope of gane
convenient is / said I this hope be drowned with disdane
So that amidst these contrareis sometymes both whote and coulde
Now whyte now reid now blythe now sad I haif evin as I woulde
Conducted the now to this point though I now weryed be
Whair through I Leid a glorious Lyfe and so sall all men see

fol. 29r

Than I replyed with face besprent and visage wak with teares
and tremblinglye with Trembling voyce all faint with thousand feares
O glorious dame of this my fayithe greit gane thow suld me giwe
gif that I could thy loveing words so steidfastlie beliwe

O MAN O MAN of litill faythe she answerd in disdane

gif thow not knowst which that I speik to be both trew and plane
Quhat resoun is suld me induce to tell these thingis to yow
and thow no wayes that which I speik will credeit yit or trow
I wer vniust O PETRARK mine gif I the treuth suld hyde
whils as I liwed thow in my hart and in my eyes did byde
In treuth that sweit and loving knot most plesant was to me
be which thow preast by fervent lowe with me to coupled be
That brawe renoun (if trew I heir) which through the world dois perse
which far and nere\(^1\) thow hes me wun by thy Immortall verse
Dois pleis me muche for that I knew thow had no other suit
than by a Lawfull honest meanes\(^2\) to reape thy wished fruit
And this was it that onely faild this onely did inlake
for to perfyte that perfyte Lowe which did not thyne forsake
For whils that thow in havie act thy sadnes did bewray
thow maid thye flams to publisht be through all the world I say
Hence came my zeale to mollifie and so thye flame to soft
bot yit in all suche other thingis such concord than was wrought
As loyall lowe with honestie dois temper and Immixt
so in my Lowe bothe honestie and shamefastnes was fixt
This difference was tuixt thame bothe / thow publisht furth thy flame
when secreitlie I in my hart had buried wp the same

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\(^1\) Meikle: ‘nar’.
\(^2\) The final -es appears to have been added by a later hand.
And when that thow for mercie cryed so that thye voyce was hoarse
I held my toung yit in my hart I had on the remorse
For shamefastnes vpone the one on other syde a feare
did mak my many whote Desyrs far fewer more appeare 220
For nather is that the Doole the less that Dois a nother vex
nor yit be MONING MONE growis more that men dois so perplex
As nather thingis that ar of treuthe and hes by treuthe thair stay
by feinyeit fortoun dois incress or yit by It decay

Yit did not I dissolue these doubts when I with the did sing 225
thy sugred songs that with my panis thy praises all did ring
And this muche more I will the tell my hart wes ay with the
suppose my eyes wer turned asyde and seemed not the to see
Off which thow verie oft complaind as of these partis vniust
That quainsht thy hope and esperance and raised thy mistrust 230

Yit so to doe thow had no cause for that of me the best
vnto thy handis I did it yeild so that the worst bot rest
And know when that my eyes sumtymes war turnd from vewing the
that they a thousand tymes agane with mercie did the see
And in this same persuade thy self they on the ay had lookt 235
wer not I fear that through thair flammes they had rekendled thy smok

Now sumquhat more I am to say afore that I mak end
that may the pleis or I depart or I to go intend
It is that I in euerie point sufficientlie am blist
and yit in one thing (to my greiff) this happines I mist

It dois me greiff my natiwe soyle and birth place is so bass
from whiche I had my levinge lyfe in which I gendred wass
And one thing more augmentis my woe I was not born besyde
that floorish nest fair FLORENCE toun in which thow did abyde
and yit my countrye soyle & ground contentit much thy mynde
if not the place perhapps my lowe it was that maid the kynde

I wisht this change becaus I feared that thy trew constant hart
through change to some vnknownen face and vncowthe be conwert
And so that glorious famous praise which thow to me procured
suld darkned be so of les fame and bruit it had indured

To this I said not so O Dame suche change culd never chanse
and than the thrid fair hevinlie spheir did so me far adwanse
Evin with hir whirling circled wheill to suche a sort of lowe
as VENUS stoode Immoveable and I might not remowe

Than answered she sen so it is suche glore I haif by the
that yit Immortall thow dois lest and so sall follow me
Grawe thairfoir this within thy mynde and in thy hart imprent
The tyme dois slipp and through thy Ioy thow knowst not how is spent

Alreddie I AURORA saw Ryse from hir golden bed
rebringing bak the day to men and all the cluddis to shed
Alreddie than fair PHEBUS was mount in his golden cairt
and owt from the bosome wyde of Neptune to depairt

When that my ladie Laura fair from me was to resort

whose going than renewed my woe and prayed me to be short

And with the tyme to distribut and all my speache dewyde

becaus she was not long to stay nor with me to abyde

**fol. 30r**

Thus answered I O thow my Dame thy goodlie wordis and sweitt

so lowelie chaist and pitifull so wyse and so discreit

They mak me tak my panefull panis my martirdome and smart

my lingring lyfe and havie loss far in a better part

Bot this alace dois most me grewe and this dois most me pane

that yow no more in Lyfe sall liwe, and I but yow remane

Now one thing thairfoir to me shaw sall I thy futstepps trace

or sall a longer space of tyme my lingring yeares increase

Than did my lowe my lem and Ioy speik so as I belewe

thow sall but me driwe furth thy dayes and long in earth sall liwe

Finis Triumphi Mortis

**fol. 30v**

The fourt Triumpe

called FAME.

.i. chap.

**NOW AFTER HEND** that cruell deathe had Triumpht in hir face

which oftentymes so ouer me Triumphèd in lyke cace

And after that furth from this world my SUN wes taken away
and that dispytfull wicked beist which dois all folk affray

Paill sad in visage horrible and in his countenance proud

had bewteis light extinguished which did all brightnes shrowd

Than lookeing so me round about vpoun the growing grass

I quiklye on the other part espyde a dame to pass
And nerar me for to arrywe who drawis men from thair grawe

and from thair tombe thought being died in longer lyfe dois sawe

And looke how dois the morning starr at brek of day appeir

and cam from eist befoir the SUN within hir purpled spheir

Who willinglie dois marrow hir with all his light and flame

So in suche sort and all alyke approched them this DAME

Oh sall I sie now from what scoole a maister sall proceid

that can at large descrywe what I do speik in simple leid

The heavinis about hir we r so cleir so that through grit desyre

whairwith my lingring hart wes brunt and waisted in a fyre

My daisled eyes vncapable of suche a splendant light

war than maid less and culd not weill sustane suche fair a sight

Vpon thair forheades wer ingrawen the valeur of these men

who wer a people honorable amangis thame saw I then

Great sort of these whome lowe before had with him captiwe led

as presoneris and thame enforst his tract to trace and tred

And first vnto my sight appered to be in FAMES right hand

great CAESAR and brawe SCIPIO about hir than to stand
Bot who of thame was nerest hir I culd not weill perceawe
   for one of them to vertew was and not to lowe a slawe
The other subiect was to bothe and with thame bothe indewed
   so after this beginning brawe and glorious ensewed
A cumpanie & rank of men a people warlike wyght
   with valore and with armour armed and full of force and might

fol. 31r

Lyke these who in the ancient tymes in high Triumphant chair
   To CAPITOLL by SACRA STREIT or LATA did repair
These all so orderlyke I say with famous FAME thame sped
   whair thair in euerie bree and brow might than his name bene red
Who most through gretest glorye to, this glorious world was freind
   and by his valiancye and deadis obtened great commend

