‘Synge we now alle and sum’:

Three Fifteenth-Century Collections of Communal Song

A study of British Library, Sloane MS 2593; Bodleian Library, MS Eng. poet. e.1; and St John’s College, Cambridge, MS S.54

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Volume II: Appendices
Appendix A: Transcriptions

Conventions

The transcriptions are close to diplomatic. I have reproduced the spelling, capitalisation and punctuation of the manuscript. Expansions are marked with italics. Otiose contraction signs are marked with an apostrophe. Curled brackets indicate mistakes crossed out in the manuscript. Square brackets indicate my additions to incomplete texts, usually where pages have been damaged. I have normalised the verse layout.

The song numbers are my addition, as are the stanza numbers. Foliation is noted in the margins. For Sloane the current foliation is given first and the earlier foliation, now crossed out in the manuscript, is given second. IMEV and EEC numbers are included below song numbers along with correspondences.

British Library, Sloane MS 2593

S1.  
IMEV 3700.5; EEC Ap. v.

1. þou wost wol lytyl ho is þi foo f. 2r./49r.

2. man loke þou haue þis gys
quat sum euere þou xalt doo
of þi speche þe wil avys
þou wost wol lytil ho is þi foo

3. man rewle þi tunge in swych a gys
þat non mys speche come þe froo
for þan þou dost as þe wys
þou wost wol lytil ho is þi foo

4. Idil speche I rede þou spys
lok to hom þou seyst þi wil too
5. Even the bread he said on his devys
    how he wolt wer’ dublyd preys
    how he wolt wol Lytil ho is þi foo

6. If thou wyt beryn away þe prys
    lestene þis song & synge þer too
    of þi speche þe wil avys
    how he wolt wol Lytil ho is þin foo

S2.
IMEV 1568; EEC 336

No behing þe gentil man how adam dalf & eue sp[an]

1. In þe vale of abraham
    criyst hym self he made adam
    & of his rybbe a fyr womman
    & þus þis semly word began.
    f. 2v./49v.

2. Cum adam & þou xalt se
    þe blysse of paradis þat is so fre
    þerin stant an appil tre
    lef & frewt growit þer on.

3. Adam if þou þis appil ete
    alle þese joyis þou xalt forȝete
    & þe peynis of helle gete
    þus god hymself warnid adam.

4. Quan god was fro adam gon
    some after cam þe fend anon
    a fals tretour he was on.
    He tok þe tre & krep þer on.

5. Quat eylyt þe adam art þou wod
    þi lord hast tawt þe lytil good
    he wolde not þou vnderstod
    of þe wyttis þat he can.

6. Tak þe appil of þe tre
    & ete þer of I bidde þe
    & alle hese joyis þou xalt se
    Fro þe he xal hedyn non.

7. Quan adam hadde þat appil {&} ete
    alle hese joyis wern föræte
non word mor’ myst he speke
He stod as nakyd as a ston.

8. þan ca[m] an aungil with a swerd
& drof adam into a {ferd} disert
þer was adam sor’ aferd
For labour coude he werkyn non-

S3.
IMEV 3034; EEC 315

Alle maydenis for godis grace worchepe þe seynt nicolas·

1. Seynt Nicholas was of gret poste
for he worchepid maydenis þre
þat wer sent in fer cuntre
Common wommen for to be-

2. Her’ fader was man in powr’ aray
onto his dowteris he gan say
dowteris ze must away
Non lenger kepe þou I may·

3. Dowteris myn blyssing I þou þeue
for catel wil not with me þryue
ze must with þ þowr’ body leue
þour wordis ze must dryue·

4. þe eldest dowter swor be bred of qwete
I haue leuere beggyu n myn mete
& getyn me good qwer I may gete
þan ledyn myn lyf in lecher[i]

5. þe medil dowter seyde so mote che the
I hadde leuere hangyd & drawyd be
with wylde hors to or þre
þan ledin myn lyf in lecher[i]

6. þe zonger’ lechery gan to spyse
& preyid saynt nicholas as che was wise
saynt nicholas as he was wyse
Help vs fro lechr[i]

7. Saynt nicholas at þe townys ende
conseylid þo maydenis hom to wynde
& þrow godis grace he xulde hem synde
husbondis þre good & hind

S4.
IMEV 3658; EEC 365
God þat alle mytis may helpe vs at our ending day.

1. þis word lordinggis I vnder stonde
   may be lyknyd to an husbonde
   þat takit a ferme into his honde
   to ȝelde þeþof serteyn pay.

2. Spende we neyþer speche ne spylle
   neyþer for good ne for ille
   we xuln {spekyn} ȝeuyyn acontis grylle
   Beforn our lord on domys day

3. leue lordyngis be war of þis
   for ofyn tyme we don amys
   þer is nom of vs iwys
   But þat we trespasy euery day.

4. þis word lordyngis is but a farye
   it faryt ryȝt as a neysche weye
   þat now is wet & now is dreye
   For soȝe serteyn as I zow say.

5. Now is joye & now is blys
   now is balle & bitternesse
   now it is & now it nys
   þus pasyt þis word away.

6. Now I hope & now I synge
   now I daunce now I sprynge
   now I weyle & now I wrynge
   Now is wel & now is way.

7. Nou I hoppe & now I daunce
   now I prike & now I praunce
   þis day heyl temorwe perchaunce
   We mown be ded & ley in clay.

8. At domis day quan we xul ryse
   & come beforne our heye jastyse
   & ȝeuyyn acontis of our seruise
   & payyn vp our laste pay

9. Help vs mary for þan is nede
   help to excusyn our misdede
   [a]s þou art mouewer’ at our nede
   Help vs þan & sey not nay.

S5.
IMEV 118; EEC 68
1. Adam our fader was in blis
   & for an appil of lytl prys
   he loste þe blysse of paradys
   pro sua superbia·

2. And alle þat euer’ of hym cam
   þe ryth weye to helle nam
   bope Ysaac & Abraham
   Teste profecia·

3. þan þese profetis prechyd afor
   þat a chyld xuld be born
   to beye þat adam hadde forlorn
   Sua morte proprio·

4. Moyses ferst in his lawe told
   a chyld þer xuld be born so bold
   to beye æyn þat adan sold
   Sua nocte pessima

5. Isaac withoute lesyng
   profeciid in his prechyn
   of jesse rote a flour xuld spryng
   De virgine purica·

6. Jeromy þat was so ȝyng
   profecyd of his comyng
   þat is veri lord & kyng
   Summi patris gracia·

7. fferþeremor’ as I zou telle
   þan profecyd danyelle
   of hys commyng he gan spelle
   Gentibus in iudea·

8. Quan tyme cam of god almyȝt
   þat wolde brynge mankynde to ryȝt
   In a maydyn he gan lyȝt
   Que vocatur maria·

9. Now is he born þat blysful chyld
   of mary moder mayde myld
   fro þe fynd he vs schyld
   Qui creauit omnia

10. Prey we to hym with al our mynde
    þat haȝt mad al mankynde
he brynge vs alle to good ende
In die nouissima

**S6.**
*IMEV 527; EEC 24*

Eya Jhesu hodie natus est de uirgine-

1. Blyssid be þat mayde mary
   born he was of her’ body
godis sone þat syttit on hy
**non ex uirili semine**-

2. In a manjour of an as
   Jhesu lay & lullyd was
harde peynis for to pas
**pro peccante homine**-

3. Kyngis comyn fro dyuesse londe
   with grete 3yfts in her’ honde
In bedlem þe child þey fonde
Stella ducte lumine

4. Man & chyld boþe eld & ying
   now in his blysful comyng
to þat chyld now we syng
**gloria tibi domine**

5. Nowel nowel in þis halle
   make merye I prey
**zou alle**
onto þat chyld may we calle
**Vllo sine crimine**

**S7.**
*IMEV 739; EEC 329*

Gay gay gay gay: þink on dryeful domis day

1. Euery day þou myst ler’
to helpe þiself qwyl þou art her’
**quan þou art ded & leyd on ber’**
Cryst help þi sowle for þou ne may-

2. Thynk man on þi wyttis fyue
do sum good qwyl þou art on lyve
go to cherche & do þe schryve
**& bryng þi sowle in good aray**-

3. Thynk man on þi synnys seuen
gay gay gay gay: þink how merie it is in heuene
prey to god with mylde stefne
He be þin helpe {he bryng} on domys day.

4. Lok þat þou non þing ster’
   ne non fals wytnesse ber’
   Thynk how {mai} cryst was stunge with sper’
   quan he deyid on good fryday.

5. Lok þat þou ne sle non man
   ne do non foly with non womman
   thynk þe blod from jhesus ran
   quan he deyid withoutyn nay

S8.
IMEV 4219; EEC 395; also in BL, Harley MS 7358 f. 8r.

Wommen be boþe good & trewe wytnses of marye.

1. Of hondis & body & face arn clene
   Wommen {ben} mown non beter bene
   In euery place it is sene
   Wytneses of marie.

2. It is knowyn & euere was
   þer a womman is in plas
   womman is þe welle of gras
   Wytnesse.

3. þey louyn men with herte {fre} trewe
   he wyl not chaungyn for non newe
   wommen ben of wordys ffewe
   Wytnesse.

4. Wommen ben trewe without lesyng
   wommen be trewe in alle þing
   & out of car’ þey mown vs bryng
   Wytneses of marie

S9.
IMEV 1662; EEC 87

Jhesu jhesu jhesu jhesu saf vs alle þorw þi virtu-

1. Jhesu as þou art our sauyour
   þat þou saue vs fro dolour
   jhesu is myn paramour
   Blyssid be þi name jhesu

2. Jhesu was born of a may
   vp on cristemesse day
sche was may befor & ay
Blyssid be þi name jhesu

3. þre kyngis comen fro segent
To jhesu cryst þey browte present
lord god omnipotent
Saf us alle þrow ði vir·

4. Jhesu deyd & schad his blod
for al mankynde vp on þe rod
he graunt vs grace of happis good
I beske þe swete jhesu

5. Jhesu for ði moderis sake
kepe vs fro þe fyndis blake
ðæs hyl þat we mown wake
& saue vs alle þrow ði vir·

S10.
IMEV 1020; EEC 383

Now go gyle gyle gyle now go gile gyle go-

1. Gyle & gold togeder’ arn met
coueytys be hym is set
now hast gyle leyd his net
to gyle boþe frynd & fo

2. þer is non wman worst a schelle
but he cuñ plete with wryt or bylle
his neybouris for to spylle
& ðere men to werky

3. Coweytise in herte is lent
ryȝt & resoun awey is went
man be war þou be not schent
Gyle wil þi herte slo·

4. Now hast gyle get hym gre
boþe in town & in cete
gyle goþ with grete mene
Wyth men of lawe & ðere mo

5. Trewþe heuene mot he wynne
gyle xal in helle brenne
he þat made al mankynde
Amend hem þat mys han do

S11.
IMEV 3959; EEC 390
Syng we alle & sey we þus gramersy myn owyn purs·

1. Quan I haue in myn purs inow
   I may haue boþe hors & plow
   & also fryndis inow
   þrow þe virtu of myn purs·

2. Quan my purs gynnyst to slak
   & þer is nowt in my pak
   þey wil seyn go far wil jak
   þou xalt non mor’ drynke with vs·

3. þus is al myn good ilorn
   & myn purs al totorn
   I may pleynie with an horn
   In þe stede al of myn purs

