

coland buend onpuman  
nom anzi melme þem  
ande þæs landes is on se  
pume þæs læssan mil se  
flæs. þe stadio hatte

þund. þæs melan þeleoneg hatte þreo  
hund teahita 7lx. On þem ealande bið miel  
mene seo scēpa þanon is to babiloman þæs  
læssan mil se tæles stadio hund teontig. 7  
teahita 7lx. þæs melan mil se tæles þeleoneg  
hacce fiftýne 7 hund teontig

Salond bunn is spýðust  
æge monum geseted  
þæs beod pedias acen  
ned on oxna micelnes  
se þabuad odineda

buph þære bup se nama is arche medon  
seo is mæst to babilonia buph þonon sýndon  
þæs læssan mil se tæles stadi. ccc. 7 þæs  
manan þeleon hatte .cc. þrom arche medon

þæs sýndon þam melan mæda þýndon þa þære  
þese melan macedonisca alexandri he 5  
pýcan. þland is on lense. 7 on bice de .cc. þa  
læssan mil se tæles stadi 7 þæs melan þele  
hacce .c. xxx. 7 healf mil

**S**um stow is mon fered to  
þære þeardan se seo is  
hacen lentibel sinea þam  
beod heina acenned on see  
þonne þeind us beod þeardas  
heops. 5 þa þa hyle man numan þe of þe himo  
æ himed þonne þa þeardas hýsona ead  
lic þýndon unse þe se liew liblac.

**F**acenne. þa deop þonne  
hy mannes stene se hý  
rad þonne fleod hýfeop.  
þa deop habbað eadza

þe. 7 þe eýnan eazan. 7 þa heafdu 5 þ  
þim hyle mon on þon pille þonne heora lichoman



## The Wonders of the East

Seo land-bunis is on fruman from Antimolime þæm lande.  
Þæs landes is on gerime þæs læssan mil-getæles þe *stadio*  
hatte fif hund, ond þæs miclan þe *leones* hatte þreo hund ond  
eahta ond .lx. On þæm ea-lande bið micel mængeo sceapa,  
ond þanon is to Babilonian þæs læssan mil-getæles *stadio*  
hundteontig ond eahtha ond .lx., ond þæs miclan mil-getæles  
þe *leones* hatte fiftyne ond hundteontig.

5 Seo lond-bunis is swyðust cepe-monnum geseted. Þær  
beoð weðras acenned on oxna micelnesse, þa buað oð Meda  
burh. Þære burge nama is Archemedon; sio is mæst to Babi-  
lonia burh, þanon syndon þæs læssan mil-getæles *stadi* .ccc.  
ond þæs maran þe *leon* hatte .cc. from Archemedon. Þær  
syndon þa miclan mæraða, þæt syndon þa weorc þe se micla  
macedonisca Alexander het gewyrcan. Ðæt land is on lenge  
ond on bræde .cc. þæs læssan mil-getæles *stadi* ond þæs mic-  
lan þe *leones* hatte .cxxx. ond healf mil.

Sum stow is þonne mon fereð to þære Rcadan Sæ seo is  
10 þe mid us beoð reades heowes. Þæm beoð henna acenned onlice ðam  
opþe him o æthrineð, þonne forbærnað hy sona eal his lic.  
Þæt syndon ungefrægelicu liblac.

Eac þonne þær beoð wildeor acenned; þa deor þonne hy

The settled area starts from the country Antimolima. The  
length of that country by count of the smaller measure of  
distance called stades is five hundred; of the large variety  
called leagues, three hundred sixty-eight. On that island  
there is a vast multitude of sheep, and from there to Baby-  
lon it is one hundred sixty-eight of the lesser measure of  
distance stades, and of the large measure of distance called  
leagues one hundred fifteen.

The settled area is inhabited chiefly by merchants. Rams  
5 propagate there the size of oxen, which populate the area as  
far as the city of the Medes. The name of the city is Archeme-  
don; it is the largest city excluding Babylon, to which it is  
three hundred of the smaller measure of distance, stades,  
and two hundred of the larger called leagues from Archeme-  
don. Those great monuments are there, that is, the works  
that the Macedonian Alexander the Great directed to be  
made. That country is in length and breadth two hundred of  
the lesser measure of distance, stades, and of the large that  
is called leagues one hundred thirty, plus one half mile.

There is a certain place when one is going to the Red Sea  
that is called Lentibelsinea, where hens are hatched like  
those that are among us of a red color. If anyone wants to  
10 capture them or touch them at all, they immediately burn  
up his entire body. That is unparalleled black magic.