As I did mark attentiwely thair Noble secreit talk
   thair gesture acts and countenance behold I saw to walk
With thame two other in array the one ones NEUCIS was
   the other his SONE who through his deadis did all the world surpass
Thair also these men I beheld who by thair valiant corss
   did cloiss the passage of thair foes and staide thair force perforce
Two fatheris brawe accumanyed with the victorious sones
   and one before and two behind so marched to thair thrones
Of whose the last and hindmest was the cheifast first in glore
   thought not in marche yit far in praise the formest wes before
Thair after lyke a CARBUNCLE great CLAUDIUS flam and shynde
that by his counsell and his handis from ITALIE declynde
The tempestes of more greit effairis that secreitlie at night
as weill the flood METAURUS yit can weill recorde his might
Cam quiklye thair and did defait ASDRUBALLIS sakking host
that threatninglie the ROMANE armes so threatned and did bost
Who thair did purge the romane feildis of that most noysum seid
and in this fact he had both eyes and wingis to mak more speid

Thair oulde great CAPTANE FABIUS did second him nixt fame
who by great craft ferse ANNIBALL and drift of tyme ourcame
With him a nother FABIUS with thame TWO CATOIS toe
two PAULS with thame two BRUTI als and eik MARCELLI twoe
One REGULUS that lowed Rome and did him self more hate
on CURIO with FABRICIUS more fair in poore estait
Than MIDAS or yit CRASSUS to for all thair glanceing gold
whose auarice thair greadie myndis from vertew did with hold
With thame did CINCIINNATUS march with him SERIANUS walk
not distant be a stapp or pace from thame of whome we talk
And thair I saw CATULLUS go that great CAMILLUS come
that rather lothe to liwe or that he did not good to Rome

fol. 31v

So that the goddis him fauoring so did bring him bak agane
by his great proofe of manfull mynde and thair for to remane
When that the blinde and furious rage of Vulgar people vyle
did banish him from native soyle and chaist vnto exyle
So thair I did TORQUATUS sie to giwe command to kill
his valiant and victorious youth that disobeyed his will
And choses rather to indure to liwe but chylde and sone
than that the discipline of wars by him suld be vndone
Heir One and other DECIUS who with thair breists maid way
ownt through the thikkest of thair foes thame ferslie to assay
O cruell vow which with the Sone the father ref of breathe
and caused thame bothe offer wp thair lyfe vnto one deathe

Now CURTIUS with thame dois walk no less then those devote
that to the Cawe did both him self and armour all alote
And filled wp that vglie den alace by horrible vow
in midst within the market place that trembling so did bow
LEUINIUS with MUMMIUS ATTILIUS was with thame
FLAMMINIUS who bothe by force and pittie greikis ourcame

Thair also was that Roman bauld who bounded with a wand
the SYRIEN king within aronde to answer did demand
And with his gesteur and his brow and with his toung constraind
vnto his will and his desyre which he afore disdaind
And him I spyed who all Inarmed alone did keip the hill
from whense he afterwart wes thrust and hurled by thair will
With him also HORATIUS that did alone defend
the bridge aganis the Thoskan force and brought thame to thair end
And him I saw who in the midst and thikkest of his foes
in vane did thrust his hand in fyre his boldnes to disclose
And thair so long did it retane till it was burned\textsuperscript{63} quyte
for anger than effaist his pane and all his doole despyte
With him was he who first ourcame the AFRICANS by sea
and with him had that man who tuix, SARDENE and SCICILIE
Disparpled all thair Nauall ost and brought thame all to sak
and one part brak ane other drowned the rest did captiwe mak

I APPIUS knew evin by his eyes that heavie war and blinde
against the vulgar sort and\textsuperscript{64} folk vnpliesand and vnkynde

\textit{fol. 32r}

Than after thair I did espye that chiften goode and greate
the conquerour of manye realmes which he did all defait
Sweit courteous douce in all his deidis who him behawed so
that nixt to Fame and to renoun he well deserwed to go
Wer not his light wes neir at hand and glorye in decay
and yit with ws Italian folk he might bene weill I say
Evin he alone as all these thrie was vnto Thebes toun
ALCIDES BACHUS EPAMINOND of fame and brute renoun
BOT OH ALACE TO LIUE TO LONG IS TO SURUIUE TO SHAME
AND LONGEST LYFE THROUGH LENTHE OF YEARES DOIS SHORTEN BUT OUR NAME

And him I saw who had his name for to be brawe disposed
and in his youth great valiancye and proofes of praise disclosed

And looke how Raw and how seueir he bloodye was and fearse
\textsuperscript{63} burned] the word has been corrected by a later hand, but I cannot decipher the original word.
\textsuperscript{64} Meikle: ‘of’.
evin far more courtess and beninge was he whome I rehearse
Whose manhoode was so excellent as skairstlie I can tell
Now whiddre he as chiften did or suldartlyke excell

Than after came VOLUMIUS who through weill knowen deids
repret the rancled swelling rage that wepeth sore mens heids
And swellis the bloode and it infectis maliciouslye with byillis
and putrefeing the corss of man both plagueth and defyillis

With him I spyed RUCILIUS with COSSUS PHYLON nixt
and after hend to stand apart this thikkest light betuixt
Thrie valiant knyghts whose memberis war both lamed and hurt with wounder
whose armour wes both loss and clowen and hinging all a sounder
LUCE DENTAT and MARK SERGIUS and CETIUS SCEUA named
thrie thunderboltis thrie fyrie flaughts thrie rokis of wars vntames

With thame wes cursed CATELINE that did from SERGIUS springe
successour of a wrongus fame and cruell inbeninge

Than MARIUS after thair I spyed who IUGURTH did subdew
and CYMBAIS with the duchemens rage and furie overthrew

And FULUIUS FLACCUS thair I saw who purpoislye did err
in heading of these thankles men that so ingraitful wer

Nixt him more noble FULUIUS with him I GRACCHUS spyed
the father of these other two who did the toun dewyid
Whose clattering nest and combersome the ROMANS oft hes rent
and wes the causs that so greit death and so muche blood wes spent
And him I saw who dois appeir to others blyithe and blist

    bot not to me who dois not sie suche grace in him consist

Or yit to be within his thoughts and secrecie inclosed

    a closed hart on which all happ and mishappe is reposed

Heirby I do METELLUS meane his father and his air

    That from NUMIDIA and from SPANE the spoyle and booting baire

From MACEDONE and CRETAS ILE to ROME great riches brought

    and from these townis whairin such loss and saccage he hes wrought

Than after hend VESPASIAN I spyed to walk with FAME

    with him his sone both good and fair who TITUS heght by name

And not that curst DOMITIAN vnworthie ay of praise

    GOODE NERUA and TRAIANUS eik, iust princes in thair dayis

And HELIUS ADRIANUS I with ANTONIE PIUS spyed

    whose offspring and successioun in MARIUS did abyde

Who had at leist to rewill and ringe a naturall desyre

    and gouerne in iustice and in right thair noble large impyre

And whils with wandring eyes I lookt to spye the wandring way

    I saw the first foundatour of the ROMANE walls I say

With him fywe other KINGS with fame did fordwart march and stapp

    The sevint lay charged on the ground with Ill and all mishapp

EUIN AS IT OFT BEFALLIS TO THESE THAT VERTEU DOIS FORSAKE

    TO FOLLOU EUILL AND WICKIDNES AND VNTO VYCE THAME TAKE.