4. ffar wil hors & far wil cow
   far wil carte & far wil plow
   as I pleyd me with a bow
   I seyd god quat is al þis

S12.
IMEV 3707; EEC 356; also in Bod., MS Eng. poet. e.1, ff. 30v.-31r. (E41)

Synful man for godis sake I rede þat þou amendis mak

1. þow þou be kyng of tour & town
   þow þou be kyng & wer’ coroun
   I sette ryzt not be þi renown
   But if þou wylt amendys make

2. þat hast her’ is ðepere menys
   & so it xal ben quan þou art hens
   þi sowle xal abeye þi synnys
   but if þou wit amendys make·

3. þow þou be boþe stef & strong
   & many a man þou hast do wrong
   well awey xal be þi song
   but

4. Man be war þe weye is sledger
   þou xal slyde þou wost not qweder
   body & sowle xul go togeder
   but & c’

5. Man ber not þi hed to heye
   In pumpe & pride & velonye
In helle þou xalt ben hangyd hye
but it þou wilt amendys make-

S13.
IMEV 1893; EEC 175; also in Bod., Eng. poet. e.1, f. 21r.-v. (E16); Balliol College, Oxford, MS 354, p. 462

Of a rose a louely rose of a rose is al myn song-

1. lestenyt lorgyg/s bope elde & zynge
   how þis rose began to spryngge
   swych a rose to myn lylyngge
   In al þis word ne knowe I non

2. þe aungil cam from heuene tour
   to grete marye with gret honour
   & seyde che xuld ber’ þe flour
   þat xulde breke þe fyndis bond

3. þe flour sprung in heye bedlem
   þat is bope bryst & schen
   þe rose is mary heuene qwyn
   out of her’ bosum þe blosme sprung

4. þe ferste braunche is ful of myst
   þat sprung on crystemesse nyst
   þe stern’ schon ouer bedlem bryst
   þat is bope brod & long-

5. þe secundo braunche sprung to helle
   þe fendys power doun to felle
   þerin myst non sowle dwlle
   blyssid be þe tyme þe rose sprung.

6. þe bredde branche is good & swote
   it sprang to heuene crop & rote
   þerin to dwellyn & ben our bote
euery day it schewit in prystis hond-

7. Prey we to her’ with gret honour
   che þat bar þe blyssid flour
   che be our helpe & our socour
   & schyd vs fro þe fyndis bond-

S14.
IMEV 3733; EEC 339

Man be war be war be war & kep þe þat þou haue non car

1. þi tunge is mad of fleych & blod
   euele to spekyn it is not good
but cryst þat deyid vpon þe rood
so 3yf vs grace our tungis to spar’.

2. þi lyppis arn withoute bon
spek non euyl of þi fon
man I rede be seynt jon
of euyl speche þat þou bewar.

3. Quan þou seyst þi euyl seying’
be it of old be it of 3yng
among many men þi speche may spring
& make þin herte of blysse ful bar’.

4. þerfor’ I telle þe be seynt austyn
þer xal non man of euele speche wyn
but sorwe & schame & meche syn
& to his herte meche car’

5. Prey we to god & seynt margerete
þat we mown’ our tungis kepe
qweþer we wake or slepe
& our body fro euele far’.

S15.
IMEV 72; EEC 385

God be with trewþe qwer he be I wold he wer’ in þis cuntre

1. A man þat xuld of trewþe telle
with grete lordys he may not dwelle
In trewe story as klerkis telle
trowþe is put in low degr.

2. In laydyis chaumberis comit he not
þer dar trewþe settyn non fot
þow he wolde he may not
Comyn among þe heye mene.

3. With men of lawe he hast non spas
þey louyn trowþe in non plas
me þinkit þey han a rewlly grace
þat trewþe is put at swych degr

4. In holy cherche he may not sytte
fro man to man þey xuln hym flytte
it rewit me sor’ in myn wytte
of trewþe I have gret pete.

5. Relygius þat xulde be good
if trewþe cum þer I holde hym wood
6. A man þat xulde of trewþe aspye
he must sekyn esylye
In þe bosum of marye
For þere he is for sope.

S16.
IMEV 1268; EEC 368

I drukke I dar’ so wil I may quan I þynke on myn endyng day.

1. I am a chyld & born ful bar’
& bar’ out of þis word xal far’
ȝyt am I but wermys war’
þow I cloþis go neuer so gay.

2. þow I be of meche prys
fayr of face & holdyn wys
myn fleych xal fadyn as flour delys
quan I am ded & leyd in clay

3. quan I am ded & leyd in ston
I xal roty fleych & bon
fro myn fryndys I xal gon
cryst help myn sowle quan I ne may.

4. Quan I xal my frendis forsake
cryst schyld me fro þe fendis blake
to þhesus cryst my sowle I betake
he be our help on domys day.

S17.
IMEV 4279; EEC 363

Gay gay to be gay I holde it but a vanite.

1. þyng men þat bern hem so gay
þey þink not on domys day
quan þey xul stonde in powr’ aray
& for her’ dedis dammyd be.

2. God þat made se & sond
with blody woundis he xal stond
come ȝe alle on my ryst hond
ȝe chyldorin þat han seruyd me.

3. To wykkyd men þhesus xal say
ȝe han led ȝour lyf boþe nyȝt & day
zour sowl’ into a wykkyd way
out of myn syte wynd 3e·

4. Quan I was nakyd 3e me not clad
quan I was hungry 3e me not fad
quan I was in prison’ & harde bestad
3e wold not vysite me·

5. þerfor’ myn chylderyn xuln han iwys
þat ilke joye þat ilke blys
þat arte hæst ben & alwey is
beforn myn angel fayr & fre·

S18.
IMEV 1433; EEC 381

Bewar sqwyer or 3eman & page for seruyse is non ertyage·

1. If þou serue a lord of prys
be not to boystous in þin seruys
damme not þin sowle in non wys
for seruyse is non ertyage

2. Wynteris weper & wommanys þowt
& lordis lond schaungit oft
þis is þe soþe if it be sowt
for seruyse & c’

3. Now þou art gret tomorwe xal I
as lordys schaungyn her’ baly
In þin welþe werk sekyrly
for & c’

4. þan serue we god in alle {þing} wyse
he xal vs quityn our seruyse
& 3euyn vs Zyftis most of pryse
heuene to ben our ertyage

S19.
IMEV 2103; EEC 188

A A A A nu[n]c gaudet maria

1. Mary is a lady bryst
sche hæst a sone of meche myȝt
ouer al þis word che is lyȝt
bona natalicia·

2. Mary is so fayr of face
& her’ sone so ful of grace
in heuene he make us a place

cum sua potencia.

3. Mary is so fayr {of face} & sote
& her’ sone so ful of bote
ouer al þis word he is bote
Bona voluntaria:\(^1\)

4. Mary is boþe good & kynde
euere on vs che hast mende
þat þe fend xal vs not schende
cum sua malicia:

5. Mary is qwen of alle þinge
& her’ sone a louely kynge
god graunt vs alle good endynge
regnat dei gracia:

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**S20.**
IMEV 2771; EEC 355; also in Balliol College, Oxford, MS 354, p. 506

Man be war er þou be wo þink on pride & let hym goo· f. 9r./56r.

1. Pryde is out & pride is ine
& pride is rot of euery synne
& pride wil neuer blynne
til he hast browt a man in woo-

2. lucyfer was aungyl bryst
& conqwerour of meche myst
þrow his pride he les his lyst
& fil doun into endeles woo-

3. Wenyst þou for þi gaye cloþing
& for þin grete oþis swerying
to be a lord or a kyng
lytil it xal avayle þe too-

4. Quan þou xalt to cherche glyde
wernys xuln ete þrow þi syde
& lytil xal avayle þi pride
or ony synnys þat þou hast doo-

5. Prey to cryst with blody syde
& opere woundis grile & wyde
þat he forþeue þe þi pryde
& þi synnys þat þou hast doo-

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\(^1\) This stanza is written before the previous one in the manuscript, but has been labelled ‘b’ and the previous stanza is labelled ‘a’.
S21.
IMEV 3347; EEC 231

I may synge of a may of joyis fyve & merþis most-

1. þe ferste joye as I sou telle
with mary met seynt Gabrielle
heyl mary I grete þe welle
with fader & sone & holy gost-

2. þe secunde joye {b} in good fay
was on crystemesse day
born he was of a may
with fader &c'

3. þe þredde joye withoutyn stryf
þat blysseful berþe was ful ryf
quan he ros fro ded to lyf
with fader &c'

4. þe forte joye {without} in good fay
was vpon halewyn þursda[y]
he stey to heuene in ryche aray
with fader & sone & holy gost

5. [þe] fyfte joye withoutyn dene
In heuene he crownyd his moder clene
þat was wol wil þe eyr a sene
with fader &c'

S22.
IMEV 1938; EEC 403

Man bewar of þin wowyng for weddyng is þe longe wo-

1. Loke er þin herte be set
lok þou wowe er þou be knet
& if þou se þou mow do bet
knet vp þe heltere & let her’ goo-

2. Wyuys be boþe stowte & bolde
her husbondis æzens hem durn not holde
& if he do his herte is colde
how so euere þe game go-

3. Wedewis be wol fals iwys
for cum boþe halse & kys
til onys Purs pikyd is
& þey seyn go boy goo-
4. of madenys I wil seyn but lytil
   for þey be boþe fals & fekyl
   & vnder þe tayl þey ben ful tekyl
   a twenty deuels name let hem goo.

S23.
IMEV 3070; EEC 86; also in Bod., MS Ashmole 189 f.107r; Bod., MS Eng. poet. e.1 f. 20r.
(E13)

Alleluia alleluia alleluia alleluia alleluia alleluia alleluia alleluia alleluia alleluia

1. Saluator mundi domine
   fader of heuene blyssid þou be
   þou greyst a mayde with on aue
   que vocatur maria.

2. Adesto nunc propicios
   þou sendyst þi sone swete jhesus
   man to become for loue of vs
   deo patri sit gloria

3. Ne mentem sompus oprimat
   betwyx an ox & an as
cryst hymself born he was
de virgine maria.

4. Te reformator sensuum
   boþe lytil & mekil & alle a[nd] sum
   wolcum þe tyme þat now is com
   deo patri sit gloria

5. Gloria tibi domine
   þre personys in trenyte
   blyssid mot þey alle be
   deo patri sit gloria.

S24.
IMEV 2113; EEC 242

Nowel el el el el el el el el el el el el el el el el el el el el el el el el el el el el el

1. Mary moder meke & mylde
   fro schame & synne þat 3e vs schyllde
   for gret on grownd 3e gon with childe
   Gabriele nuncio.

