60

"my Lord of Norwych hath proferyd it hem wyth certeyn condycyons, & pei haue a tyme of avysement for to sey nay or 3a whepyr pei wyl, and perfor I am a-ferd pei wyl not deny it but be ryt glad to haue it." Thys creatur preyd to God pat hys wyl myt be fulfyllyd. 5 &, for-as-mech as sche had be reuelacyon pat pei xuld not haue it, scho was pe mor bold to preyn owyr Lord to wythstonde her intent & to slakyn her bost. And, so as owyr Lord wolde, pei obeyd not ne lyked not pe menys whech wer proferyd hem, for pei trostyd fully to han her 10 entent be lordshep & be proces of lawe; &, as God wolde. bei wer deceyuyd of her entent, and for bei wold han al pei lost al. And so, blyssed mot God ben, pe parysch cherch stod stylle in her worshep & hyr degre as sche had don ij hundryd 3er befor & mor, and pe inspiracyon 15 of owyr Lord was be experiens preuyd for very sothfast & sekyr in pe forseyd creatur.

Whan tyme cam pat pis creatur xuld vysiten po holy Canishe set forth placys wher owyr Lord was whyk & ded, as sche had be tulum Holy Land. reuelacyon Berys a-forn, sche preyd pe parysch preste of 26 pe town per sche was dwellyng to sey for hir in pe pulpyt 21 pat, yf any man er woman pat cleymyd any dette of hir husbond or of hir pei xuld come & speke wyth hir er sche went, & sche, wyth pe help of God, xulde makyn a-seth to ech of hem pat pei schuldyn heldyn hem content. 25 & so sche dede. Sythen sche toke hir leue at hir husbond & of pe holy ankyr, whech had teld hir beforn pe proces of hir goyng & mech dysese pat sche xuld sufferyn be pe wey, and, whan alle hir felaschep forsoke hir, how a broke-bakkyd man xuld ledyn hire forth in safte thorw 30 pe help of owyr Lord. & so it be-[fel in]1 dede, as it xal be wretyn aftyrwarde. Than | sche toke hir leue of [f. 30a] Maystyr Robert & preyd hym of hys blyssyng, & so forth of oper frendys. & pan sche went forth to Norwych and offeryd at pe Trinite, & sythen sche went to 35 Zermowth, & offeryd at an ymage of owyr Lady, & per sche toke hir schyp. & pe next day pei cam to a gret town hyte Seryce, wher owyr Lord of hys hey goodnesse

1 fel in completely destroyed.

vysited pis creatur wyth abundawnt teerys of contricyon for hir owyn synnes and sumtyme for oper mennys synnes also. And specyaly sche had teerys of compassyon in pe mende of owyr Lordys Passyon. And sche she wep 5 was howselyd eche Sonday wher pat tyme was & place and sobbed each Sunday convenient perto wyth gret wepyngys & boystows was sobbyngys pat many men merueyled & wonderyd of abstained pe gret grace pat God wrowt in hys creatur. Thys wherefore creatur had etyn no flesch ne drunkyn no wyn iiij 3ere 1 her company 10 er sche went owt of Ynglond. And as now hyr gostly shamefully reprored fadyr chargyd hir be vertu of obediens pat sche xulde bothyn etyn flesch & drynkyn wyn, & so sche dede a lytyl whyle. Sythen sche preyd hir confessowr he wolde heldyn hir excused pow sche ete no flesch, and suffred hir 15 to do as sche wold for a tyme as hym lykyd. And sone aftur thorw meuyng of summe of her cumpany hyr confessowr was dysplesyd for sche ete no flesch, & so was mech of alle pe cumpany. And pei wer most displesyd for sche wepyd so mech & spak alwey of pe lofe & goodnes 20 of owyr Lord as wel at pe tabyl as in oper place. & perfor schamfully pei repreuyd hir & alto-chedyn hir & seyden pei wold not suffren hir as hir husbond dede whan sche was at hom & in Inglond. And sche seyd mekely a-geyn vn-to hem, " Owyr Lord al-mygty God is as gret a 25 lord her as in Inglond, & as gret cause haue I to lofe hym her as per, blyssed mot he be." For pes wordys hir felaschep was wropar pan pei wer be-forn, whose wreth & vnkyndnesse to pis creatur was mater of gret heuynes, for þei wer holdyn ryt good men, & sche desyred gr[etly] 2 30 her lofe 3yf sche myth an had it to be plesawns [of [f. 30b] God].3 | & pan sche seyd to oon of hem specyaly, "Ze do au me meche schame & gret greuawns." He answeryd a-geyn a-noon, "I prey God pat pe Deuelys deth mote ouyr-go pe sone & rape," & many mo cruel wordys he 35 seyd to hir pan sche cowde rehersyn. And sone aftyr summe of pe cumpany on whech sche trostyd best & hir owyn mayden also seyden sche xuld no lengar gon in her

⁸ of God completely destroyed.

¹ iiij 3ero repeated in red in outer margin.

The loop of the o and the tops of two superior letters, presumably tl, still visible.

triberest of source degree a source de prost by deste prost of properties ILY ALLEN

Liber Montis Gracie. This boke is of Mountegrace.1

[f. 12] | Here 2 begynnyth a schort tretys and a comfortabyl Here begins for synful wrecchys, wher-in bei may have gret solas which tells of Christ's and comfort to hem and vndyrstondyn pe hy & vnspe-moving a cabyl mercy of ower souereyn Sauyowr Cryst Ihesu, whos creature to 5 name be worschepd and magnyfyed wythowten ende, pat now in ower days to vs vnworthy deyneth to exercysen hys nobeley & hys goodnesse. Alle pe werkys of ower Saviowr ben for ower exampyl & instruccyon, and what grace pat he werkyth in any creatur is ower profyth yf

10 lak of charyte be not ower hynderawnce. And perfor, be pe leue of ower mercyful Lord Cryst Ihesu, to pe magnyfying of hys holy name, Ihesu, pis lytyl tretys schal tretyn sumdeel in parcel of hys wonderful werkys, how mercyfully, how benyngly, & how charyte-

15 fully he meued & stered a synful caytyf vn-to hys love, whech synful caytyf many zerys was in wyl and in purpose thorw steryng of pe Holy Gost to folwyn (oure) 3 Savyowr, makyng gret behestys of fastyngys wyth many oper dedys of penawns. And eugr sche was turned

20 a-3en a-bak in tym of temptacyon, lech vn-to pe reed- like spyr whech boweth wyth euery wynd & neuyr is stable les pan no wynd bloweth, vn-to pe tyme pat ower mercyfulle Lord Cryst Ihesu hauyng pety & compassyon of hys handwerke & hys creatur turnyd helth in-to

25 sekenesse, prosperyte in-to aduersyte, worshep in-to repref, & love in-to hatered. Thus alle pis thyngys turnyng vp-so-down, pis creatur whych many 3erys had

1 This indication of ownership at top of verso of binding leaf before f. 1 in black ink in a hand of the late fifteenth century.

² inc at top of f. 1^a. H of Here a large rubric capital, with small h written in black ink for the direction of the rubricator still visible, although partly obscured by the capital. All marginal and interlinear notes in red are probably in one hand of the late fifteenth

or early sixteenth century.
3 ours in red above, with red caret before, Savyowr.

reedstalk