Finis .i. cap.

fol. 33r
The Secound chapter of the
Triumpe of FAME.

QUHEN AS WITH MERWELL infinit and suche a noble sight
   I was surprysed by deip desyre to sie these folk of might
And that good martiaall people brawe who65 wer in world but pane
   as suche a race within the same sall nevir appeare agane
I Than vnto my scrolles and bookes reioyned so my eyes
   wherin thair names wer writtin all which wer in high degreis
And these of gretest praise and pryce bot than in quikly knew
   my language was in nameing thame inferiour to my vew
So that my speache thair praise impaird or all them not reherst
   and whils my mynd on this was sett ane other thought me perst
And turned my eyes ane other way when as I saw encroche
   a trim consort of strangers stout more nerer to approche

Among the first was HANNIBALL with him ACHILLES brawe
   whose praise by HOMER is depaint to frie from death and grawe
With freinzeis he imbroudered was of euerliving fame
   These TROIANS two who by thair deidis demereted the same
With thame two PERSEANS great I saw and PHILIP and his sone
   that to the Inds from PELLA toun established his throne.

Not far from these I thair did sie ane other ALEXANDER
   To whome Dame fortoun in his feght such succes did not rander

65 who is a correction by a later hand (the original writing is undecypherable).
He ran not so as other did HE HAD LYKE KYNDE OF STAY
QUHEN FORTOUN FROM TREW HONOUR DOITHE DEUYDE HER SELF AUAY

Thair in one knott the THEBANES thrie I spyed as I hawe showen
thair DIOMED with AIAX and VLisses might be knowen
Who had to sie this spacious world so greit and deip desyre
and NESTOR who forsaw so muche and knew all that impyre

I AGAMEMNON lykwyse vewed with MENELAUS thair
that threw this world by cursed wyffis in greit debait and cair
LEONIDAS was thame amongs who did with mirrie cheare
Propyne a denner hard and sharpe vnto his men of weir
Bot harder and more horrible the supper he assingis
who in a litill part of ground did work greit wondrous thingis
Than ALCIBIADES I espyed that oft did ATHENIS toun
evin when it list him to rewolt and turne vpsyde doun

fol. 33v

With sugred speache and langage dowce and with alluring words
and with his brow and forret cleir restraned oft thair swordis
With him was thair MILCIADES who tooke the yok from greace
with him his sone THUNONUS good was marcheing in that place
Who with a perfyte pietie and with a godlie mynde

did chaine alywe him with these chaines that did his father bynde
With these who so wer recompenst THEMISTOCLES drew neir
and THESEUS with ARISTIDE a FABRICE might appeir
To whome alace was interdyte thair kyndlie natwi graue
bot yit the vyce of these that so suche malice did consawe
Enobled more thair noble deids for nothing more makis knowen
two contrareis than one by one by interspace is showne

And PHOCION with thame wes thair whom I abowe hawe named
rewarded evin with these alyke and equallie defamed

For so his thankles countrye men not caused him onelye dee
bot banisht evin his bouldest bones and maid vnburyed be

As I me turned thair PYRRHUS I amang that troupe espyed
with MASSANISSA that good king besydis him to abyde

Who semed to be than malcontent and for to gottin Wrong
becaus he was not with his freindis the Romans plaist among

With him I lookeing thair did sie the SYRACUSIAN king
called HERO, and thair than agane with him prease to thring

HAMMILCAR distant far from thame a man both ferse and raw
and him who nacked from the flams escaped thair I saw

Riche CRAESUS king of LIDIA who teaches ws this tale

\[\text{THAT NO DEFENCE IN FORTOUNS SPYTE NOR BUCKLER CAN PREUALE}\]

I also SYPHAX than beheld Tormented in lyke sort
and BRENUS vnder whom did fall full manye a man athort

And he agane yit afterwart in spoyling DELPHOS temple
was beaten doun and quyte ourthrowen to serwe for lyke example

In strange attyre and vncoth cloth and in that thikkest band
this cumpanie wes thair amongs and with thame thair did stand

And whils I backwart turned my eyes I spyed a sort of men
all gathered wholie in a round whair him I spyed then
Who first to god wold build a house and church to him erect

To dwell among his creatures and for the same effect

Bot he that did compleit the same I sawi him cum behinde

to whome this work was destitute as we in Scripture finde

Who from the lowest partis thairof evin to the highest topps

did build the same and mounted wp be manye Pinnis and propps

And as I may conjectour weill and so the treuthe recorde

he was not suche a Maister work nor builder with his Lorde

Than after hend I him espied to marche within that place

that with his god so homely was and Spak him face to face

Few wer they yea none ever was that heirin so might want

or with his god familiarie so long a time did hant

Thair him I spied who band the SUN evin by his potent toung

as beastis with thair bandis ar bound and beaten led and doung

So he did mak the SUN to stay his foes to tract and trace

	till that he thame ourcuming all did all by death deface

O gentle trust O noble fayithe of these that servis thair god

that all which he created hes, makis subject to thair nod

And dois not only mak the SUN within his circle stay

	bot stable makis vnstable heavinis evin by one word I say

Than after I our father saw to whome was gevin in charge

	for to depairt out of his land by waistis and desertis large

And for to go vnto that place which was be god elect

	vnto the weill of mankyndis sowle and that for gude respect

With him his sone and neveu was who trumped by his wyiff
and Ioseph that was chaist and wyse and honest all his lyiff.

Extending than sa far my eyes as I had force and might

beholding that which corporall eyes can not attane by sight

I Thair iust EZECHIAS spyde and SANSON thair defaist

and him who first vpone the seis the Spacious ARKE hes plaist

And him I vewid who afterhend did builde that stable tour

that chargit was with Syn and shame by god his puissant pouer

Than Iudas good from whome culd none draw from his fathers lawis

who franklye for the lowe of treuth did rin in death hir clawes

ALREDDIE was my great desyre all weryed evin content

and satisfied by these brauwe sightis that so with fame than Went

When that a quik and gallant Lwik did mak me crawe to sie

and stay for to behoulde the trowpe that Trimlie drew to me

I saw within that rounde and ring a sort of brawelyk Dames

ANTIOPE and EURITHEA and so wer both thair names

Fair in thair face in armour cled HIPPOLITA also

afflicted for HIPPOLITUS and pansiwe full of woe

And MENALIPPE thair I saw these dames so agill wer

and reddie to withstand that force that any Would infer

That it was evin a gretast proofe of THESEUS manly might

and HERCULES who thame ourcame by hard and doubtfull fight

fol. 34v

I thair that Wedow saw who did securelie sie hir sone

whose happie dayes of gretest hope wer by his death vndone

Bot shee revengde the same with speid on CYRE who wrought the same
as she in cutting of his heide hes cut away his fame

For seing his vnhappie end and als his shameles deathe

It dois appeir that be his fault he hourly daylie heathe 120

So maid him selff to daylie die and all his former fame
to be supprest and buryed be togeather with his name

Than saw I hir who happelie did sie the toun of Troy
togeather with that VIRGINE fair that did AENEAS noy

And that courageous Valiant QUENE with one tress of hir hair 125
knitt wpp when that the other hang evin sparpled to hir spair

So sone she hard that BABILON rewolted from hir croun
did bring thame bak and stayed the reiff begun within hir toun.