2. Mary moder be not adred
   jhesus is in 3our body bred
   & of 3our bryst he wil be fed
   Cum pudoris lilio.
3. Mary moder þe frewt of þe
for vs was naylid on a tre
In heuene is now his mageste
Fulget resurrectio-

4. Mary moder þe þredde day
vp he ros as I sow say
to helle he tok þe rynte way
Motu fertur proprio-

5. Mary moder after þin sone
vp þou steyist with hym to wone
þe aungels wern glad quan þou wer’ come
In celi palacio-

S25.
IMEV 1367

1. I syng a of a mydeñ · þat is makeles
kyng of alle kyngis · to her’ sone che ches

2. he cam also stylle · þer his moder was
as dew in aprylle · þat fallyt on þe gras

3. he cam also stylle · to his moderis bowr
as dew in aprille · þat fallyt on þe flour

4. he cam also stylle · þer his moder lay
as dew in aprille · þat fallyt on þe spray

5. moder & maydyn · was neuer non but che
wel may swych a lady · godis moder be

S26.
IMEV 1299

1. I haue a gentil cook · crowyt me day
he dop me rysyn erly · my matynis for to say

2. I haue a gentil cook · comyn he is of gret
his comb is of reed corel · his Tayil is of get

3. I haue a gentyl cook · comyn he is of kynde
his comb is of red scorel · his Tayil is of Inde

4. his leggis ben of asour · so genitil & so smale
his sportis arn of syluer qwyt in to þe wortewale

5. his cynyn arn of cristal · lokyn al in aumbyr
& euery nyat he perchit hym · in myn ladyis chaumbyr
S27.
IMEV 2675

1. Omnes gentes plaudite
   I saw myny bryddis setyn on a tre

2. he tokyn her’ fleyst & flowyn away
   with ego dixi haue good day

3. many qwyte federis hast þe pye
   I may noon mor’ syngyn my lyppis arn so drye

4. Manye qwyte federis hast þe swan
   þe mor’ þat I drynke þe lesse good I can
   f. 11r./58r.

5. ley stykkys on þe fer wyl mot is brenne
   ðeue vs onys drynky n er we gon henne

S28.
IMEV 117

1. Adam lay ibowndyn · bowndyn in a bond
   fowr’ þowsand wynter þowt he not to long

2. And al was for an appil · An appil þat he tok
   As clerkis fyndyn wretyn · in her’ book

3. Ne hadde þe appil take ben þe appil taken ben
   ne hade neuer our lady · a ben heuene qwen

4. Blyssid be þe tyme þat appil take was
   þerfor’ we mown syngyn · deo grasias

S29.
IMEV 1303

1. I haue a song suster fer be sondyn þe se
   many be þe drowryis þat che sente me

2. che sente me þe cherye withoutyn ony ston
   & so che dede dowe withoutyn ony bon

3. Sche sente me þe brer’ withoutyn ony rynde
   Sche bad me loue my leman withoute longgyng

4. How xuld ony cherye be withoute ston
   & how xuld ony dowe ben withoute bon

5. How xuld ony brer’ ben withoute rynde
   How xuld {my} loue myn leman without longyng
6. Quan þe cherye was a flour: þan hadde it non ston quan þe dowes was an ey: þan hadde it non bon

7. Quan þe brer’ was on bred: þan hadde it non rynd quan þe maydyn hast þat che lourit: che is without longing

S30.
IMEV 3472; EEC 25

Al þe meryer’ is þat place þe sunne of grace hym schynit in

1. þe sunne of grace hym schynit in; in on day quan it was mor[we] quan our lord god born was; withoute wem or sorwe

2. þe sunne of grace hym schynit in; on a day quan it was pryme quan our lord god born was; so wel he knew his tyme

3. þe sunne of grace hym schynit in; on a day quan it was non quan our lord god born was; & on þe rode don

4. þe sunne of grace hym schynit in; on a day quan it was vndyr[rn] quan our lord god born was; & to þe herte stongyn

S31.
IMEV 1302

1. I haue an newe gardyn: & newe is begunne swych anoþer gardyn: know I not vnder sunne

2. In þe myddis of my gardyn is a peryr set & it wele non per’ bern; but a per’ jenet

3. þe fayrest mayde of þis tou; preyid me for to gryffyn her’ a gryn of myn pery tre

4. quan I hadde hem gryffid · alle at her’ wille þe wyn & þe ale che dede in fille

5. & I gryffid her’ a g[ryf] ryst vp in her’ honde & be þat day .xx.wowkis it was qwik in her’ womb

6. þat day twelfue monit þat mayde I mette che seyd it was a per’ robert but non per’ jon[et]

S32.
IMEV 2730; EEC 123; also in Balliol College, Oxford, MS 354, p. 466
1. out of þe blosme sprang a þorn
quan god hym self wold be born
he let vs neuere be forlorn
þat bore was of marie

2. {At} þer sprang a welle at her’ fot
þat al þis word it trnyd to good
quan jhesus cryst took fleych & blod
of his moder marie

3. Out of þe welle sprang a strem
fro patriarck to jerusalem
til cryst hymself azen it nem
of his moder &c’

4. In wynter quan þe frost hym fres
a powr’ beddyng our lord hym ches
betwyin an ox & an as
godis sone born he was
of his &c’

5. It was vpon þe twelwe day
þer come þre kyngis in ryche aray
to seke cryst þer he lay
& his &c’

6. þre kyngis out of dyues londe
swyþe comy with herte stronge
þe chylde to sekyn & vnderfonge
þat born was of marie-

7. þe sterr’ led hem a ryte way
to þe chyld þer he lay
he help vs bope nyat & day
þat born was of marie

8. Baltyzar was þe ferste kyng
he browte gold to his offeryng
ffor to presente þat ryche kyng
& his moder marie-

9. Melchiar was þe secunde kyng
he browte incens to his offering
for to presente þat ryche kyng
& his &c’

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2 Stanzas 1, 6 and 7 have been omitted and then inserted on a piece of parchment that has become f. 12, with symbols marking their position in the song.
10. Jasper was þe þred kyng he browte myrr’ to his offerynge ffor to presente þat ryche kyng & his &c’

11. þer þey offerid her’ presens with gold & myrr’ & francincens & clerkis redyn in her’ seqwens In ephifanye-

12. knele we down hym beforne & prey we to hym þat now is born & let vs neuer be forlorn þat born was of marie-

S33.
IMEV 3920; EEC 320

Of alle þe spycis þat I know blyssid be þe qwete flour

1. qwete is bope semely & sote of alle spycis þat is bote þe virtu spryngit out of þe rote so blyssid be þe qwete flour

2. þe secunde {i} vers I sey beforne qwete is is {flour} kyng of euery corn þhesus hymself for vs was born so blyssid-

3. þe þredde vers with godis grace qwete is good in euery place in qwete is porteyidid godis face so &c’

4. þe forte vers withoute stryf of qwete is mad þe þe bred of lyf vs to receuyyn in clene lyf so &c’

5. þe fyte vers withoute skorn qwete is a spyce a wol good on kyng þat is of euery corn so

6. þe sexte verse I xal 3ou seye þhesus cryst þat sit on heye he let vs neuer for hunger deye so blyssid be þe qwete flour
S34. IMEV 1785; EEC 124; also in National Library of Wales, MS Porkington 10, ff. 198v.-199v.

\( \text{þe sterr’ hym} \) schon boþe nyst & day to lede \( \text{þre kyngis} \) \( \text{per our} \) lord lay-

f. 14r./61r.

1. jhesus was born in bedlem jude
of mayde mary þus fynde we
out of þe est come kyngis þre
\( \text{with ryche presentis} \) as I sow say.

2. As þey went forth in her’ pas
þe sterr’ schon al in her’ fas
As bryzt as gold \( \text{within} \) þe glas
to bedlem to ledyn hem þe way-

3. kyg herowdis was most of pryse
he seyde to þo þre kyngis þat wern so wyse
go & sek/it me þone child of pryse
& comit ageyn be me I sow pray.

4. & I myself xal with 3ow wynde
þe chyld to worchepe þe child to synde
& worchepyn hym \( \text{with} \) al myn mynde
\( \text{with al þe onour} \) þat I may-

5. quan þey kemy into þat plas
\( \text{per jhesus} \) \( \text{with} \) his moder was
þey settyn hem doun & made solas
& euery kyg to oþer gan say-

6. Quan þey haddy offerid up her’ presens
\( \text{with} \) gold & myrr’ & francincens
as clerkis redyn in her’ sequens
he took it of hem & seyd not nay-

7. Quan þey hadde offerid her’ offeryng
to jhesus þat is heuene kyg
of an aungyl þey hadd warnyng
to wendyn hom be anoper way

8. Þe aungyl cam fro heuene kyg
& bad þo þre kyngis ageyn hom wynd
\( \text{þerin} \) to dwelle \( \text{þerin} \) to ben
til kyng herowdis endyng day-

9. kyg herowde wox wol ille
for þo þre kyngis comyn hym not tille
for to fulfille his wykkyd wille
& to his knytis he gan say.

10. kyang herowdis wox wroþ anon
þe chylderin of israel he dede slon
he wende jhesus hadde ben þe ton
& ðyt he falyid of his pray·

11. kyang herowdis deyid & went to helle
for swete jhesus þat we spelle
god saf vs from þe peynis of helle
& fro þe wykkyd fyndis pray·

S35.
IMEV 1317
This text is not laid out as verse so vertical strokes, |, show where lines end in the MS, while other marks are those used (/ and ·) by the scribe to indicate verse lines.

Robyn’ lyth in grene wode bowndyn |

1. I herde a carpyng of a clerk al at zone wodis ende |
of gode robyn & gandeleyn was þer non oþer gynge |

2. stronge theuys wern þo chylderin non | but bowmen gode & hende //
he wentyn to wode | to getyn hem fleych if god wold it hem sende // |

3. al day wentyn þo chylderin too & fleych fowndyn | he non //
til it wer’ ageyn þo chylderin too & fleych wondyn | he non //

4. half an honderid of fat falyf der he | comyn aзон //
& alle he wern fayr & fat inow | but markyd was þer non //
Be der’ god seyde gode [Robin] | her’ of we xul haue on f. 15r./62r.

5. Robyn went his joly bowe | þer in he set a fló-
þe fattest der of alle þe herte | he clef a to-

6. he hadde not þe der islawe ne | half out of þe hyde-
þer cam a schrewde arwe out | of þe west þat felde robertis pryde-
Gandeleyn | lokyd hym est & west be euerý syde-

7. hoo hat myn | master slayin ho hat don þis dede-
xal I neuer | out of grene wode go ti[I] I se sydis blede-

8. Ganþelevyn lokyd hym est & lokyd west & sowt vnder | þe sunne-
he saw a lytil boy he clepyyn wrennk | of douné-

9. A good bowe in his hond a brod ar’|we þerine-
& fawr’ & xx goode arwys trusyd in | a þrumme-
Be war þe war þe gandeleyn her |of þou xalt han sunme-

10. Be war þe war þe gandeleyn hir of þou gyst plente-
euere on for another | seyde gandeleyn mysauter haue he xal fle· |

11. qwerat xal our marke be seyde gandeleyn· |
   eueryche at oþeris herete seyde wrennok ageyn· |

12. ho xal æeue þe ferste schote seyde gandeleyn· |
   {Eueryche at oþeris herete seyde wrennok ageyn·} |
   & I xal æewe þe on beforne seyd wrennok ageyn |

13. Wrennok schette a ful good schote & he schet not | to hye-
   þrow þe sanchoþis of his bryk it towchyd neþer | th[ye] |

14. now hast þou soyn me on beforne al þus to | wrennok seyde he |
   {&} & þrow þou myst of our | lady a better’ I xal æeue þe- |

15. Gandeleyn bent his goode bowe & set þerin a flo-
   he | schet þrow his grene certyl his herte he clef | on to-

16. Now xalt þou neuer æelpe wrennok | at ale ne at wyn-
   þat þou hast slawe goode | robyn & his knaue gandeleyn-

17. Now xalt þou | neuer æelpe wrennok at wyn ne at ale-
   þat | þou hast {sw} slawe goode robyn & gandelyyn his | knawe //

Robyn lyþd in grene wode bowdyn

S36.
Walther 14774; Analectica Hymnica, XX, 93 and 94
As above, vertical strokes, |, show where lines end in the MS, while other marks (| | and ·) are those used by the scribe to indicate verse lines.