In addition, wild animals are native there; when those

þu on elad þu syndon þu m se puzzebeu deon



of stop hapad nædruin. þu nædran habbad  
þu heafdu þa þa eazan semad mhtes þa  
wite þa blæccin.

þu mon lande eotelas

þu acende þa habbad þa

mæle hornas þa oxan

þu syndon on þe mestan

þu me þu on þa sud healfre

þu babilomā. þa buad

þu þe dan sæ for

þa nædræna mænige

þe mþem stopum beoð þa hat ton cornas.

þa habbad þa mæle hornas þa pedenas.

þu þu hþlene man sleað of þe a æthmed

þu me spylted he sona.

On þam landū bið pipores semiz sum m

þu me pipor healdap þa nædran on heopa

semnesse. þu me pipor monpa mmed þu

þu me mid fype on eled þu nædran þu me

opone on þa eotþan þu leod þu þu se pipor bið

þu me þu m babilomā oþþesiam þu þu þu

se pipor þeaxed is þæs læssin m se telas

stada hatte eahta hund mila. of þem is se

teald þes mælan m se teles þe leones hær

vi-hund 7 xxiii. 7 an healf mil. Seo stop is m

þes m bepenlicu for þa þa nædræna mænige

þu me spylce þe beoð cege-

healf hundzgas þa syndon

hatene conopenas þu hab

bad horses manna 7 eotþes

7 xas 7 hunda heafdu 7 heo

þu me bið spylce fypes leg

þu land beoð neah þem buþ

þu þe beoð eallum þu me pe

þu me sepylled þu on þa sud healfre egypta

na landes.

On sumon lande beoð mæn acende þa beoð

þu me landes.

On sumon lande beoð mæn acende þa beoð

þu me landes.



mannes stefne gehyrað, þonne fleoð hy feor. Þa deor habbað eahta fet ond wælcyrrian eagan ond twa heafdu; gif him hwylc mon onfon wille, þonne hiera lic-homan þæt hy onælað. Þæt syndon þa ungefrægelicu deor.

15 Hascellentia hatte þæt land, þonne mon to Babilonia færð, þæt is þonne ðæs læssan mil-getæles þe *stadia* hatte .ix. mila lang ond brad; þæt buged to Meda rice. Þæt land is eal-lum godum gefylled. Þeos stow hafað nædran; þa nædran habbað twa heafdu, þara eagan scinað nihtes swa leohte swa blæc-ern.

On sumon lande eoselas beoð acende þa habbað swa micle hornas swa oxan. Þa syndon on ðam mæstan westene þæt is on þa suð-healfé from Babiloniam. Þa bugað to þæm Rea-dan Sæ, for þara nædreana mænego þe in þæm stowum beoð þa hatton *corsias*. Þa habbað swa micle hornas swa weðeras. Gif hy hwilcne man sleað oþþe a æthrineð, þonne swytreð he sona. On þam landum bið pipores genihtsummis; þone pipor healdap þa nædran on heora geornfulnysses. Þone pipor mon swa nimeð þæt mon þa stowe mid fyre onæleð, ond þa nædran þonne of dune on þa eorþan þæt hi fleoð; forþon se pipor bið sweart.

25 From Babiloniam oð Persiam þa burh þar se pipor weaxeð is þæs læssan mil-geteles þe *stadia* hatte eahta hund mila; of þæm is geteald þæs miclan mil-geteles þe *leones* hatte .vi. hund ond .xxiii. ond an healf mil. Seo stow is unwæstm-berenlicu for þara nædreana mænego.

Eac swylce þær beoð cende healf-hundingas þa syndon hatene *conopenas*. Hy habbað horses mana ond eoferes tuxas ond hunda heafðu, ond heora oroð bið swylce fyres leg. Þas

animals hear a human voice, they flee far away. The animals have eight feet and Valkyries' eyes and two heads; if anyone wants to capture them, they send their body up in flames. Those are unique creatures.

15 Hascellentia is the name of that country, when one is going to Babylon, which in length and breadth is nine of the smaller measure of distance called stades; it is subject to the kingdom of the Medes. That region is filled with all good things. This place has snakes; the snakes have two heads, of which the eyes shine at night as bright as a lamp.

In a certain region asses propagate that have horns as large as oxen have. They are in the greatest desert that is to the south of Babylon. They retreat to the Red Sea, on ac- 20 count of the multitude of snakes that are called *corsiaæ* which are in those places. They have horns as large as rams have. If anyone strikes them or touches them at all, he will die immediately. In that region there is an abundance of pepper; the snakes keep the pepper under their watch. The pepper is obtained in such a way that the area is set ablaze, and the snakes then flee down into the earth; therefore the pepper is black.