With hir I saw CLEOPATRA toucht with vnworthie flame
and likwyse saw I in that Dance ZENOBLIA of greate fame 130

Bot very sparing of hir glore and of hir honour hard
in vsage fair, and in hir youthe of cumelie sweit regard
And lwik how muche she in hir age and bewtye praise possest
So muche hir glorye and renoun by honestie increst

Within hir hart thought womanlye suche constancye remaned 135
that she thame caused to stand in dreid that others had disdaned

Hir visage fair hir face most sweit hir hair with helmet armed
abaist our emperouris hart and mynde and courage queld and charmed
Althought at last he sore assayld and captiwe twik that quene
and maid his to our brawe Triumphe a rechar pray be sene 140

And now suppose vpon these names I both be breiff and short
yit will I more discourse and of fair IUDITHE mak report

That bould and hardie wedow chaist who brought vnto the deid

that dronkin foolish HOLIPHERNE and cut from him his heid

And sall I now lewe me behind or NINUS sall forgett

from whome all historeis beginnis and not with thame him sett

Or yit is heir in that empyre whose arrogance and pryde

conducted to a bestiall lyfe in It sevin yeir to byde

Or BELUS yit sall I oursie from whome did errour spring

not by his fault bot by his sone who did it first in bring

Wheare now dois lurk ZORASTRES that magik artis Invent

or yit these men who of our dwkes that in a curst ascent

And frowar star did Euphrate pass with lose and shame also

Whose evill conduct in ITALIE emplasters yit thair woe

fol. 35r

Quhair Is MITHRIDATES the greit a mortall foe to Rome

and our eternall ennemie vnto his deathe and dome

Who soldring wp his brokkin loss and his oft crased harmes

in sommer and in wintar fled befoir the ROMANE armes

I manye thingis of great reporte dois in ane boundell knitt

whair is he now king ARTHURE that at Table round did sitt

Wheare be these AUGUSTIS CAESARS thrie victorious one of Spane

of APHRICA ane other was, the last of LORRANE ane

Whills I so this victorious FAME triumphing so dois sie

I lykwise spyed tuelf noble knights his PALLADINS to be
THAN GODEFRAY cam syne a lone a Duke of fayithe and trust

who maid a holy interpryse whose stepps and wayes wer iust

He he alone that Valiant prince did with his Valiant handis

rebuild that keped Cairles NEST that in IERUSALEM standis

This thing alace dos caus my woe / this worketh my disdane

this is the thing for which I crye and call so oft in vane

Is prydefull christians miserable goe goe yea misers now

and drink eache one ane others bloode with setled othes and wow

Goe wourke eache one ane others wrake and others eache distroy

and euerie one against your selff dois all your spyte employ

Ye cairles ar how that the grawe of IESUS CHRYST REMANIS

within the handis of fayithles dogs and Turkis who it retanis

Bot after these whome I did sie if I be not deceawed

I saw but few or none at all that might renoun hawe crawed

That by thair art in planting peace or skill in hardie fight

or doubtfull yok in hard combatt appeared to my sight

Yit66 as the chosen men behind and cheifest oftest goe

I saw in end of all the troupes that SARRASYNE our foe

That brought vnto our christianis bothe skayith and blushing shame

and HEGUIUS sone of LURIA did follow him with fame

The Duke of LANCASTER wes thair who with his sworde and lance

a nighbour curst and troublesome was to the realme of FRANCE.

Thus gasing on this famous sight I at that tyme and space

did lwik lyke one who did adwance his fitstepps and his pace

66 Meikle: ‘Zit’.
To mak sum thingis he hes not sene so I did fordward goe
   To sie gif thair war anye moe then these that I did knoe
Quhair thair I spyed two noble wightis who laitlye oh did die
   Who of our countrye men wer glore and praise of Italie

**fol. 35v**

Who wer inclosed in that band and marched on with Fame
   good ROBERT OF SCICILIA king of vndefamed name
Who in his knowledge most sublime and foresight most profound
   did ARGUS lyke sie thingis far of and weill discerned thair ground
The other that did marche with him was my COLONNA great
   courageous gentle constant large and liberall in his state
Finis .2. cap.

**fol. 36r**

The thrid Chapter
   of fame.

I CULD NO WAYES returne my eyes from suche a famous sight
   nor yit convert thame from these men of manhoode full of might
When that I hard one say agane Looke on thyne other syde
   whair Fame and Praise and brawe renoun with other folk dois bye
By other meanes than vse of armes. So turning to my left
   I PLATO first espyed thairin with honour first infest
Who in that cleir and cumelie band did nerrest marche these sings
   to whiche he narrest dois approche to whome the heavinis these brings
Than nixt to Plato thair did go so godlie and dewyne
great ARISTOTILL replenished with full and high ingyne

And after him PITHAGORAS that homelie first did name

PHILOSOPHY evin by the same so worthye of greit fame

Than SOCRATES with ZENOPHON⁶⁷ nixt him that aged Man

To whome the Muses wer his freindis / as TROY and ARGUS can

With MICEN yit resent his pen who song the long astrayes

and errouris of LAERTES sone and boulde ACHILLES praise

In hand cam singing on that MANTUAN POET brawe

and strywing which of thame suld first the way and passage hawe

The one I spye whose stepps the grass transformed in a flour

MARK CICERO who cleirlie shawes what fruit what force and power

Hes eloquence and ornat speache so that these two be thame

which wer the eyes of LATINE toung hes lightned muche the same

Than after cam DEMOSTHENES all in a flame he went

disparing of the formest place and not with nixt content

Nixt him was AESHINES in preiss who thair might weill hawe knownen

in what respect his voyce was hoarse and by the other ourthrowen

I can not weill in ordour tell whome first I saw and when

to follow or yit go afore amangs these leirned men

For windring at Ten thousand things of that fair trowpe and band

my eyes and thoughts did both astray and wer not at command

I SOLON saw who of goode lawis establisht first the plant

that now soe will manwred Is and dois hir fruit now want

⁶⁷ Here the scribe has left a blank space, with a line to join this with the rest of the verse.
With him these other leirned SAX the Grecian sax and wyse

of whome dois greik so noblye vaunt and yeildis thame first the pryse

With these I also did behold who him whome our countrye men

as chifen had for to conduct thame evin with other Ten

I Varro meane the thrid greit light of Romans high ingyne

whome more that I in face beheld he semed more to shyne

fol. 36v

CRISP. SALUST than appered nixt with him I LIUIUS spyed

who frowardlie did him regaird and greitlye him Inwyed

Whills I thame than did sie behoulde than quiklye did I sie

GREIT PLINIUS his nighbour nixt and marrow for tobe

Who tooke more cair to wryte his bookes than to foirsee his death

whom SOMMA hill with brinstone blasts did stopp his vitall breath

Than after I PLOTinus saw me leard of Platois sect

who trusting secreitlie to liwe did for the same effect

With draw him quietlie apairt with no man to be sene

bot him his fearse and cruell fates and desteneis did prevene

Which he contraited in hir wombe from whense he first did come

so not his foresight him awaild this was his fatall dome

Than CRASSUS GALBA I beheld CALVUS with POLLIO

HORTENSIUS with ANTONIUS who so in pryde did go

To arme thair toungs and sharpe thair mouthes in CICEROIS disgrace

and searcheing for vnworthie fame did falslye thairs incress

THUCIDIDES I lykwyse saw that weill distings the place

the tyme togeather with the feates the querrell and the cace

---

68 Meikle ‘one’.
And trewlie tellis be whose mens bloode so feirslie shed in store
the barren feildis was fertill maid and fatter then before