1. Procedenti puerò //
   Eya nobis annus est· |
   virginis ex vtero
   gloria laudes //
   Deus homo factus est | & immortalis· |

2. Sine viri semine //
   Eya nobis &c’ |
   Natus est de virgine //
   gloria laudes //
   Deus homo &c’ |

3. Sine viri coitu //
   Eya nobis annus est |
   pleno sancto spiritu
   gloria laudes //
   Deus homo factus &c’ |
4. Syne viri copia //
   Eya nobis &c’ |
   Natus est ex maria
   gloria laudes //
   Deus homo factus & immortalis |

5. In hoc festo determino //
   Eya nobis annus est |
   Benedicamus domino
   gloria laudes //
   Deus homo factus est & immortalis |

S37.
IMEV 3329; EEC 148; also in St. John’s College, Cambridge, MS S.54, f. 11r.-v. (J17)

1. A new yer a newe yer a chyld was iborn
   vs for to sauyn þat al was forlorn
   so blyssid be þe tyme |

2. þe fader of heuene his owyn sone he sent
   his kyngdam for to cleymyn
   so blyssid be þe tyme |

3. Al in a clene maydyn our lord was ilyst
   vs for to sauyn with al his myst
   so blyssid &c’ |

4. Al of a clene maydyn our lord was iborn
   vs for to sauyn þat al was forlorn
   so blyssid &c’ |

5. Lullay lullay lytil chyld my wyn owyn der’ fode
   how xalt þou sufferin be naylid on þe rode
   so |

6. Lullay lullay lytil chyld my wyn owyn der’ smerte
   how xalt þou sufferin þe scharp sper’ to þi herte
   so |

7. Lullay lullay lytyl child I synge al for þi sake
   many on is þe scharpe schour to þi body is schape
   so |

8. Lullay lullay lytyl child fayr’ happis þe befalle
   how xal þou sufferin to drynke ezyl & galle
   so |

9. Lullay lullay lytyl child I synge al befor
   how xalt þou sufferin þe scharp garlong of þorn
   so
10. Lullay lullay lytl chyld qwepy þou so sor’
   & art þou boþin god & man quat woldyst þou be mor’
   so

11. blyssid be þe armys þe chyld bar abowte & also þe tetis þe chyld on sowkyd
   so f. 16v./63v.

12. blyssid be þe moder þe chyld also
   with benedicamus domino
   so blyssid be þe tyme-

S38.
IMEV 361; EEC 145; also in Bod., MS Eng. poet. e.1, f. 34r.-v. (E46)

moder qwyt as lylie flour 3our lullyng lassyt myn langour

1. As I me ros in on morwenyng
   myn þowt was on a mayde synge
   che song a slepe with her’ lullynge
   her’ der’ sone {l} our sauyour

2. As che hym tok al in her’ lap
   he tok þat maydyn be þe pap
   & tok þer of a ryst god nap
   & sok his fille of þat licour

3. To his moder þan he gan say
   for þis mylk me muste day
   it is myn kynde þer with to play
   my swete moder myn paramour

4. þat mayde frely began to synge
   & in her’ song che mad murmynge
   þat her’ sone þat is our kyng
   xuld schred his blod with gret dolour

5. 3our wepyng moder greuit me sor’
   but I wold deye þe wern forlor’
   do wey moder & wepe non mor’
   3our lullyng lassit myn langour

S39.
IMEV 2339; EEC 125; also in Bodl., MS Eng. poet. e.1, ff. 31v.-32v. (E43); St John’s College,
Cambridge, MS S.54, ff. 7v.-9r. (J12); BL, Harley MS 541, f. 214r.-v.

Reges de saba venient
Aurum tus myrram offerent
alleluia
1. Now is þe twelþe day icome
þe fader & sone togeder arn nome
þe holy gost as þey wern wone
in fere
god send us good newe zeer’

2. I wil zou synge with al myn myst
of a chyld so fayr in syst
a maydyn hym bar þis ender nyzt
so stylle
as it was his wyle

3. þre kyngis out of galylie
kemyn to bedlem þat cete
for to takyn in to þat se
be nyte
it was a ful fayr syte

4. As þey keme forst with her’ offeryng
þey mette with herowdis þat mody kyng
he askyd hem of her’ comyng
þat tyde
& þus to hem he seyde

5. ffro qwens come 3e kyngis þre
out of þe est as þou mayst se
to sekyn hym þat euere xal be
þrow ryte
lord & kyng of myte

6. quan 3e han at þat kyng ibe
comit ageyn þis weye be me
& tel me þe sytis þat han se
I praye
3e gon non ober waye

7. Of herowdys þat mody kyng
he toky her’ leue of eld & syng
& foþ þey wente with her’ offeryng
In syste
& þer þey come be nyte

8. {As} Quan þey comyn into þat plas
þer jhesus with his moder was
þei made offferyng with gret solas
not ferr’
with gold incens & myrr’

9. As þey wern homward iwent
þe fader of heuene an aungyl sent
to þe þre kyngis þat made present or daye & þus to hem gan saye

10. My lord hast warnyd 3ou of 3our fon be kyng herowdis þat 3e not gon for if 3e don he wil 3ou slon & traye þe gon anoþer waye

11. quan þey comyn hom to her’ cuntre blype & glad þey wern alle þre of þo sytis þat þey had se be nyte jhesus & mari bryte

12. with tresou to vs gan he sayn he trowid jhesus to han slayn into egypt’ þei went ful playn be syde josep was her’ gyde

13. In to bedlem þei gunne pas þe sterr’ gan schynyyn in her’ fas brytter þan euere schon sunne in glas in londe jhesus with mari þei fonde

14. kyng herowdis he made his vow gret plente of chylderin he slow he wende þer xuld a be jhesus I saye he falyid of his praye

15. herowdis was wod in ryalte he slow schylderin ryst gret plente in bedlem þat fayr’ cete with stryf ne left he non on lyf

16. þe chyderi of israel cryid wa wa þe moderis of bedlem cryid ba ba herowdis low & seyd a ha þat qwede þe kyng of juwys is dede

17. almyty god in mageste in on god personys þre bryng vs to þe blysse þat is so fre in fer'
& send vs a good newe zere

Rges de saba venient aurum tus mirra offer[ent]

S40.
IMEV 378; also in NLS, MS Advocates 19.3.1, f. 94v.; Pembroke College, Cambridge, MS 313, fragment B3, unnumbered f. 4v.

1. As I went þrow a gardyn grene
I fond an erber makyd ful newe
a fayrer’ syte had I non sene
on euery tre song a turtil trewe
þerin a womman bryst of hewe
che seyde in her’ song not lest
þis was he carpyng as I knewe
verbum caro factum est

2. I alkyd þat mayde quat che ment
che bad me abydy & I myȝt ler’
to her’ song þan tok I intent
che seyde a song woys cler’
þe pryns þat is without per’
is born & leyd betwyn twyn best
þerfor’ I synge as þou myȝt her’
verbum caro factum est

3. In þat wone forȝt gan I wynde
a semely song þan herd I þo
of þre schepperdis þat wern ful hynde
f. 19r./66r.
Gloria in excelsis deo
I wold not þe hadde ferryd me froo
wol faste after hem þan gan I prest
þei told me þat þey sungyn soo
ffor verbum caro factum est

4. þyt ferþeremor’ in þat fryth
I saw þre kyngis comyn corown
I sped me faste to speke hem wyt
& to þe lordis I knelid adown
þo kyngis curteys to me gun rown
& seydyn þei woldyn far’ prest
to bedlem bour now arn we bown
ffor verbum caro factum est

5. þis is as meche for to say
as godis sone becum is fleych
he was born þis ilke day
a blysful weye vs for to wych
þat may now withoutyn mys
her’ I wyte boþe most & lest
for che was þe cause iwys
of verbum caro factum est

6. Godis sone becomyn is fleych
þat bote hast of al our bale
A blysful weye vs for to wych
þat mayde hym herberwyd in her’ hale
che curid þat louely in her’ sale
che hyld þat hyndin in her’ rest
with trewe tunge che told þe tale
ffor verbum caro factum est

7. verbum caro is to say
þat godis sone becomyn is man
he was born þis ilke day
to sauyn vs fro þe fend sathan
þat may þat is qwyt as swan
che fed þat lord vpon her’ bryst
þerfor’ I synge 3ou as I can
verbum caro factum est

S41.

1. Be þe way wanderyng as I went
sor’ I scyid for sorwenis sad
for harde happys þat I haue hent
murnyng makyd me masyd & mad
To a letter alone I me ledde
þat wel was wretyn vpon a wal
a blysful word þeron I redde
was eueremor’ þank god of al

2. zyt I redde wel ferþeremor’
with trewe intent I took þertyl
Cryst may wel our stat restor’
it is not to strywe agen his wil
He may vs saue & þat is skyl
Thynk ryst wel we ben his þral
quat þou polyst wo or yl
Eueremor’ þank god of al

3. If þat þou waxe blynd or lame
or ony euyl to þe be set
þynk ryst wel it is non schame
with swych grace god hast þe gret
In sorwe & car’ if þou be set
& þi ryches begyme to falle
I can not se þou may do bet
4. If thou welde þi wordel’ goodis & {ryȝt} ryally leue in þi rest fayr of face frely of fode þer is non swych be est ne west God wil sende ryȝt as hym leste ffor ryches turnyt3 as a bal In ilke a maner þís is þe beste Eueremor’ to þank god of al

5. If þi good begynne to pase & þou waxe a powr’ man Thak good cumfort & mak good fase & trust on hym þat al began {he may vs reue boþe bour & halle} Of god ferst our good began he may vs reue boþe bour & halle beter counsel I non can þan euer’mor’ þank god of al

6. Thynk on job þat was so ryche he wex powr’ fro day to day his bestis drenkelyd in euery dyche his good wansid al away he was put in powr’ aray neyþer in purpyl ne in palle in sympel wede as I ȝou say & euere he þankyd god of alle

7. ffor godis loue so do ȝe he may ȝou boþe ȝeue & take quat myschyf ȝe in be he hast mysȝt ȝour wo to slake fful good amendis he wil vs make if we to hym wil crye or calle quat wel or wo we ben in take Eueremor’ þank god of al

8. If þi fryndis fro þe fayle & deþ hast rest hem of her’ lyf qwerfor’ xuldyst þou wepyn or wayle it is not to stryue ageyn his wyl Thynk he made boþe man & wyf & þat we alle ben his þral quat wo þou sufferyst or how þou þryf eueremor’ þank god of al

9. Dyues sondis god hast vs sent her’ & also in opere place
tak we hem in good atent
þe sunner’ god wil sendyn vs grace
If þour body be bowndyn in bas
lok þour herte be good & stal
Thynk he is 3yt þer he was
& eueremor’ þank god of al

ffor godis loue be not as a chyld
ne make þi self not {a sto} to stowt
but take with god herte & myld
þe good þat god sendit al abowt
þan dar I seyn withoute dowt
In heuene blysse is mad þour halle
ryche & powr’ þat 3e lowe lowt
& eueremor’ þank god of alle

his wordel’ good xuld incres
& eche man kynde wold be
& partyn abowtyn of her’ ryches
to hem þat arn in pouerte
A wonder þing now may we sene
þat kynde loue a dou is falle
{þo} non better counsel can I mene
þan euere to þank god of alle