From Babylon to the city called Persia where the pepper 25 grows is eight hundred of the smaller measure that is called stades; from the same the count is six hundred twenty-three of the large measure of distance called leagues, plus one half mile. The area is unfruitful on account of the multitude of snakes.

Likewise, cynocephali are born there which are called *conopenae*. They have the mane of a horse and the tusks of a boar and dogs' heads, and their breath is like the blaze of a fire. These regions are near the cities that are filled with all

in lense sýx pot mela. In habbad bea  
us of cneop side 7 fetx oð helan. homo dubi  
7 sýndon haterne þ beoð 7 minen 7 be hmetapum  
pium hy lifiad 7 þa etap  
Caphazze seo ea in hege ilcan scope þe is  
hater sononeus. þis wæl kyngs 7 her beoð  
cendē aemetan sparnnele swa hundas hy habbaþ  
þe se swa swa 7 hoppa hy sýndon þe a des heopa  
þe aces heopa þa aemetan delpað sold up  
of eorþan fram foran niht e odda þif tan tid  
a ge þamen þe to þon dyrstige beoð þ hi þe  
sold nimen þonne le dād hy mid him oþendan  
meqan mid hyra folan 7 stedan. þa folan hyze  
selad aþ hy oþer þa ea faren. þ sold ho se  
pa ad on þa meqan 7 hy sylfe on sit tad 7 þa  
stedan þa folatad. þonne þa aemetan  
hy on fundad 7 þa hwile þe þa aemetan embe  
þone seo dan abyrgode beoð. þonne þamen  
mid þam meqan 7 mid þam sold e oþer þa ea  
fared hy beoð swa hwedlice oþer þa ge ea

100  
7 menpend þæt hy fleozan



7 eorþ þýsson 7 þam ean is lond þam is loco  
7 heo hater 7 þis be eorþa nile 7 þýsson  
7 seced seo nil is ealdor þa llyca ea. 7 heo  
florod of egypta lande. 7 hi nemad þa  
ea ancho boleza þis hater þ micle þa ea

land beoð neah þæm burgum þe beoð eallum world-welum gefylled; þæt is on þa suð-healfre Egyptana landes.

30 On sumon lande beoð men acende þa beoð on lenge syx fot-mæla. Hi habbað beardas oþ cneow side ond feax oð he-  
lan. *Homodubii* hy syndon hatene, þæt beoð twi-men, ond be  
hreawum fixum hy lifiað ond þa etap.

Capi hatte seo ea in þære ilcan stowe þe is haten Gorgo-  
neus, þæt is Wælkyriging. Þær beoð cende æmetan swa micle  
35 swa hundas. Hy habbaþ fet swelce swa græs-hoppan; hy  
syndon reades heowes ond blaces heowes. Pa æmettan del-  
fað gold up of eorþan from foran-nihte oð ða fiftan tid  
dæges. Pa men þe to þon dyrstige beoð þæt hi þæt gold ni-  
men, þonne lædað hy mid him olfendan meran mid hyra fo-  
lan ond stedan. Pa folan hy gesælað ær hy ofer þa ea faren.  
40 Þæt gold hio gefætað on þa meran ond hy sylfe onsittað, ond  
þa stedan þær forlætað. Þonne þa æmettan hy onfindað, ond  
þa hwile þe þa æmettan embe þone stedan abysgode beoð,  
þonne þa men mid þam merun ond mid þam golde ofer þa  
ea fareð. Hy beoð swa hrædlice ofer þære ea þæt men wenað  
þæt hy fleogan.

Betwih þysson twam ean is lond-bunis Locotheo hatte;  
þæt is betwih Nile ond Bryxontes geseted. Seo Nil is ealdor  
eallcra ea, ond heo floweð of Egypta lande, ond hi nemnað  
þa ea Archoboleta, þæt is haten þæt micle wæter. On þys-  
sum stowum beoð acende þa miclan mænego ylpenda.

45 Ðær beoð cende men, hy beoð fiftyne fota lange, ond hy  
habbað hwit lic ond twa neb on anum heafde, fet ond  
cneowu swyðe reade ond lange nosa ond sweart feax. Þonne  
hy cennan willað, þonne farað hi on scipum to Indeum, ond  
þær hyra gecynda in world bringaþ.

Ciconia in Gallia hatte þæt land, þær beoð men acende

worldly treasures; that is to the south of the land of the  
Egyptians.

In a certain region there are native people who are six  
30 feet in height. They have beards down to the knee and  
hair to the heel. They are called *Homodubii*, that is, "maybe-  
people," and they live on raw fish and eat them.