HERODOTUS I lykwyse saw of all HISTORIENS greik
the father that thair workis full wreitt and trewlie of thame spak

And EUCLIDE geometrien that dois depaint most sound
Triangls with the quadrat formes the Circles and the round

And PORPHIR quho aganist the trewth became as hard as stone
who with his SILOGISMES vntrew and fals he did compone
Assaild to shake the rockis of treuth bot in DIALECTIK quick
and fild the same with argumentis in number great and thick

I also saw HIPOCRATES both bred and borne in Co
that more had maid his workis perfyte and far more better so

If that his subtill APHORISMS had weill bene vnderstand
APPOLLO than with AESCULAP I saw than neir at hand
Bot that way plaist abowe my sight with tyme war worse away
so nather by thair face nor name I culd thame know I say
Than GALENE great of PERGAME toun did follow nixt that band
of whome did hinge that noble art on which our helth dois stand

That now amangs ws lyis abused so clene corrupt and waist
vyle abiect and prophaned now by euerie one displeaste

Bot in his dayes it wes not so thought dark it was and short
Yit furslie he declared of It and largelie did report

I feirles ANAXARCHES saw of manly port and mynde
with him ZENOCRATES the chaist that nowayes him Inclynde
Vnto infamous vyld attemps bot thame withstood eache one
   
   So that in euerye point he did resemble a solide stone

Thair followed ARCHIMEDES nixt with visage baise on ground
   
   and Democrit that pansiwe walkt thair in that trowpe was found

Who with his will and but constraint did with his sight inlake
   
   the light the gold the Riches great whiche he did all forsake

And HIPPIA I saw lykwyse with him ould GORGEAS
   
   that bouldlye vanted that he knew all thingis that ever was

And after him ARCHESILIAS of all thingis for to doubt
   
   and HERACLITE within his sworde more planer spokken owt

DIOGENES I also spyed so doggish in his wordis
   
   and planer than more plesanter a scuffer in his bwrdis

And ANAXAGORAS I beheld who blythelie did regaird
   
   his feildis to ly desert and wyld of which he litill caird

Which he did deme to bring Envye so that he thame forsooke
   
   and charged with raches and with skill his raches he did brooke

Thair CURIUS DICEARCHUS was nixt him wer other thrie
   
   in discipline most different and distant in degree

QUINTILIANUS SENECAL PLUTARCHUS maist renound
   
   that so in learning muche exceld as dois thair work resound

I saw a rowt of clattering men the seis of Treuthe to storme
   
   with contrare windye argumentis not to the treuthe conforme

Who through thair erring vaginge thoughts wer famous maid and cleir
   
   yit rather by contentioun than wisdome they did leir

They shuldringlie rusht other owt togeather they did raill
as Lyonis two togeather knitt and Serpentis taill by Taill

O now quhat bedlem men be these quhat madlyke fools indeid
that are content with trifling toyes and further not proceid
And then I saw CARNEADES who was of suche a witt
and in his studeis so expert so reddie prompe and fitt
110
And in his speaches and brawe discourse his toung he had at will
that skairsly suld one be him knownen the right almost from Ill
His lyfe so long his high ingyne and greit abundant vane
Did mak him than to vndertak with trawell greit and pane
For to accorde these contrare sects that then war at great Iarrs
whom literall furour did conduct vnto such lasting warrs
Bot this he culd not weill performe for evin as arts did grow
so lykwyse did enwy and stryfe and discord with thame flow
And with thair knawlege and thair skill and with thair learned artis
arayse lykwyse that poysned spark within thair bowldned hartis
120
fol. 37v
And Epiceur, who wold him self aganis that gratious man
who raising wpp mans mortall hope I thair espyed than
Did prowre his soule Immortall be that so yit epiceur
that bouldlye spak aganis that man dois now greit shame indeur
Bot gif he preiss to challenge fame what can it ellis more be
than borrowing it from Platois stryfe with whome he culd not grie
125
And LIPPUS thair lykwyse. I saw with him two wer at hand
that to his maister equall war that progres in that band
I METHRADORE with ARISTIPP do meane for thease be thay
that in the *Epicurien* sect wer iudged best that day

Than did I spye *Chrysippus* so evin with a woundrous spindill
and with a large and brodest roll. his threid & webbs to windill
Who by greit tyme and high Ingynne did glorious works compose
and in the same much learned skill did learnedlie disclose
Than after thair I *Zeno* spyed the father of his sect
and for his ornat clerest speache abowe the rest erect
Who for to gif more prooфе of It this sing and show did giwe
was opning wpp his hand and palme and falding than his Nwe
I saw *Cleantes* who to stay and stable his intent
did gentlye Weawe his brawest webbs on which he was most bent
And curiouslye with earnist cair to cairfullye prowyid
To mak thair fals opinionis with Veritie to byid.
Bot I him leawe heir with the rest who did by *Fame* surmount
that I more grawe and better things heirafter may recount
Finis Triumphi fame.

*fol. 38r*

The fyift Triumphe
of Tyme

*Furthe* from his golden Ins and tent afore *Aurora* fair
The Sun evin belted in his beames did from his place repair
And Issued owt with swifter course than one Would evin have said
he was abowe our *Hemisphere* vplifted with a braid
And heir a litill staying than he lookes him round about
as dois the wyse and sagoest men for thingis thay stand in dowbt
And to him selff with in him selff with rage beginning to say
quhat thinkis thow how best now to be done what will thow do this day
Now is the houer that thow sould hawe evin of thy selff more cair
becaus thow seis th that mortall men whose dayis dois death impair
Yit being deid do nowayes die bot by thair fame dois liwe
and by thair vertewus famous acts do far thair death surviwe
If it so be as it dois seme that law salbe in vane
that so the heavins fixt with ws so stable to remane
And gif the fame of mortall men by death dois more incres
which ought by death to quenshed be and quickly brought to less
Than of my glore and excellence must cum my fall and end
and suddenlie for which I rage sall all to ruine tend
What gretar wrong must I looke for quhat worser may be fall
that I no more sall hawe in heavin than man on earthlie ball
So far inferiour is my state and basser is my cace
That I might equall be with man I crye of speciall grace
And yit four barded breathing horss with cair I intertan
and in the OCEAN tham dois feid so long as I remane
I with my spous dois spur thair sydis and whipps thame with my wand
and yit aganis me dois a mans vndantound fame with-stand
If I war in the glorious heavins of Starrs not onelye he
who first is of the Planettis all and highest in degrie
Bot evin the secunde or the thrid It wer as I now say