S42.
IMEV 1627; EEC 317

Worshyp we boþe mor’ & leste crystis body in furme of bred:

1. It is bred fro heuene cam
ffleych & blod of mary it nam
ffor þe synnys of adam
he sched his blod þat was so red

2. he þat onworþi þis bred ete
þe peyne of helle he xal gete
my swete body awey to lete
& makyn his sowle to ben ded-

3. he þat þis bred haþt in mynde
he xal leuyn withoutyn ende
þis is bred to 3euyn a frende
withoutyn qwyt withine red-

4. On schyre þursday al at þe messe
to hese desipel’ he seyeþ þisse
Etyþ þis bred myn body it isse
lok þer of 3e han non dred-
Aftyrward at her’ soper
he tok þe wyn þat was so cler
& blyssid it with mylde cher
þis is myn blod þat is so red-

þe juwys wern boþe wylde & wode
he puttyn jhesus vpon þe rode
ffor to spyllyn his herte blode
for manys synne he sufferid ded-

Jhesus lynd vs þis bred to ete
& alle our synny for to forzete
& in heuene a place to gete
þrow þe virtu of þis bred-

Syngle we syngle we gloria tibi domine-

Man if þou hast synnyd owth
Chauunge redely þi þowth
Thynk on hym þat hast þe bowth
So der’ vpon þe rode tre-

Thynk he cam for to ben born
to beyin asen þat was forlorn
many a ml’ zer befor
out of his owyn mageste-

Thynk þe juwis quan hym tokyn
hese desipel’ hym forsokyn
alle þe veynys on hym schokyn
for dowt of deþ wold he not fle-

Thynk þe cros he dedyn hym ber’
garlund of þorn he dedyn hym wer’
ffalse tretowris þat þey wer’
til he kemyn þer he wolde be-

Thynk he dedyn hym on þe rode
thynk it was al for our goode
thynk þe juwys wyxin wode
on hym þey haddyn non pete-

Thynk how sor’ he was bowndyn
thynk he sufferid harde woundys
of þe false helle howndys
with schorge & sper’ & naylys þre-

S43.
IMEV 2061; EEC 168

f. 22r./69r.

f. 22v./69v.
Thynk man on þe on þe werste of alle
he þeuyn hym drynkyn ęsyl & galle
hely {for} for peyne he gan to calle
to his fader in trenite.

Thynk man wytterly
þink he bowt þe bytterly
fforsake þi syne & to hym cry
þat he haue mercy vpon þe.

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S44.  
IMEV 3058

1. Seynt steuene was a clerk in kyng herowdis halle & seruyd him of bred & cloþ as euery kyng befalle

2. Steuyn out of kechoun cam with boris hed on honde he saw a sterr’ was fayr & bryst ouer bedlem stonde

3. he kyst adoun þe boris hed & went in to þe halle I forsak þe kyng herowdis & þi werkis alle

4. I forsak þe kyng herowdis & þi werkis alle þer is a chyld in bedlem born is beter þan we alle

5. Quat eylyt þe steuene quat is þe befalle lakkyt þe eyþer mete or drynk in kyng herowdis h[alle]

6. lakit me neyþer mete ne drynk in kyng herowdis halle þer is a chyld in bedlem born is beter þan we alle

7. Quat eylyt þe steuyn art þou wod or þou gynnyst to brede lakkyt þe eyþer gold or fe or ony ryche wede

8. lakyt me neyþer gold ne fe ne non ryche wede þer is a chyld in bedlem born xal helpyn vs at our nede

9. þat is also sob steuyn also sob iwyys as þis capoun crowe xal þat lyth her’ in myn dych

10. þat word was not so sone seyde þat word in þat halle þe capoun crew christus natus est among þe lordis ale

11. rysyt vp myn turmentowris be to & al be on & lediþ steuyn out of þis town & stonit hym with ston

12. Tokyn he steuene & stonyd hym in þe way & þe þor’ is his euyn on cristis owyn day.

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S45.
Nowel el el el el el el el el el el el el el -

1. Mary moder cum & se
   þi sone is naylyd on a tre
   {& } hand & fot he may not go
   his body is woundyn al in woo-

2. þi swete sone þat þou hast born
   to saue mankynde þat was forlorn
   his hed is wreþin in a þorn
   his blysful body is al to torn-

3. Quan he þis tale began to telle
   Mary wold non longer dwelle
   by hyid her’ faste to þat hylle
   þer jhesus his blod began to spyll

4. Myn swete sone þat art me der’
   qwy han men hangyd þe her’
   þi hed is wreþin in a brer’
   Myn louely sone qwer is þi cher’.

5. þin swete body þat in me rest
   þin comely mowth þat I haue kest
   now on rode is mad þi nest
   leve chyld quat is me best

6. Womman to jon I þe betake
   jon kyp þis womman for myn sake
   fer synful sowlys my deþ I take
   on rode I han go for manys sake-

7. þis game alone me muste play
   for synful sowl’ I deye today
   þer is non wyst þat gob be þe way
   of myn peynys can wel say-

S46.
IMEV 1892; EEC 114; also in Balliol College, Oxford, MS 354, pp. 476-477; Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, MS 383, pp. 68-69; Public Record Office, Chancery Misc. Bundle 34, File 1, No. 12, f. 1r.-v.

A a a a nunc gaudet ecclesia

1. Lestenyts lordyngis boþe grete & smale
   I xal þou telyn a wonder tale
how holy cherche was brow in bale
cum magna injuria-

2. þe greteste clerk of al þis lond
of cauntyrbery ze vnderstond
swawyn he was wykkyd hond
Demonis potencia-

3. knyttis kemyn fro hendry kyg
wykkyd men withoute lesyng
þer þey dedyn a wonder þing
feruentes insania-

4. þey sowtyn hym al abowtyn
withinne þe paleys & withoutyn
of jhesus cryst hadde þey non dowte
In sua malicia-

5. þey openyd her’ mowþis wonder wyde
to thomeys þey spoky
mekyl pryde
her’ tretour þou xalt abyde
ferens mortis tedia-

6. Thomas answerid with mylde cher’
If ze wil me slon in þis maner’
let hem pasyn alle po arn her’
sine contumilia-

7. beforne his aunter he knelyd adoun
þer þey guyne to paryn his crown
he sterdyn þe braynys vp & doun
Optans celi gaudia

8. þe tormentowris abowtyn sterte
with dedly wondys þei guyme him hurte
Thomas deyid in moder cherche
pergens ad celestia

9. Moder clerk wedue & wyf
worchepe ze thomeys in al 30ur lyf
for .lij. pontis he les his lyf
contra regis consilia-

S47.
IMEV 1575; EEC 27; also in Balliol College, MS 354, p. 461; BL, Royal MS 20 A.i., f. 120r.

Man be glad in halle & bour: þis tyme was born our sauyour-

1. In þis tyme cryst haȝt vs sent
his owyn sone in present
to dwelle with vs uerement
to ben our helpe & socour

2. In þis tyme ros a sterr’ cler
ouer bedlem as bryst as fer
in tokenyng þat he hadde non per
lord god kyng & emperour

3. In þis tyme it is befalle
he þat deyid for us alle
born he was in assis stalle
Of mary þat swete flour

4. In þis tyme kemyn þe kyngis
he kemyn fro fer with ryche þingis
for to makyn her’ offerygais
on her’ knen with grethy honour

5. In þis tyme {kemy} prey we
to hym þat deyid on þe tre
on vs haue mercy & pete
& bryng vs alle to his tour

S48.
IMEV 1650; EEC 180; also in Bod., MS Eng. poet. e.1, f. 25r.-v. (E26)

M & A & r & i syngy I wyl a newe song

1. It wern fowr’ letterys of purposy
M & A R & I
þo wern of letteris of mary
of hom al our joye sprong·

2. on þe mownt of caluory
with M & A R & I
þer’ he betyn his bryte body
with schorgis þat wern boþe scharp & long

3. our swete lady stod hym by
with M & A & R & I
che wept water with her’ eye
& alwey þe blod folwyd among·

4. God þat sit aboue þe sky
with M & a r & i
saue now al þis cumpany
& send vs joye & blysse ammong·

S49.
IMEV 4279; EEC 405
How hey it is {non} les I dar not seyn quan che sey3 pes

1. syng men I warne 3ou euerychon
   Elde wywys tak 3e non
   for I myself haue on at hom
   I dar not seyn quan che sey3 pes

2. Quan icum fro þe plow at non
   In a reuen dych myn mete is don
   I dar not askyn our dame a spon
   I dar not &c'

3. If I aske our dame bred
   che takyt a staf & brekit myn hed
   & dop me renyn vnder þe led
   I dar not &c'

4. If I aske our dame fleych
   che brekit myn hed with a dych
   boy þou art not wor3t a reych
   I dar &c'

5. If I aske our dame chese
   boy che sey3 al at ese
   þou art not wor3t half a pese
   I dar not sey quan che sey3 pes:

**S50.**

IMEV 1230; EEC 185; also in Bod., MS Arch Selden B.26, f. 10v.

Synge we synge we Regina celi letare-

1. holy maydyn blyssid þou be
   godis sone is born of þe
   þe fader of heuene worchepe we
   Regina celi letare-

2. heyl wyf heyl maydyn heyl bryt3 of ble
   heyl dowter heyl suster heyl ful of pete
   heyl chosyn to þo personys þre
   Regin[a]

3. þou art empresse of heuene so fre
   worþi maydyn in mageste
   now worchepe we þe trenyte
   Regina &c'

4. lady so louely so goodly to see
   so buxsum in þi body to be

f. 25v./72v.
The page contains text in Middle English, which is a historical language spoken in England from the 12th to the 15th centuries. The text is a collection of excerpts, possibly from a manuscript, featuring prayers and religious content. Here is a transcription and translation of the document:

5. ðese ben curteys kyngis of solunte
ðey worchepyd þi sone with vmylite
mylde mary þus rede we
Regina

6. So gracios so precyows in ryalte
þus jentyl þus good þus fynde we
þer is non swych in non cuntre
Regina

7. & þerfor’ knel we dou on our kne
þis blyssid berþe worchepe we
þis is a song of humylyte
Regina

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**S51.**
IMEV 80; EEC 312

Synge we now alle a sum Aue rex gentes anglorum

1. A newe song I wil begyne
of kyng edmund þat was so fre
how he deyid withoute synne
& bowdyn his body was to a tre

2. With arwys scharpe þey gunne hym prykke
for non rewpe wold þey lete
as dropys of reyn þey comyn þikke
& euery arwe with ofer gan mete

3. & his hed also þei of smette
among þe breris þei it kest
a wolf it kepte withoutyn lette
a blynd man fond it at þe last

4. Prey we to þat worþi kyng
þat sufferid ded þis same day
he saf vs boþe eld & eyng
& scheld vs fro þe fendis fray

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**S52.**
IMEV 3566; EEC 357

Man be wys & arys & thynk on lyf þat lestenit ay-

1. Thynk man qwer of þou art wrout
powr’ & nakyd þou wer’ heder browt
thynk how cryst þi sowle haþ bowt & fond to seruyn hym to pay·