Capi is the name of the river in the same place that is  
called Gorgoneus, that is, "Valkyrian." Ants as large as dogs  
35 propagate there. They have feet such as grasshoppers have;  
they are of red color and of black color. The ants dig gold up  
out of the earth from dusk until the fifth hour of the day.  
People who are daring enough to go after the gold take with  
them female camels with their calves and males. They tie up  
the calves before they cross the river. They load the gold on  
the females and seat themselves on them, and they leave be-  
40 hind the males. When the ants find them, and while the ants  
are busy with the male, the people cross the river with the  
females and the gold. They are across the river so quickly  
that people suppose they fly.

Between these two rivers is a settled area called Loco-  
theo; it is situated between the Nile and the Brixontes. The  
Nile is the parent of all rivers, and it flows out of the land of  
the Egyptians, and they call the river Archoboleta, which  
is to say "the big water." In these places great herds of ele-  
phants propagate.

45 People are native to the place who are fifteen feet tall,  
and they have a white body and two faces on a single head,  
very red feet and knees and a long nose and dark hair. When  
they intend to reproduce, they go on ships to India, and  
there they bring their offspring into the world.

The region in Gallia is called Ciconia wherein people of

on beoð byron  
 on hea habbað  
 on hwa breað tun  
 copu eaz in mid  
 seodon eaz in  
 lase feahad  
 fea bryde



on beoð conde habeoð on lense hund twotige  
 me la large þif tise þy beoð spere  
 þa ce ne ne sporas mecle for þa þa dja  
 con meclnefse ne moeg nan man  
 þy þelice on þiland setapan



on þise scope if  
 þe spere on þasid  
 þa lye on seces  
 þy se eald þef  
 on inil seceles

þe scadia hae te .ccc. xxxviii þæt in  
 þe leones hae te .ccc. lxxviii on in þæt beoð  
 ce ðe homo dubn þ beoð. þy habbað oððe  
 napolan on men in eū se seape. þy þan on  
 eofoles selices se þy habbað lon se scaua  
 þa fuzelas þy þelice fe qne. Gif þy þelene  
 man on þan landū on gytad oððe se seod  
 þonne fteod þy feor.



D  
 onne if oþer scop  
 Al scopd se in beoð  
 on. þa habbað cym  
 þas undor þa þa if  
 se eald .c. þ syn

don þa þy þan men þæt al weop ðes ean þæt  
 syndon eþgen se þas. oþer if sum man oþer  
 monan se sumnan sead se bñ ðes ean þæt  
 eal eald. þe monan sead se bñ in þe of þæt  
 þes eald. heo þa wðnes if .c. þæt læssa  
 in se celes scadia. þæt man þe leane  
 hae te .ccc. xxxviii on in þæt inil

on ðrys heowes, þara heafdu beoð gemonu swa leona heafdu, ond hi beoð .xx. fota lange, ond hy habbað micelne muð swæ fon. Gyf hi hwylcne monnan on þæm landum ongitað oððe geseoþ, oððe him hwilc folgiende bið, þonne feor þæt hi fleoð, ond blode hy swætað. Þas beoð men gewende.

50 Begeondan Brixonte ðære ea, east þonon beoð men acende lange ond micle, þa habbað fet ond sconcan .xii. fota lange, sidan mid breostum seofan fota lange. Hi beoð swertes hives, ond *Hæstes* hy synd nemned. Cuplice swa hwylcne man swa hy gelæccað, þonne fretað hi hyne.

Donne seondon on Brixonte wildeor þa hatton *Iertices*. Hy habbað eoseles earan ond sceapes wulle ond fugeles fet.

55 Þonne syndon oþere ealond suð from Brixonte, on þon beoð men acende buton heafdum, þa habbað on hyra breostum heora eagan ond muð. Hy seondon eahta fota lange ond eahta fota brade. Ðar beoð dracan cende þa beoð on lenge hundreontige fot-mæla lange ond fiftiges; hy beoð greate swa stænene sweras micle. For þara dracena micelnesse ne mæg nan man na yfelice on þæt land gefaran.

From þisse stowe is oðer rice on þa suð-healfe garsegges þæt is geteald þæs læssan mil-geteles þe *stadia* hatte .ccc. ond .xxxiii., ond þæs miclan þe *leones* hatte .cc.liii. ond an mil. Þær beoð cende *Homodubii*, þæt byð twi-men. Hi beoþ oð ðone nafolan on menniscum gesceape ond syþþan on eoses gelicnesse; ond hy habbað longe sconcan swa fugelas ond libelice stefne. Gif hy hwilcne man on þæm landum ongytað oððe geseoð, þonne fleoð hy feor.