69 The final -t has been erased.
ane Iniurie by hatred cumed and not through sport and play

So now it well besemeth me to kender all my yeill

and to my flight Joyne double wingis that I may more prewaill

Now do I grudge at mortall men I beare them now Inwy

I hate and now despysis thame nor can I this denye.

fol. 38v

Whome all I sie yea afterhend a thousand thousand yeares

that floorish more than in thaire lyfe and famous more appeares

And I not more bot to remane Environed with woe

and can not gett beyond my greifis nor yit beyond thame goe

I am evin as I was at first no better is my state

nor yit my glorie more hes grown nor yit70 my fame more greate;

And so I am as first I was before the earthe was plaist

AY TURNING IN A CIRCLED SCHEIT / DAY. NIGHT BUT END IN HAIST

When that the Sun these wordis had said w' greif & grit disdane

he than resumed a swifter course far spediar more agane

So that the same more sudden was than falcon In his flight

that from the high descending doun vpone his pray do light

The thought of man may not attane far les his tounge and style

for to Imagine what I saw with feare and dreid this whyle

Than did I reckon all our lyfe most abiect vyle and vane

evin by his swift and rinning course which nothing might restrane

Whose solid course and movement did cause me ludge much more

70 These two words are corrections by a later hand.
the same to be contemptebill which gentle I held before

Whair than I thought it vanitie a vaness wondrous great

to holde thame fast we leist tham hold and passeth at a clink

He thairfore who hes of his state ones sowcy cair and feare

Whillis as he may through hevinlie grace his hope so founded be

and stablisht in a stable place of long eternitie

For when I saw the Turning tyme so gallantlie to go

and lightlye rin behind his gwyde that hes no rest nor ho

Whose swiftnes was so wodnerfull so infinit and large

that for to tell my toung nor thought be able of that charge

For thair without distructioun at all at any tyme

I saw the frost with Roses mixt the harwest with the pryme

And that which semed more wonderfull I saw evin at one point

the nipping colde with ferwent whote and fyrie flams conioynt

And he who with a Judgement firme dois all these thingis regard

in tyme sall sie thame so to be for which I litill caird

In these my rekles youthles dayes and in my lustie age

which makis me now dispyte my selff and with my selff to rage

fol. 39r

For than my hope did follow mucho my foolish vane desyre

and bothe my hope and foolish thoughts to folye did aspyre

Quhail now in eild before my eyes of CONSCIENCE is a glass
whairin my self and faultles I spye and what sumtymes I was

And as much as I may see me to my deathe declyne

remembring of my litill lyfe and of my latter fyne

Whair in the morning I see me a gallant chylde and light

and now a havie feble waik and aged man at night

What than is more mans mortall lyfe or longer than a day

could be cluddie short and full of woe that quiklye waistis away

It brawe may seme and long appeir through outward shaw to be

bot all that fair apparance Is of litill worthe we sie

Quhat humane hope quhat mortall trust quhat ioy dois men so blinde

what makis these mortallis folke to be so proude in mynde

Or yit so puftlye lift thair headis in vanetie and pryde

and knowest not how, they sone sall die or long in lyfe sall byde

I now behoulde evin of my lyfe the flight to be at hand

and with the same the dayes of all whairin men liwe and stand

And in the swift and fleing course of this resplendant SUN

I sie the world wrack is cumed and rwine is begun

O lustye bloods I sie yow now your selfis to confort soe

and in your folye all delyte and further thairin goe

Yow all ar cairles of your death yow measure all the tyme

evin with the largest thinking it salbe ay in pryme

LIUE FOR TO DIE, THINK ON YOUR DEATHE FOR DEATHE ON YOU DOIS CALL

THE HURT FOIRSENE BRINGIS LESSER HARME AND DOOLE WHEN IT DOTHE FALL

Perchance I sparple all my speache most vanelie to the wind
bot that I tell for treuth it hould and keip it in your mynd
if to my speache yow tak no heade and not my counsell keip
your branies do all oppressed lye with heavie deidlie sleip
For this muche more yow ought to mark becaus the houers and dayis
the Monthis the yeares to gretar goes togeather all decayis
And we with litill Interwall and litill distant space
    have all to searche for other partis for other rowmes and place
Do not against the treuthe thairfoir your hardned hartis indure
    as ye haif done and practised vnto this tyme and houer
Bot turne your eyes vnto your self and spye quhair ye offend
    and prease your selfis whils as ye may your faultis and sinnins\textsuperscript{71} to mend

\textit{fol. 39v}

Abyde whill deathe bend his bow or yit delashe his shaft
    as dois the moist part of the world which is a band most daft

Than after that I had espyed as I now cleir espye
    the flight and chaise of Phoebus fair that rolleth in the skye
from which by Tyme such heavie loss and harmis I do sustane
    I saw a sort and kynde of folk in silence walkt agane
But feare of tyme \textsuperscript{9} of his rage or of his furious faird
    whome Poets and historiens did keip within thair guard
The Sun had more enwye at thame and bwir thame more despyit
    who by thair knawlege and thair witt and verteuis most perfyit
Wer mounted to suche topp of praise that never semed decay
    who passed from the vulgare trace and cage and commoun way;

\textsuperscript{71} Meikle: ‘sinnis’.
In contrare thame he onlye he who onlye fair dois shyne
   with gretar force did him adres to mak thame all declyne
So that he than began agane a course more swift & greate
   and to his horse redoubled wer thair prowendare & meate
And shee of whome I wreit before I meane the quene of FAME
   deworst hir self from some of hirs who lyeth now but name

I sometymes hard bot yit of whome I can not tell nor say
   and this much also hawe I red and tane the same away
that all these humane worldlie workis that PRIMPRINT may be cald
   ar pittis of blind obliuion whare darklye men ar thrauld

Ane other sentence hawe I red thet Phebus in his spheir
   sall by his force revolt and turne not ones a single yeare
Bot LUSTRES and that longer age of hunder yeares account
   sall ouer the death of mortall men victoriouslye surmount
And by this revolutioun we sall beholde agane
   mens famous and illustrious fames to pass away in vane

For looke how muche they wer renound who wer betuix these floods
   whair PENEUS rinnis and HEBRUS slydis and all these folkis includis
OFF MACEDONE OF THRACIA and of THESSALIA
   that borders with Boetia and Landis of Attica
Or yit so sunder distant be as far as ZANTHUS rins
   Whair Troianis duelt and Tiber now whairin the Romans wins
The fame of all these people brawe hawe haisted to thair end
and gif not yit they yit sall sone all to that Iornay tend

I hard lykwyse one say your fame dois no otherwise dois byid
than dois a plesant changeing blenk shyne in the Wintar tyd

fol. 40r

Whiche sone a litill cludde obscuris and brekis and maketh dark
and to great names great tymes to be a great and vennemous spark

Your Triumphs and your prydfull pompe sall all to dust declyne
your lordshippes sall all pass away and than your kingdomes syne

YOUR HELTHE STRENTH AGE ALL MORTALL THINGIS LYFE FAME WITH FAIR RENOUN
Tyme waistis makes waks, defaces, killis distroyes and beated doun

And alss from these of menest rank sall than be tane away
not only that whiche outwardlie tyme brought vnsto decay

Bot evin thair knawlege learning skill proportioned with thair witt
thair eloquence and thair ingyne sall quiklie from thame flitt