2. Thynk man on þe der’ zeþis þre ffor hunger deyd gret plente powr’ & ryche bond & fre þei leyn dede in euery way·

3. Thynk man on þe pestelens tweye In euery cuntre men gunne deye deþ left neþer for lowe ne heye but lettyd hem of her’ pray·

4. Deþ is wonder coueytous quan he comit to a manys hous he takit þe good man & his spows & bryngit hem in powr’ aray·

5. After cam a wyndis blast þat made many a man agast stef{u}e stepelys þat stodyn fast þe weyke fyllyn & blewyn away·

6. Many mercuylis god haþ sent of lytenyg & of þunder dent at þe frer’ camys haþ it hent at lynne touþ it is non nay·

7. Lytenyng at lynne dede gret harm of tolboþe & of fryre carm þei stodyn wol cole þat stodyn wol warm {at lynne touþ it is non nay} It made hem a wol sory fray·

8. Lok man how þou ledyst þi lyf & how þou spendyst þi wyttis v go to cherche & do þe schyf & bryng þi sowle in redy way

**S53.**

*IMEV 2747; EEC 392*

Go bet peny go bet go for þou mat makyn boþe frynd & fo

1. Peny is an hardy knyst peny is mekyl of myþt peny of wrong he makyt ryþt In euery cuntre qwer he goo·

2. Þow I haue a man islawe
& forfetyd þe kyngis lawe
I xal fyndyn a ðan of lawe
wyl takyn myn peny & let me goo·

3. & if I haue to don fer or ner
& peny be myn massanger
þan am I non þing in dwer
my cause xal be wel idoo·

4. & if I haue pens boþe good & fyn
men wyle byddyn me to þe wyn
þat I haue xal be þin
sekyrly þei wil seyn so·

5. & quan I haue non in myn purs
peny bet ne peny wers
of me þei holdyn but lytil fors
he was a ðan let hym goo·

S54.
IMEV 3864; EEC 416

we ben chapmen lyst of fote þe fowle weyis for to fle·

1. we bern abowtyn non cattis skynnys
pursis perlis syluer pynnys
smale wypele’ for ladyis chynnys
damsele bey sum war’ of me·

f. 27r./74r.

2. I haue a poket for þe nonys
þerine ben tweyne precyous stony
damsele hadde 3e asayid hem onys
{I} 3e xuld þe raþere gon with me

3. I haue a jelyf of godis sonde
withoutyn fyt it can stonde
It can smytyn & hast non honde
ryd 3ourself quat it may be·

4. I haue a powdër for to selle
quat it is can I not telle
It makit maydenys wombyss to swelle
þerof I haue a quantyte

S55.
IMEV 454

1. Aue maris stella· þe sterr’ on þe see
dei mater alma· blyssid mot xe be
2. atque semper virgo· prey þi sone for me
felix celi porta· þat I may come to þe

3. Gabriel þat archangyl· he was massanger
so fayr’ he gret our lady· with an aue so cler

4. heyl be þou mary· be þou mary
ful of godis grace & qwyn of mercy

5. all þat arn to grete withoutyn dedly synne
forty dayis of pardoun god grauntyt hym

S56.
IMEV 1574; EEC 16

Man be glad in halle & bour þis tymne was born our sauyo[ur]

1. In þis tymne a chyld was born
to saue þo sowl’ þat wern for{n}lorn
for vs he werde garlond of þorn
al it was for our honour·

2. þe eytende day he was schorn
To fulfylle þe lawe þat was beforrn
of meknesse he blew his horn

3. On good fryday was don on rode
þe juwes spyltyyn his herte blode
mary his moder be hym stode
se ben our help & our socour·

4. On esterne day he gan vpryse
to techyn hem þat wern onwyse
jhesus for 3our woundis five
se ben our &c’

5. On halwyn þursday he gan vpsteye
to his fader þat sit on heye
jhesus for 3our curteysye
se ben &c’

6. On qwytsunday he gan doun sende
wyt & wysdam vs to amende
jhesus brynq vs to þat ende
withoutyn delay our sauyour

S57.

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This and the previous stanza are written the other way round in the manuscript, 3. marked ‘b’ and 2. ‘a’.
Nowel el el el now is wel þat euere was woo-

1. A babe is born al of a may
   In þe sauasyoun of vs
to hom we syngyn boþe nyȝt & day
veni creator spiritus-

2. At bedlem þat blysssid pas
   þe chyld of blysse born he was
hym to serue god ðeue vs gras
O lux beati trinitas

3. þer cone þre kyngis out of þe est
to worchepe þe kyng þat is so fre
with gold & myrr’ & francincens
a solis ortus cardine-

4. þe herdys herdyn an aungel cry
   a merye song þen sungyn he
   þwy am þe so sor’ agast
   lam ortus solis cardine-

5. þe aungel’ comyn doun with on cry
   a fayr song þen sungyn he
   In þe worchepe of þat chyld
   Gloria tibi domine-

S58.
IMEV 3643; EEC 28

Man be merie as bryd on berie & al þi car’ let away

1. þis tyme is born a chyld ful good
   he þat vs bowt vpon þe rod
he bond þe deuyl þat is so wod
til þe dryeful domysday-

2. Quan þe chyld of meche myȝt
   wold be born of mary brȝt
   a tokene he sente to kyng & knȝt
   A sterr’ þat schon boþe nyȝt & day

3. þe sterr’ scon as brȝt as fer
   ouer al þe wold boþe fer & ner
   In tokene he was withoutyn per
   & per’les he xal lastyn ay-

4. þe .viij. day he was cirumsise
for to fulfylle þe profecye
þe profetis with wordis wyse
hym present with ryche aray.

5. þe xij. day come kyngis þre
out of þe est with herte fre
to worcheypyn hym þei knelyd on kne
with gold & myr’ & francincens

**S59.**
*IMEV 1739; EEC 169*
I may seyn to most & lest *verbum caro factum* est-

1. Jhesus of his moder was born
for vs he werde garlond of þorn
& ellys hadde we ben forlorn
he tok his deth for most & lest-

2. I xal zou telle good skele qwy
þat he was born of mary
ffor he deyid on caluory
he tok &c’

3. he wrowt vs alle with his hond
þe fendis woldyn adon vs wrong
he bowt vs ageyn with peynys strong
he tok his &c’

4. A kerche þanne to him was fet
a sper’ to his herte was set
þan seyde þe juwys haut þou þat
he &c’

5. þe juwis þeuy nthym drynk ezyl & galle
quan jhesus after drynk gan calle
god let vs neuer in synne falle
he tok

6. Prey we to þat lord so fre
for vs he deyid on a tre
at domys day our help he be
he tok &c’

**S60.**
*IMEV 2384; EEC 236*
Nowel el el el el el el el el el el el el el el el-

1. Nowel- el- boþe eld & zyng
nowel· el· now mow we syng
In worchepe of our heuene kyng
almty god in trinite·

2. lestenyzt lordyngis bope leue & der’
lestenyt ladyis with glad cher’
a song of merpe now mow 3e her’
how cryst our broper he wolde be

3. an aungyl fro hefne was sent ful snel
his name is clepyd gabriel
his ardene he dede ful snel
he sat on kne & seyde aue·

4. & he seyde mary ful of grace
heuene & erpe in {lyty} euery place
withine þe tyme of lytyl space
reconsilid it xuld be·

5. Mary stod stille as ony ston
& to þe aungyl che seyde anon
þan herd I neuere of manys mon
me þinkit wonder þou seyst to me·

6. þe aungyl answerd anon ful wel
mary dryd þe neuer a del
þou xalt conseyue a chyld ful wel
þe holy gost xal schadue þe·

7. Mary on bryst her’ hand che leyd
stille xe stod & þus xe seyd
lo me her’ godis owyn hand mayd
with herte & wil & body fre·

8. Mary moder mayde myld
for þe loue of al of þi chyld
fro helle pet þou vs schyld
Amen amen now synge we

\textbf{S61.}
IMEV 1896; EEC 417

\textit{Prenegard} prenegard þus ber’ I myn baselard·

1. Lestenyzt lordyngis I sou beseke
þer is non man worst a leke
be he sturdy be he meke
but he ber’ a baselard

2. Myn baselard hast a schele of red
1. Semenaunt is a wonder þing
   It begylyt boþe knyst & kyng
   & makit maydenys of loue longyng
   I warne 3ou of þat gyle

2. Semenaunt is a sly peyntour
   It florcheyt & fadit in many a flour
   & makit wommen to lesyn her’ bryte colour
   vpon a lytil qwyle-

3. In semenaunt be þingis þre
f. 30r./77r.

4. My baselard hast a wreþin haste
   quan I am ful of ale cawte
   it is gret dred of man slawtte
   for þen I ber’ &c’

5. My baselard hast a syluer schape
   þerfor’ I may boþe gaspe & gape
   me þinkit I go lyk non knape
   for I ber’ a baselard-

6. As I ȝede vp in þe strete
   with a carter’ I gan mete
   felawe he seyde so mot I the
   þou xalt forgo þi baselard

7. þe carter’ his qwyppe began to take
   and al myn fleych began to qwake
   & I was lef for to ascape
   & þer’ I left myn baselard

8. Quan I cam forþ onto myn danme
   myn hed was brokyn to þe panne
   che seyde I was a praty manne
   & wel cowde ber’ myn baselar[d]

S62.
IMEV 3085; EEC 384

I may seyn & so mown mo þat in semenaunt goþ gyle
Thowt speche & priuyte
& trowpe xuld þe forte be
It is hens a ml’ myle.

4. Trowpe is fer & semit hynde
good & wykkyt it hast in mynde
It faryt as a candel’ ende
þat brennit fro half a myle.

5. Many man fayr’ to me he spekyt
& he wyste hym wel be wreke
he hadde we leuere myn hed to breke
þan help me ouer a style.

6. God þat deyid on þe cros
ferst he deyid & syþin he ros
haue mercy & pete on vs
We leuyn her’ but a qwyle.

S63.
IMEV 3537; EEC 341

Kep þi tunge þi tunge þi tunge þi wykyd tunge werkit me w[o]

1. þer is non gres þat growit on ground
Satenas ne peny round
wersse þen is a wykkyd tunge
þat spekit beþe euyl of frynd [&] fo

2. Wykkyd tunge makit ofte stryf
betwyxe a good man & his wyf
quan he xulde lede a merie lyf
her’ qwyte sydys waxin ful blo-

3. Wykkyd tunge makit ofte stauns
beþe in engelond & in frauns
many a man with sper’ & lau
þrow wykkyd tunge to ded is do-

4. Wykkyd tunge brekit bon
þow þe self haue non
of his frynd he makit his fon
In euery place quer’ þat he go-

5. Good men þat stondyn & syttyn in þis halle
I prey zou bope on & alle
þat wykkyd tungis fro zou falle
þat ze mown’ to hefne go-

S64.
Alma redemptoris mater.

1. As I lay vpon a nyzyst
   my þowt was on a mayde bryȝt
   þat men callyȝ mary of myȝt
   Redemptoris mater

2. to her’ cam gabriel so bryȝt
   & seyde heyly mari ful of myȝt
   To be cald þou art adȝȝt
   Redemptoris

3. After þat word þat mayde bryȝt
   anon conseuyd god of myȝt
   & þerby wyst men þat che hyȝt
   R

4. Ryȝt as þe sunne schynȝt in glas
   so þhesus in his moder was
   & þerby wyt men þat che was
   R

5. Now is born þat babe of blys
   & qwen of heuene his moder is
   & þerfor’ þink me þat che is
   R

6. After to heuene he tok his flyȝt
   & þer he sit with his fader of myȝt
   with hym is crownyd þat lady bryȝt
   Redemptoris mater.