Ðonne is oþer stow el-reordge men beoð on, ond þa habbað cynigas under him þara is geteald .c. Þæt syndon ða

three colors are born whose heads are maned like lions' heads, and they are twenty feet tall, and they have a mouth as big as a fan. If they notice or see any person in that region, or someone is following them, they flee a long distance, and they sweat blood. They are thought to be humans.

Beyond the river Brixontes, east of there, big and tall 50 people are native who have feet and legs twelve feet long, flanks with chests seven feet long. They are of a dark color, and they are called Enemies. Evidently, whatever person they get hold of, they eat him.

Then in the Brixontes there are wild animals called *Iertices*. They have the ears of an ass and the wool of a sheep and the feet of a bird.

Then there are other islands south from the Brixontes on 55 which there are born people without heads, who have their eyes and mouth on their chest. They are eight feet tall and eight feet wide. There dragons propagate that are one hundred fifty feet long; they are as thick as large columns. On account of the abundance of the dragons, no one can travel easily to that region.

From this place there is another realm on the southern 60 side of the ocean that is measured at three hundred thirty-three by the smaller measure of distance called stades, and by the large one that is called leagues two hundred fifty-three plus one mile. *Homodubii* are native to the place, that is, "maybe-people." They are in human shape as far as the navel and then similar to an ass; and they have long legs like birds and a pleasant voice. If they notice or see any person in the region, they flee far away.

Then there is another place in which there are speakers of barbaric tongues, and they have kings under them who





se scope beoð tƿeop  
 cynþibeoð laƿeƿanbeabe  
 ƿile tƿeoƿum onlice of  
 ƿone ƿeoƿū bulzamu  
 se deoƿƿeoƿdeƿta ele  
 beoð acƿunied. scoƿopis



se laſ samil se telas beƿadru harte  
 ƿe laſ melan be leoſan  
 ƿe laſ ƿe ca dan se  
 ƿe laſ if man cynþe  
 ƿe laſ deoƿe ƿe  
 ƿe laſ laſ ſyndon  
 ƿe laſ ƿe ƿe ƿe ƿe  
 ƿe laſ ƿe ƿe ƿe ƿe

beoðe oððe me ƿeoƿolan ƿe oððe deſ bið  
 ƿe laſe onlice ƿe laſ can non men iſce se  
 ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe  
 ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe  
 ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe

ƿeoƿum hy hne beƿeoðe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe  
 ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe  
 ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe

**D**onne if eate ƿe laſe beoð men acende ƿe laſe  
 ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe  
 ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe



ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe  
 ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe  
 ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe

ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe  
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 ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe

**D**onne if samu ca lond on sam beoð me  
 ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe  
 ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe ƿe laſe

65 wyrstan men ond þa el-reordegestan. Ond þar syndon twegen seapas; oþer is sunnan oþer monan. Se sunnan seað, se bið se bið dægæs hat ond nihtes ceald, ond se monan seað, se bið nihtes hat ond dægæs ceald. Heora widnes is .cc. þæs læssan mil-geteles *stadia*, ond þæs maran þe *leones* hatte .cxxxiii. ond an half mil.

On þisse stowe beoð treow-cyn þa beoð lawern-beame ond ele-treowum onlice. Of þæm treowum balzamum se deor-weorðesta ele bið acenned. Seo stow is þæs læssan mil-geteles þe *stadia* hatte .c.li. ond þæs miclan þe *leones* hatte .lii.

70 Donne is sum ea-lond in þære Readan Sæ, þær is man-cyn þæt is mid us Donestre nemned, þa syndon geweaxene swa frihteras fram þam heafde oð ðone nafolan, ond se oðer dæl bið mennisce onlic, ond hy cunnon eall mennisce gereord. Þonne hy fremdes cynnes mannan geseoð, þonne nemnað hy hýne ond his magas cupra manna naman, ond mid leas-licum wordum hy hine beswicað ond hine gefoð, ond æfter þan hy hine fretað ealne buton þon heafde ond þonne sittað ond wepað ofer þam heafde.

75 Donne is east þær beoð men acende þa beoð on wæstme fiftyne fota lange ond .x. on brade. Hy habbað micel heafod ond earan swæ fon. Oþer eare hy him on niht underbredað, ond mid oþran hy wreoð him. Beoð þa earan swiðe leohte ond hy beoð swa on lic-homan swa hwite swa meolc. Gyf hy hwilcne mannan on þæm lande geseoð oðþe ongytað, þonne nymað hy hyra earan him on hand ond fleoð swiðe, swa hrædlece swa is wen þæt hy fleogen.

Ðonne is sum ea-lond on þæm beoð men acende þara ea-

number one hundred. Those are the worst people and the most barbaric. And there are two lakes there: one is of the sun, the other of the moon. The lake of the sun is hot by day and cold by night, and the lake of the moon is hot by night and cold by day. Their breadth is two hundred of the smaller measures of distance, stades, of the larger that are called leagues, one hundred thirty-three plus one half mile.