Nor yit sall tyme who dois this world turne in his wandring flight
that never restis not yit returnis leawe of to shaw his might

Afore all mortall men be him both godlie and vniust
be all reduced to earthlie ash and to a litill dust

Bot sum may say sen humane glore and this thair famous pryde
hes suche a multitude of hornes and prickes against hir syde

No merwell is that it be perst if it soiuerne and duell
beyond the commoun custumed vse this dois the vulgar tell

Bot lett thame pratt if that our lyfe in haist did not consume
we sone shuld sie all humane gloir to pass away like fume
I hearing this and now becaus none shuld the treuth with stand

    Bot thairto fayith and credeitt gif but doubt or more demand

I saw our glore incontinent our pompe and glorious show

    to faid to waist away to melt evin as the Sun dois snow
And than I saw that Turning tyme to hawe brought bak agane

    the spoyle and pray of all your names which I esteemed all vane
And to be of no importance suppose the vulgar sort

    beleueth not nor yit dois know bot otherwayes report

O people blinde that so yow playes and sportis yow with the winde

    and dois on fals opinioun feid and errouris of the mynde
With gretar praise advanceing more that death that growis by age

    than that which in the Creddill comes and futur greifs dois swage!
How happie ar alreddie these that deitt in swadling bandis

    how wretched more that through thair age death to thair grawe demandis
And some thair be manteneth this and hold it for no scorne

    To deme thame happie most and blist that never hes bene borne

    fol. 40v
Bot lett this people answer me with errouris so acquent

    that through the lentheninge of thair lyfe they seme so weill content
And thinkis thair growing age sall mak thair fames more famous grow

    quhat it is worthe whiche they so pryse I pray thame let me know
CONFUSED DREAMES AND PUFTS OF WINDE VANE FABLES STURT AND STRYFE

    this is the fame that they do crawe be long desyred lyfe
So far is tyme so cowetous and wars so much in wreath

    that that which now is called fame he makis a seconde death
For whose defence and steidfast stay thair is no more remeid
than wes for our first former lyfe: so swiftelye tyme dois speid

For to Triumphe abowe the fame and glore of mortall men
and of this world miserable a dungeoun dark and den
Finis Triumphi temporis.

fol. 41r

The Saxt and Last Triumphe
of Immortalitie.

QUHEN THAN I SAW no mortall thingis so ferme and stable stand
now whether the same in seis may be in air or earthe or land
Or vnder heavin anye thing bot totteringlie declyne
vnstable in thair trustles course I left these eyes of myne
And with my selff vnto my selff to speik I then began
one whome hes thow thy hoipe and fayith now fixed or\textsuperscript{72} wratched man

My answer wes \textsuperscript{than} in this sort evin in that god and Lorde
who fayithfull in his promeis is all falsett hes abhorde
Who in his treuthe most steidfast Is and in his doingis iust
and blissit thame of speciall grace that in him puttis thair trust

Bot now alace I know to weill and to my shame I see
how that this blinde deceitfull world hes blindlinis scorned me
Now is the vayle tane from my eyes I sie now what I am
and quhat in tymes past hawe I bene I now beholde the sam

\textsuperscript{72} Meikle: ‘o’.
And now I lwik how that the tyme dois pass dois goe and flie
and knoweth none bot evin my self for this suld blamed be
For that the fault cam be my self who tymelie suld foirsene
to opned wpp the lowring lidds and windowis of my ene
And not so driftinglie deferd nor taryed to this tyme
that hes to long prolonged my aige so cairles in his pryme

Bot when agane I call to mynde the goodnes of our Lord
and how from age all ages dois his merceis great record
Who of his hevinlie gratious grace wes never late nor slaw
on him I fix my confidence that he sall make me shaw
Some worthie workis of ferwent fayith or I from hence do pass
or yit this catiffe combred corss returne to dust or ass
This as I wes within my self discoursing to and froe
thow that all earthlie mortall thingis dois in thair changeing goe
Who hes thair stainding so vnsure what than thair end sal be
that thus the heavins circled course do guyde thame so we see
This pausing73 so and whils my mynde the more on this was bent
Or it semed to me that to this world a change in haist wes sent
In place thairof a new in age not subiect to decay
Eternall and Immoveable that sall no change assay

Thair than appered the splendant SUN with all the heavinis round

73 Meikle: ‘pansing’.
the twinkling starris the spacious seis and all this earthlie ground
With all thair bewtie and thair grace so suddanlie defaist
and in thair rowme a mirrier world and newar brawlie plaist
Quhat wounder and quhat merwell than did not my thoughts assay
quhen that I saw the moveing heavinis vpone one fute to stay
That never wonnt to stable stand bot in thair race and course
confusedlie all thingis to change renverss and to rebourse
And thair the thrie partis of the Sun I saw all brough to one
and that same one not haveing course nor motioun haveing none
Nor yit to be as it was wonnt to speid him self and haist
bot for to be evin lyke the earthe of herbis full bair and waist

For nather sall nor was nor Is afore or yit behinde
nor such distruction of the tymes that by the heavins we finde
Sall more haif place which wonnt to mak the lyfe of man with all
waik seiklie fragill and infirme and bitterer than the gall
And as the Sun transparant Is owt through the glistring glass
so sall the thoughts of mortall men more through & swiftlie pass
For they no fancie sall retaine whairin the glass Is sene
some obiect through the sonnye beames that so resplendant bene
O what a grace sall be to me if so that I culd gane
that high that cheiff and souerane good and thairto might attane
Whair is no ewill which only tyme so mixis and Inwertis
and with the tyme dois only come and with the tyme departis

Nor sall the Sun more hawe his palce or mansioun in these sings
Vpon our laubouris and our workis in which they faid and grow
and gendered ar or ellis consumed as we by proofe dois know
O blissed that spreittis that ar so found within his holy queare
or in that hevinlie cupmanie so happie dois appeare
Who makis tham self of mortall folk to be Immortall men
and registers thair noble names by long eternall Pen
O happie he that findis the fwirde of this sharpe raging flood
that lyfe is cald to worldlie men both Ioyfull glad and good
O cateiff ar these vulgar sort blinde both in eyes and mynde
that hes thair hope thair trust thair thought to these things all inclynde
Which eating and consuming tyme so quiklye dois destroy,
and nothing ellis dois leawe behind bot sorrow and anoy
O people deiff in hearing hard both naked fraill and waik
of reasoun woyde of counsell poore that Judgement dois inlaik

Seik euery quair diseased in all and destitute of grace

O mortall misers miserable that knowest not god this space
That with the twinkling of his ee dois rewll this massiwe round
that calmes and stormes the elementis of contrars so compound
Whose glorie is so infinit none can it comprehend
no mortall wights nor nather I nor angellis that attend
Vpone his Maiestie dewyne who ar with him acquent
and of his glorie to sie on pairt for thousandis ar content
O wandring myndis that hingis in doubt and houngrie ay in end
to what effect dois all your thoughts to trouble yow intend
When that a moment of ane houer sall shaddowless leawe voyd
that vpone which so many yeares yow have your panis employid

For that which long tym e past before or present is in sight
which was the strene or yit tomorrow in morning or at night

Or anye vther course of tym e all changed sone sall be
and not one point sall pass away as we a shaddow sie