S65.
Walther 12146

1. Non pudescit corpore
   quod testatur hodie
   Manna monumenti
dies

2. Adest procul dubio
   noua res auditu
   Infans viso gladio
cessat a uagitu
dies

3. Innocencium sanguine
   Rubent matrum lacrime
1. Meum est propositum in taberna mori
& vinum appositum stitienti ori
Vt dicant cum venerint angulorum cori
Deus sit propicius iste potatori

2. Potatores singuli sunt omnes benigni
Tam senes quam juvenes in eterna igni
Cruciantur rustici qui non sunt tam digni
qui bibisse nouerint bonum vinum vini

3. Vinum super omnia bonum diligamus
Nam purgantur vissia dum vinum potamus

4. Bonus pastor prodiit
Gaude grex anglorum
qui primus extitit
thomas flos pastorum
dies

5. Thoms cantuarie
omni carens carie
pro lege luctaris
Dans mucroni mylitis
Tinam tui capitis
sic quod coronaris
dies

6. Patitur se paruulus
carne circumcidit
Qui pro carnalibus
venerat occidi
dies

7. Ostupenda pietas {amoris quod immetas}
amoris quod immetas
verbi incarnati
Nam stillat sub calice
Cruor carnis tener
jhesu nuper nati
dies

S66.
Walther 10989 (see also 11004, 5274, 627, 18990); also in Trinity College, Oxford MS 34, f. 136; Volaterra, 100 (8653), ff. 13-4; Brussels Royal Library, MS nr. 19547, f. 171r.-v.
Cum nobis sint copia vinum dum clamamus
Qui vivis in gloria te deum laudamus

4. Magis quam ecclesiam diligo {d} tabernam
Ipsum nullo tempore spreui neque speram
Donec sanctos angelos venientes cernam
Cantantibus pro ebris requiem eternam

5. ffertur in conuiuium, vinus. na. num.
Masculinum duplicet atque femininum
Sed in neutro genere vinum est deuinum
Loqui facit socios optimum latinum

**S67.**
*IMEV 1417*

1. If I synge þe wyl me lakke
& wenyn I wer’ out of myn wyt
þerfor’ smale notis wil I crake
so wolde god I wer’ qwyt

2. Syn me muste take þis mery toyn
to glade with al þis cumpany
I rede or ony swych be don
for godis loue tey vp zour ky

3. ffor soþe I may not syng I say
my voys & I arn at discord
but we xul fonde to take a day
to takyn myn avys & myn acord

**S68.**
*IMEV 3877; EEC 7; also in Bod., MS Douce 302, f. 28r.-v.*

Wolcum 3ol þou mery man in worchepe of þis holy day

1. Wolcum be þou heuene kyng
Wolcum born in on morwenyng
Wolcum for hom we xal syng
Wolcum 3ol

2. Wolcum be þe stefne & jon
W[ol]cum innocentis euerychon
Wolcum thomas marter on
Wolcum 3ol

3. Wolcum be þe good newe þer’
Wolcum twelþe day boþe in fer’
Wolcum seyntis lef & der
Wolcum 3ol
4. Wolcum be ȝe candylmesse
   Wolcum be ȝe qwyn of blys
   Wolcum bôpe to mor’ & lesse
   Wolcum ȝol

5. Wolcum be ȝe þat arn her’
   Wolcum alle & mak good cher’
   Wolcum alle anþer ȝer’
   Wolcum ȝol

S69.
IMEV 1351; EEC 143

lullay myn lykyng my der’ sone myn swetyng
lullay myn der’ herte myn owyn der’ derlyng

1. I saw a fayr maydyn syttyn & synge
   sche lullyd a lytyl chyld a swete lordyng
   lull[ay] myn [l]y

2. þat eche lord is þat þat made alle þinge
   of alle lordis he is lord of alle kyngis kyng
   lull[ay]

3. þer was a mekyl melody at þat chyldis berthe
   alle þo wern in heuene blys þei made mekyl mirþe

4. auȝgel’ bryȝt þei song þat nyȝt & seydyn to þat chyld
   blyssid be þou & so be sche þat is boþe mek & myld

5. Prey we now to þat chyld & to his moder dere
   grawnt hem his blyssyng þat now makyn chere

S70.
IMEV 725

1. versus
   hostis herodis impie christum venire quid times non erpiň mortaliam

   Enmy herowde þou wokkyd kyng
   qwy dredis þou þe of cristis comyng
   he dezyrtyt her’ non erþely þing
   þat heuene hast at his þeuynng

2. versus
   Ibang magi quam viderant stellam sequentes premant lumen

   þre kyngis þei saw a sterr’ ful bryȝt
   þei folwyd it with al her’ myȝt
brystnesse þei saw þrow þat lyȝt  
þei knewe god with her’ ȝyft rȝt

3. Lauacræ puri gurgitūs selestis angnus attigit peccata non

 þe welle hast waschyn vs fro wo  
 þe lomb of heuene is comyn vs to  
 he þat synne neuere wold do  
 hast waschyn clene our synnys vs fro

4. Nouum genus potencie aque rubescunt idrie vnum ine

his myst is chawngyd of newe maner f. 33r./80r.  
 þe water wyx red in pecher  
 þe water is turnyd to wyn ful cler  
 ageyn þe kynde how it wer’

5. Gloria tibi dominie qui ap eruisti hodie cum patre et sancto spiritu in sempiterna secula

Amen

louyng lord be to þe ay  
 þat hast schewyd þe to vs þis day  
 with fader & holy gost veray  
 þat in þe word neuer fayle may

S71.

IMEV 356

1. As I me lend to a lend  
 I herd a schepperde makyn a schowte  
 he gronyd & seyde with sory syghyling  
 a lord how gos þis word abowte

2. It gos ful wrong ho so it wyster  
 a frend ho may ken fro his foo  
 to hom I may trewely trost  
 In fayth I fynde but fewe of þo

3. þe soþe me þinkyt if I xulde say  
 trewe frendis arn fewe withoutyn dowte  
 alle half frendis wo wo worth hem ay  
 a lord how gos þis word abowte

4. Alle trewe frendis wol worth hem ay  
 In wel in wo in hert in þowth  
 It must be soþ þat alle men say  
 he was neuer good frend was wroþ for nowth

5. Now wel now wo now frend now foo f. 33v./80v.
now lef now þef now in now out
now cum now go now to now froo
A lord how gos þis word abowte

6. þe wæst wytis herte of alle mankende
    alle wykkyd tungis ay worth hem woo
    þei arn ful fayn fals talis to fynd
    þei gref me þus I may not goo

7. but god of hem þou take sum wreche
    & arest hem alle be rowt
    þat false arn & fayr’ cun speke
    A lord how gos þis word abowte

S72.
IMEV 3343; EEC 8; also in Bod., MS Eng. poet. e.1, f. 22r.-v. (E19)

Mak we mirthe for crystis berthe & syng we sol til candulmes

1. þe ferste day of sol we han in mynde
    how man was born al of our kende
    ffor he wold þe bondis onbynde
    of alle our synne & wykkydnes

2. þe secunde day we syng of steuene
    þat stonyd was & fid vp euene
    with cryst þer he wold stonde in heuene
    & crownyd was for his prouys:

3. þe þrede day longis to saynt jon
    þat was crystis derlyng derest on
    to hom he tok quan he xuld go
    his der’ moder for his clennes:

4. þe forte day of þe chyldeyn syng
    with herowdis wretþe to deþ wer’ þrong
    of cryst þei cowde not speke with tong
    but with her’ blod bar’ wytnesse:

5. þe fytte day halwyt seynt Thomas
    ryth as strong as peler of bras
    hyld vp his kyrke & slayin was
    for he stod faste in rythwynes:

6. þe eytende day tok jhesus his nam
    þat sauyd mankynde fro synne & schame
    & circumsysid was for non {sol} blame
    but for infauns & mekenesse

7. þe .xii. day offeryd to hym kyngis ii
gold myrr’ incens þis ȝytis fre
ffor god & man & kynge is he
& þus þei worchepyd his worpinessè.

8. þe forty day cam mary myld
onto þe temple with her’ schyld
to schewyn her’ clene þat neuer was fyld
& her’ with endis crystenesse.

S73.
IMEV 1522; EEC 316

Mak þe merie as þe may & syng with me I sou pray.

1. In patras þer born he was
þe holy buschop seynt Nycholas
he wyst mekyl of godis gras
þrow virtu of þe trinite.

2. he reysyd þre klerkis fro dep to lyfue
þat wern {put} in salt put ful swyþe
betwyx a bocher’ & his wyfue
& was hid in priuyte.

3. he maryid þre maydenys of myld mod
he zaf hem gold to her’ fod
he turnyd hem fro ille to good
þrow virtu of þe trynyte.

4. anoþer he dede sekyrly
he sauyd a þef þat was ful sly
þat stal a swyn out of his sty
his lyf þan sauyd he

5. God grawt vs grace boþe eld & syng
hym to serue at his plesyng
to heuene blysse he vs bryng
þrow virtu of þe trinite

S74.
IMEV 372; EEC 457

kyrie so kyrie jankyn syngyt merie with aleyson.

1. As I went on þol day in owr’ prosessyon
know I joly jankyn be his mery ton

2. jankyn began þe offys on þe þol day
& zyt me þynkyt it dos me good so merie gan he say
kyrieleyson

f. 34v./81v.
3. Jankyn red þe pystyl ful fayr’ & ful wel & ðyt me þynkyt it dos me good as euere haue I sel

4. Jankyn at þe sanctus crakít a merie note & ðyt me þynkyt it dos me good I payid for his cote

5. Jankyn crakít notís an hunderid on a knot & ðyt he hakkyt hem smaller’ þan wortís to þe pot K

6. Jankyn at þe angnus beryt þe pax brede he twynkelid but sayd nowt & on myn fot he trede

7. Benedictamus domíno cryst fro schame me schylde deo gracias þerto alas I go with schylde K
1. þe borys hed haue we in broght
lok se be mery in herte & thosht
& he þat all’ þis worlde has wrowt
saue 3ow & eke me

J2.
IMEV 4241; EEC 83

Of X & M & oþer too
Of I & E I syng all’ so

2. X for cristes hymselfe was dyth
As clerkys redyn in story ryth
Qwan X & M with wrod was lyth
To saue us for þe fendet flyth

3. M begynneth a gloryos name
Mary modyr withowtyn fane
Qwan X & M was borne in same
Oure goy begynneth to spr[i]ng

4. Of E I wyll’ syng zyte
On Cristes crose þat lettre was sette
qwan X & e togeþer mette
M & E in herte was woo

5. I begynneth þe name of ion
quan X upon þe rode was done
m & i stod styll’ alone
And hys postyllys wnet hym form

6. {þeis iiij lereterys woryppe we all
For crist was borne in ox stalle
to bryng us for þe dewlys all'
with hys wondys rede & bloo}
2. At þe fest’ of architriclyn’
   Crist turnyd water in to wyn’
   And þerfore xall’ þis song be myn’
   Nowell’ ell’ ell’

3. Ihesu asse þou art hewyn’ kynge
   Grawnt vs all’ þi dere blyssynge
   hosyll’ and schirft at oure endynge
   Nowell’ ell’ ell’