In this place there are species of trees that are like laurels and olive trees. From those trees balsam, the most precious oil, is produced. The area is one hundred fifty-one of the smaller measure of distance that is called stades, and fifty-two of the large one that is called leagues.

Then there is a certain island in the Red Sea where there are humans who are called Donestre among us, who are formed like soothsayers from the head to the navel, and the other part is similar to a human, and they know all human languages. When they see a person of a foreign race, they name him and his kinsmen with the names of acquaintances, and with devious words they delude him, and they get hold of him, and after that they eat him, all but the head, and then sit and weep over the head.

75 Then it is to the east where people are native who are fifteen feet tall in stature and ten wide. They have a large head and ears like a fan. One ear they spread under them at night, and with the other they cover themselves. The ears are very light, and in their body they are as white as milk. If they spot or notice any person in that region, they take their ears in their hands and flee like mad, so quickly that it is supposed they fly.

Then there is a certain island on which people are born

með blæddum  
 me þu ætlanð þu  
 slas an ml ze celes  
 stadia hætte onlen  
 e þonbræde. ecc. 7. x  
 melan he lætanq

ex þær þær ze cymbrio onbeles dazum  
 lobes temple. of is qnum ze þær en. 7. of 7. læs

ge þo tum 7 on þær  
 hean stope is æ  
 sunnan up san ze  
 æt que tus þær  
 ætllæstan bi sceopas  
 genanne ob que  
 æt ue þe ge buton  
 æt of e þum 7 be þam  
 he lise de

þonne if syl den þin ze a id æ sunnan up gong  
 se ha þær be þær se an hord æon tær æ for



með þær tær of þær  
 þær se an beed eorde  
 æt þær þær mas

þonne if ob þær þær on  
 babilonia lan dumber  
 if seæ mæste dun be  
 tær me ða ðune 7 apmoema. se of is æt  
 ðuna mæste 7 þær se. æt æt ðe ðone þær  
 ðan se 7 to an þær ðær beed eorde sjaros



þær þær stope beed þær æt æt með þær hæbbas  
 þær þær spa side æt þær þær þær se 7 þær se  
 þær þær hæbbas þær se þær se 7 þær se  
 þær þær se þær se 7 þær se 7 þær se

gan scinap swa leohte swa man micel blac-ern onele on þeos-tre nihte.

80 *Donne* is sum ea-lond þæt is þæs læssan mil-geteles þe *stadia* hatte on lenge ond on bræde .ccc. ond .lx., ond þæs miclan þe *leones* hatte .cx. Þær was getymbro on Beles dagum þæs cyninges ond Iobes templ of isernum geworcum ond of glæs-gegotum. Ond on þære ilcan stowe is æt sunnan up-gange ðanon eac oþer templ sunnan halig, to þam is sum geþungen ond gedefe sacerd to gesett, ond he ða hofa ge-healdeð ond begymep ond setl *Quietus* þæs stillestan bisceopes, se nænine oþerne mete ne þige buton sæ-ostrum, ond be þam he lifede.

*Donne* is gyliden win-geard æt sunnan up-gonge se hafað bergean hundtreontiges fot-mæla ond fiftiges. Of þæm bergean beoð cende sara-gimmas.

85 *Donne* is oþer rice on Babilonia landum þær is seo mæste dun betwih Meda dune ond Armoenia. Seo is ealra duna mæst ond hyhst. Þær syndon gedefelice menn þa habbað him to cynedome þone Readan Sæ ond to anwalde. Þær beoð cende saro-gimmas.

Ymb þas stowe beoð wif acenned þa habbað beardas swa side oð hyra breost, ond horses hyda hy habbað him to hrægle gedon. Þa syndan hunticgean swiðast nemde, ond fore hundum tigras ond leon ond loxas þæt hy fedað, þæt syndon þa cenestan deor, ond ealra þara wildeora cyn þe on þære dune acende beoð, mid heora scinlace þæt hy gehuntiaþ.

90 *Donne* syndan oþere wif þa habbað eoferes tuxas ond feax oð helan side, ond oxan tægl on lendunum. Þa wif syn-

whose eyes shine as bright as if a large lamp were lighted on a dark night.

80 Then there is a certain island that is in length and breadth three hundred sixty of the smaller measure of distance that is called stades, and one hundred ten of the large that are called leagues. A building was there in the days of King Be-lus, and a temple of Jove made out of ironwork and of molten glass. And in the same place there is in the direction of the rising sun also another temple sacred to the sun, to which a certain virtuous and proper priest is dedicated, and he tends and maintains the tabernacle and the seat "Quiet" of the most serene bishop, who takes no other food than sea-oysters and lived on them.