Thair sall no more heirafter than Is was nor sall have place
bot only all in present be in nor this day and space

And sall eternitie be gathred whole inteir
and all such other obstacles sall from ws far reteir

And all these markis vnited of before or yit behinde
sall quiklye thair defaced be that occupeid the mynde

Nor nather sall such obiect be nor yit suche sight on which our hope and memorie sall thairto farther strane

Which variant vew makis oftentyme impd impudent men to penss
and vanelie in thair vanetie to tak a foolish trance

Whose thoughts ar in thame selfis so vane they think thair lyfe a play
in deuing\textsuperscript{74} suirlie they sall be to morrow as the day

Thair salbe no diuisioun of les from les at all
bot all sall ioyntlie be conioyned and framed in this ball

Nor after that great tryall day the sommer tym e sall last
nor wintar with the sturdie stormes and with hir busling blast
bot all sall change and with the same evin tym e by death sall die

\textsuperscript{74} Meikle: ‘deming’.
and all this changeles solid place that day sall changed be

For rather than sall haistie tyme that waists away and weares

and swiftlye passis but returne nor yit these present yeares

heirafter have within thair hand the goverment of fame

that dois belong to mortall men and purchest hes the same

But that which ones was pure and cleir sall ay be cleir and suir

and that which ones so famous was Eternall sall indwir

fol. 42v

O blissed sowles and happie these that ar vpoun that way

or yit heirafter ar to cum that iornay to assay

Or to that end thair lyfes addres on which I do indyte

and with such zeale and fervuencie thairof dois speak and wryte

And thair amongs these glorious sancts and pilgrims she sal be

whome death afore hir dayes defaist and maid vntimelye die

Than salbe sene before these sancts hir angelict discourse

hir honest wordis hir chaistfull thoughts of honestie the sourse

All which Dame nature to hir praise to mak hir more be graist

within hir young and tendar hart for honour had implaist

These faces fair that tyme with death had so distroyed and slane

sall to thair flooruishing state returne bak agane

Whair then the visage of my dame most hevinlie salbe sene

whose loyall lowe so long a space did so me bound detene

And for that euerie thing sall be vnto the sanctis maid knowen

so thair sall I amongs that band whome lowe hes so ourthrownen
Be pointed at with all thair handis and euerie one sall say
   beholde the man for LAURAS saik that plaind both night and day
Yit notwithstanding all his plaints his woe his doole his noy
   he happier Is than anye man that hes enjoyed more Ioy
And than to hir of whome I wryte and weepinglie dois sing
   my constant fayith and loyall hart great wounder sall inbring
And mak hir merwell at hir selff when all that hevinlie rowt
   sall hawe thair toungs and all thair voyce furth in hir prais brek owt
Quhen this salbe I know not well bot LAURA weill dois ken
   for that the credeit of these thingis belongs vnto these men
And wemen who are of that trowpe and cumpanie elect
   companions with the fayithfull flok whom god w' crownis hes deckt
Bot sen these secreatis be secreit be who thairto can attane
   or who sall then dissolwe this doubt or gif ane answer plane
bot yit so far as mortall men conieecteur may or gess
   evin as the day dois neir approche so dois the world wax less

Quhair than the conscience of all men sall give a iust account
   bothe of thair fals and iustest gane before his throne and mount
Quhair thay thair labouris panes and workis and travellis all sall sie
   the instrumentis vnto thair wrak and spyders webbs to be
Thair sall they lykewise sie and know how presentlie in vane
   thay plundge thame selfis in vanest cairs to conquieiss worldlie gane
And how to long most folishlye they tyre thame selfs and sweat
   when so in end thay sall perceawe thame troumpet by deceat
And at that tyme and on that day no secreit sall be than
To cower or close to abide hyde or shute the hartis & thoughts of man

**fol. 43r**

Bot euerie conscience than sall be dark duskish or ellis cleir

and naked salbe before the world and opned than appeir

And than that glorious judge god and Judge who weill these thingis do know

pronounce sall then his Iudgementis iust and sentence furthe sall shaw

Whair after It the godles men sall tak thame to thair way

as dois the wyld dispersed beasts whome houndis dois putt in fray

Returne with speid vnto the woods to hyde thame in thair hole

so wicked men sall haist to hellis thair for thair sins to thole

And at that tyme thair salbe sene and on that tryall day

possessionis earthlye, ratches greit / and glorye without stay

High digniteis and Princelie Pompe / to which men did attane

no proffeit nor yit glorye bring bot rather loss than gane

Bot on the other syid the iust whom god hes tane to grace

salbe vpliftit to the heavinis and thair beholde his face

for thay did brydle so thair willis and vsed thair fortoun so

that it was reinyed with modestie and did not higher go

Whair thay sall ioy in happiness and in eternall bliss

but pompe or pryde or glorye vane that so men leadis amiss

These Triumphs fywe we on this earth hawe sene thame bothe and knowen

The sax, when it sall pleis our god sall ws abowe be showen

Whair tyme that all thingis dois vndoe and bringis vnto ane end

and greadie death that in hir rage dois on his pray intend
Sall both togethers be defaist and bothe to death be brought

who by the force of thair impyre suche spoyle on all hes wrought

Bot these who meritis lasting Fame though quhill they liwed heir

Tyme with despyte conseuminge It, did waist away and weir

And these fair lookes and bewtye brawe, that gallant sight and hew

That death and tyme, did palish mak sall brawe agane renew

OBLIUION and suche vglie sights so hideous horrible sad

salbe agane to thame restored, so felloun and so mad

and in a far more fresher age / our soules sall than reclame

Immortall bewtye ay to last with long eternall fame

Wheare then afore all other folk in that eternall glore

MA DONNA LAURA ladye fair sall formost be before

Whome now this world dois with his plaintis and with my toung requyre

and with my weryed Pen to sie dois earnistlye desyre

The heavinis likwyse dois earnistlie prease to hawe the same

that they may hir whole ioyned inioy vnto hir former frame.

fol. 43v

Thair Is a floode from GIBEN flowes vpone whose bank and syde

thair lowe so long a lasting woe did vnto me prowyde

The memorie whairof alas dois make me yit to shrink

so that I tremble night and day and fantis thairon to think

O blissed stone o happie grave that dois within inclose

the fairest face of feminine yea of the world the chose

If I was happie than estemed or Iudge my self than blist
when I on earth beheld thy corpss or Death had cutt the twist
That did Prolong thy glorious lyfe whois wrak dois work my woe
and causis so my sore lamentis my pleasouris to ourthroe
When sall I be when I sall sie the in the heavinis decord
with glorye and thy glorious corpss vnto hir soule restord

Epiloge

Now with this work my panis sall end and heir my pen sall stay
with earnest prayer to my god to leade me in that way
Of lasting lyfe and livinge fame and that I may forsake
these trifling toyes and vane conceats that dois my vertew shake
And by example of this wight who first this work\(^75\) dois wryte
my toung may speik my pen may oft\(^76\) the glorye of god Indyte.

Finis

DEO HONOR ET GLORIA

PLURIMUM FACERE, NIMIUM DE SE IPSO LOQUI
PRUDENTIORIS EST

PLAUTUS.

\(^{75}\) The final *k* is a correction by a later hand; the orginal version reads ‘world’.
\(^{76}\) Meikle: ‘of’.