Then there is a golden vineyard in the direction of the rising sun that has grapes a hundred fifty feet across. From those grapes are produced jewels.

85 Then there is another realm in the region of Babylonia where there is the greatest mountain between the mountain of the Medes and of Armenia. It is the largest and tallest of all mountains. There are estimable men there who hold the Red Sea in their rule and in their control. Jewels are produced there.

About that area women are born who have beards as far down as their breast, and they have put to use horsehide for their clothing. They are known foremost as huntresses, and to serve as hunting dogs they raise tigers and lions and lynxes, that is, the fiercest animals, and with their illusion they hunt the species of all the wild animals that propagate on that mountain.

90 There are other women who have the tusks of a boar and hair down to the heel, and an oxtail on their hindquarters.

pealde he hy þa he hy lipende ofer þan  
nemelste forþon hy syndon ærlice on  
lic homan þun yceope.

**B**eþam Ʒap sege pilde  
þa cyn þa hatton cari  
nos þær syndon fæta  
þliti deopre þær syndon  
men þe be hreapū flæf  
ce. 7 be hūme hy lipad

**O**þam ymstpan deale  
þæswees þe þa deop on beoð carnos 7 þær beoð  
Ʒæst liþeide men.  
cynnƷas þa habbaþ  
in deoƷ monƷ fealde  
leod hazan. heopa  
land Ʒe mara buah  
neah þæm Ʒap sege  
þanon þæm þæm  
ymstpan deale syn  
don feala. cynn Ʒa.



þær þær beoð þær  
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don þryttnye fota lange, ond hyra lic bið on marmor-stanes  
hiwnesse, ond hy habbað olfendan fet ond eoseles teð. Of  
hyra unclennesse hie gefylde wæron from þæm miclan ma-  
cedoniscan Alexandre. Þa cwealde he hy þa he hy lifende  
oferfon ne mehte, forþon hy syndon æwisce on lic-homan  
ond unweorþe.

95 Be þæm garsege is wildeora cyn þa hatton *catinos*, þa syn-  
don frea-wliti deor, ond þær syndon men þe be hreawum  
flæsce ond be hunie hy lifiað. On þæm wynstran dæle þæt  
rice is þe þa deor on beoþ *catinos*, ond þær beoð gæst-lipende  
men, cyningas þa habbaþ under him monigfealde leod-  
hatan. Heora land-gemæra buaþ neah þæm garsege; þanon  
fræm þæm wynstran dæle syndon fela cyninga. Ðis man-cyn  
lyfið fela geara, ond hy syndon fremfulle men. Gif hwilc mon  
him to cymð, þonne gifað hy him wif ær hy hine onweg læ-  
ten. Se Macedonisca Alexander, þa he him to com, þa wæs  
he wundriende hyra menniscnesse, ne wolde he hi cwellan  
ne him nan lað don. Ðonne syndon treow-cyn on þæm þa  
deor-wyrpystan stanas synd of acende, þanon hy growað.  
Ðær moncyn is; seondan sweartes hyiwes on onsynne, þa mon  
hateð Sigel-wara.

Ðonne is sum land win-geardas weaxat on swiðast; þær  
bið rest of elpenda bane geworht, seo is on lenge þreo hund  
fot-mæla lang ond syxa.

105 Ðonne is sum dun Aðamans hatte. On ðære dune bið þæt  
fugel-cynn þe *grifus* hatte. Þa fugelas habbað feower fet ond  
hryðeres tægl ond earnes heafod.

On þære ylcan stowe byð oðer fugel-cynn *fenix* hatte, þa  
habbað cambas on heafde swa pawan, ond hyra nest þætte  
hi wyrcaþ of ðam deor-weorðestan wyrt-gemangum þe man

Those women are thirteen feet tall, and their body has the  
appearance of marble, and they have the feet of a camel and  
the teeth of an ass. For their filthiness they were slaughtered  
by the Macedonian Alexander the Great. He killed them  
when he could not capture them alive, because they are ob-  
scene and disgraceful of body.

95 By the ocean is a species of wild animal called *catini*, which  
are noble-looking beasts, and there are people there who  
live on raw meat and on honey. On the left-hand edge is that  
realm wherein are the animals *catini*, and there are hospita-  
ble people there, kings who have under them various des-  
pots. Their regional borders lie near the ocean, and along it  
from the left-hand edge there are many kings. This race lives  
many years, and they are well-disposed people. If any man  
comes to them, they give him a woman before they will let  
him go away. The Macedonian Alexander, when he visited  
them, was amazed at their humanity, and he would not kill  
them or do them any harm. Then there are species of trees  
100 from which the most precious stones are produced, [trees]  
on which they grow. There are humans there; they are of a  
dark color in their appearance, who are called Ethiopians.

Then there is a certain region in which grapevines grow  
profusely; there is there a couch made of elephants' bone  
which is three hundred six feet long.

105 Then there is a certain mountain called Adamant. On the  
mountain is the species of bird which is called a griffin.  
These birds have four feet and the tail of an ox and the head  
of an eagle.

In the same place there is another species of bird called  
the phoenix, which have crests on their head like peacocks,  
and they build their nest of the most precious mixtures of



an eyn tyf to pelen  
 ayn tyf syndon  
 in synfulle men syn  
 wele man hi eo cynd  
 an synfuld hi him pif  
 hi hinc on pēg lē  
 an se e domfca  
 an se e domfca  
 an se e domfca  
 an se e domfca

opende hysa menfēneffe ne polde lie  
 nepellan ne him nan lad on  
 D omne syndon tye cop cyn  
 an hēm ha deap pū hys an  
 anas synd opae ende  
 an hēm ha deap pū hys an  
 anas synd opae ende  
 an hēm ha deap pū hys an  
 anas synd opae ende



an hēm ha deap pū hys an  
 anas synd opae ende  
 an hēm ha deap pū hys an  
 anas synd opae ende  
 an hēm ha deap pū hys an  
 anas synd opae ende

107  
 H ERIS SEO GEBE DE NI  
 Alexan dref epistolof þæs mel an kyng  
 zes þæs ungan macedonican þone  
 he wiaz isende to aisco tile hi ma  
 tze bege sece misse indre þære melan  
 þeode. 7 be þære pūgal misse his fida  
 þis forpa. he he seond middan seand þe  
 C rēþ he þus sona ariest unþuman þæs  
 aiscoles. Simle ic beo se mindig se que  
 be tpeoh tpeondan freom misse unpa  
 feahza þumun seleofasta lareow 7 ge  
 7 omne medri 7 se spyrtrum þim e  
 seleofasta freond. Ond for þon he  
 wiste welse tūdne unps dome þaze þe  
 ic for þon to þe to þutan ne be þam þe  
 londe indre. 7 be liope ne 7 se se e mis sum  
 be þem ungan dū cyllum medre na  
 þonna. 7 þi deora to þon þi hæt þy so  
 to þare on grette misse þis sa muna  
 þis a þingelis 7 se an gista se þeo de þam

108  
 H ERIS SEO GEBE DE NI  
 Alexan dref epistolof þæs mel an kyng  
 zes þæs ungan macedonican þone  
 he wiaz isende to aisco tile hi ma  
 tze bege sece misse indre þære melan  
 þeode. 7 be þære pūgal misse his fida  
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 C rēþ he þus sona ariest unþuman þæs  
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 7 omne medri 7 se spyrtrum þim e  
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 wiste welse tūdne unps dome þaze þe  
 ic for þon to þe to þutan ne be þam þe  
 londe indre. 7 be liope ne 7 se se e mis sum  
 be þem ungan dū cyllum medre na  
 þonna. 7 þi deora to þon þi hæt þy so  
 to þare on grette misse þis sa muna  
 þis a þingelis 7 se an gista se þeo de þam

109  
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 C rēþ he þus sona ariest unþuman þæs  
 aiscoles. Simle ic beo se mindig se que  
 be tpeoh tpeondan freom misse unpa  
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 7 omne medri 7 se spyrtrum þim e  
 seleofasta freond. Ond for þon he  
 wiste welse tūdne unps dome þaze þe  
 ic for þon to þe to þutan ne be þam þe  
 londe indre. 7 be liope ne 7 se se e mis sum  
 be þem ungan dū cyllum medre na  
 þonna. 7 þi deora to þon þi hæt þy so  
 to þare on grette misse þis sa muna  
 þis a þingelis 7 se an gista se þeo de þam

THE WONDERS OF THE EAST

cinnamomum hateð. Ond of his æðme æfter þusend gearum he fyr onælæð ond þonne geong upp of þam yselum eft ariseþ.

Ðonne is oðer dun þær syndon swearte menn, ond nænig oðer man to ðam mannum geferan mag forðam þe seo dun byð eall byrnende.

THE WONDERS OF THE EAST

the spice that is called cinnamon. And with its breath after a thousand years it kindles a fire and then rises up again young from the ashes.

Then there is another mountain where there are dark people, and no other person can travel to those people because the mountain is all aflame.