J4.
IMEV 2098; EEC 232; also in Bod., MS Eng. poet. e.1, ff. 45r.-45v. (E60); Balliol College,
Oxford, MS 354, p. 468

A a a a gaudet cely domīna

1. Mary myld for loue of þe
   Glad & blythe now may we be
   I zow telle os þe may see
   Tua quinque gaudia

2. þe fyrst joy þat was sente þe
   was qwan grabryell’ gret þe
   & seyd mary of chastite
   Efficiertis Grauida

3. þe scecnd joy it was full’ good
   qwan crist of þe toke flesch & blode
   withoutyn synne with myld mede
   Enixa est puerpera

4. þe iij joy was of grette myth
   qwan crist was on þe rode dyth
   dede & beryd for oure ryyth
   Surrexit d[i]e tersia

5. þe iiiij joy was on [a] day
   qwan crist to hewyn toke þe way
   God & man þis is oure fay
   Ascendit supra scidera

6. þe v joy in þe gan lyth
   qwan þou were in hewyn with hym dyth
   All’ holy chyrche þou hast in myth
   I[n] tua potencia

J5.
IMEV 3594; EEC 454

A dere god qwat I am fayn
for I am madyn now gane
1. his enber day I mete a clerke
   & he was wyly in hys werke
   he prayd me with hym to herke
   and hys cownsell’ all for to lene

2. I trow he cowd of gramery
   I xall’ now a good [s]kyll wy
   For qwat I hade siccu[rr]ly
   To warne hys wyll’ had I no may

3. qwan he and me browt un us þe schete
   Of all’ hys wyll’ I hym lete
   Now wyll’ not my gyrdyll’ met
   a dere god qwat I xal say

4. I xall’ sey to man & page
   þat I haue bene of pylgrymage
   Now wyll’ not lete for no rage
   With me a clerk for to pley

J6.
IMEV 1900; EEC 313

A a a a salue caterr[i]na

1. lystyn lordyngys qwatte I xall’ sey
   A grette maruiell tell’ I may
   Of a louely medyn tell’ I may
   Salue caterr[i]na

2. Of god grace sche was full’ wys
   Sche was qweryd in hyrde wys
   Of all’ doctys þat were so wys

3. Wundir marwelys be godes grace
   þer is no woman in þis plase
   A woman is þe of grace

4. Thorow þe prayer of sent cataryn
   God send us a hows twyll’ in
   þat wordy lady & bryth & schne

5. þer sche in fyre was done
   Sche brent nere here nere hone
   Sche stod in hewen anone
   Qwan crist was borne

J7.
IMEV 1484; EEC 391

I may syng & sey iwys gremercy my owne [purse]

1. In euery plas qwer ſat I wende
   My purse is my owne frende
   ſerfor gladly may I syng
   gremercy my own purse

2. Qweresoeuer I goo in lond
   My purse is redy at my hond
   ſerfor ſis is a redy song
   vt supra

3. Qwereso I walke be þe way
   My purse xall’ help me all’vay
   ſerfor may I syng & say
   vt supra

4. If I be out in þe cuentre
   And my purse be far fro me
   þann most I on beggyng fle
   And far xall’ go & letyll’ xall’ haue

5. And ze woll’ with fellechyp won
   Tay ȝoure purse in ȝore bosom
   þan may I well’ my song vowyn

J8.

IMEV 352; EEC 149; also in NLS, MS Advocates 18.7.21, ff. 3v.-4v.; BL, MS Harley 2330, f. 120r.; CUL, MS Additional 5943, f. 169r.

Lullay lay lay lay my dere modyr lullay f. 4r.

1. As I me lay þis endyres nyth
   All on my loue lokyng
   Me thouth I saw a semly syth
   A mayn cradyll’ kepyng
   Lullay

2. þe modyr wold withoutyn song
   A slepe here chyld to bryng
   þe chyld hym’ thœsth sche dyd hym wrong
   And bad hys modyr syng
   Lullay

3. Syng now modyr seyd þe chyld
   Qwat xall’ of me befall’
   here after qwan’ I com’ of age
   so chuld þo moderys all’
   Lullay
4. fför euery modyr sekyrly
   þat can here cradayll' kepe
   Sche most syng lullay
   To bryng here chyld on slepe

5. Swete modyr seyd he
   Sethyn' þat it is so
   I pray sou þat 3e roke me
   And sum qwat sey þerto

6. Swet son seyd sche
   Qwere of chyld xuld I syng
   Wost I neuer mor' be {b} þe
   þan' of a angyll' gretyng

7. he grett’ me gladly on kne
   he seyd heyle mary
   full of grace god is with þe
   þou xalte bere mercy

8. I wondyr gretly in my thou3th
   ffor man knew I non
   Mary he seyd drede þe nos3th
   let god all’ mythy alone

9. þat holy gost xall’ do all þis
   þow he be owt of won’
   And xalt haue us manys blys
   Goddys owne son

J9.
IMEV 3931

1. Qwan crist was borne in bedlem
   þer rose a stere os bryth
   þat gafe so glorius a glem
   oure dale and downe
   Oure dale and downe it sprong and sprede
   þat madd iij kynges to be a drede
   In to a unchond lond it hem lende
   into a towne
   þei were iij kyngys of grete renowne

2. þe cam to seke herowd þe kyng
   & askyd hym of all’ þat thynge
   And speryd aftyr þe chyld so 3yng
   þat xuld be kyng
   þat schud be kyng of all’ jury
   we saw a stere secyrly
Þe kynge no lenger þer abyde
but forth to bedlem þan þe rode
and þe stern before hem glode
Vntyll þie were
Vntyll’ þie were þer iexu lay
woondyn in a cryb of hey
þei thowt it was a pore aray
Of prins of pes þat hast no pere

5. Now knele we downe all’ iij in fere
And offyr to þis helyng dere
Glod so red and rekyls clere
& myre also
& myre also in tokenyng
þat he is ueri man and kyng
Soffarond prins ouyr all’ thyng
oon and no moo
for holy wryth bere wytenes also

6. An angell’ warnyd hem in here selpe
þat þei xuld hem for herowyd kepe
þei thankyd god with deuocion depe
& hom þei wente
And hom þei wente on here iornay
quan þieof herowd hard say
þe seyd alas & welaway
for I am schente
þis chyld he wyll’ my kyndam hente

7. þe rerowd was both wode and wroth
with mekyl yre he mad hys othe
þat he was borne þat xuld be kyng
þat he was borne
þat all’ þe londe it {is} xulde be loth
he dyde to doo a spythfull’ thyng
to slee chyldeyn both ell’d and thayng

3. Wend þe forth all’ thre in fere
And of þat chyld if þe may here
þat þe wyll’ com asen {he} in fere
I sou beske
I sou beske þat þe me say
Os þe com homwrod agen in zore way
þat I myselfe hym wyrchyp may
þat chylde so meke
On my bare fete I wold hym seke

4. þe kyngys no lenger þer abyde
but forth to bedlem þan þe rode
and þe stern before hem glode
Vntyll þie were
Vntyll’ þie were þer iexu lay
woondyn in a cryb of hey
þei thowt it was a pore aray
Of prins of pes þat hast no pere
in bedlem borne
with in ij wyntrys þer befor’

8. þe chyldryn sprongyld an þe sperys
 þe moderys wept ful bytyr terys
þat herowd dyd hem gyfteles derys
þat fend so felle
þat fend so fell’ fowle mut hym befalle
þat þus þeis chyldryn martyrd all’
On to martre we gye and calle
þat in blys well’
to schend us ferm þe pyth of hell’e

J10.
IMEV 30; EEC 142; also in Westminster Abbey, MS 20, f. 20r.; Bod., MS Douce Additional 137, f. 23r. (1822); A Good Christmas Box, Containing a Choice Collection of Christmas Carols (1847), pp. 96-8; Frank Sidgwick, Popular Carols (1908), pp. 29-31

Lollay lay lay lay my dere modyr’ lullay
Lullay my chyld’

1. A chyld ys born ewys
þat all þis word xall blys
Hys joy xall’ neuer myse
for ihesu ys hys name

2. On þe good zowe morne
þe blysfull’ chyld was borne
to werre a crown of thorne
Vt supra

3. Of a madyn so good
He toke both fleche & blod
ffor us he deyd up on þe rode
Vt supra

4. Of a medyn so trew
He toke both fleche & hewe
for us he deyd on a tre
Vt supra

5. On þe estern mon all’ blyth
He ros for deth to lyue
to make us all’ blyth
Vt supra

6. On þe good fryday at non
f. 7r.
to þe deth he was done
for us he deyd on tre
Vt supra
pray we to soun lady dere for here holy grace

1. Sche saw þéis women all bedene
   Both for sorow & fro tene
   Madys & wyuys & weduys I weme
   all’ be þei fayre in face

2. Women be both good & hend
   Clen curteys cumly & kend
   Yche a cupany is wele amede
   yf a woman be in a plase

3. Of a woman com all’ oure blys
   þerfor I loue hem all iwys
   qwosoeuer seyth on hem amys
   be god he gawyd in hys face

4. Were a man i sote syynge
   A woman xall’ hym out bryng
   And with a kys lesse hys mornyng
   & sette hym in solace

   ) What maner mane

5. þies men arne falce fekyll’ in thoȝth
   Women be wood þat trow hem howt
   For welle þie hote & hold it noth
   but spek in here song

6. dere lady to þi son þou pray
   he synd þéis women os he wylle may
   for false men þat downe hym tray
   þat þei sene he neuer in face

J12.
IMEV 2339; EEC 125; also in BL, MS Słoane 2563, ff. 17r.-18v. (S39); Bod., MS Eng. poet. e.1, ff. 31v.-32v. (E43); BL, MS Harley 541, f. 214r.-v.

1. Now ys þe xij day com
   Fadyr & son togydyr wone
   þe holy gost with hym is nowme
   i[n] fere
   God send vs all’ a gud newz ser

2. I xall ȝow syng thorö hys myȝh
   Of a chyld þat is so fayr of syȝht
   a mayd hym bare of cristynmes nyȝht
So styll'
as yt was hys wyll'

3. "iij kyngys {of coleyn’} þer cum of galey
þei cum toward’ bedlem iude
hym to sek & to se
Be ny3ht
þat was a semly sy3ht

4. As þei cum with þer offryng
þe mete with Erawd þat mody kyng’
he hasked’ hem of her’ cummynge
þat syd
& þus tyll’ hem he sayd’

5. Fro qweyr cum 3e kynges iij
owt of þe est as 3e may se
to seke hym þat euer xall’ be
of my3ht’
lord prince kyng & kny3h

6. I pray sow lordys all iij
qwan 3e haue þat chyld se
þat 3e cum ageyn’ be me
& telythe
qwere þat fayr chyld’ dwellyth

7. kyang herawd we at’ wyll’ not lete
as þou hast seyd yt xall’ be sete
we cum ageyn’ withowt’ lete
& tell’
& stell’ qwer þat fayr chyld dwell’

8. qwan he had seyde hys lykyng
Syr herawd’ þat mody kyng’
& forth þe wente with þer offrynge
Be ny3ht
þe stere gaue hem ly3ht

9. Be þe stere þat schon so bry3ht
þe iij kyngys tok wey full’ ry3ht’
Be þe hape of þat chyld’ so bryry3ht’
Thoro grace
to þat holy place

10. qwan þeie cum to holy place
þer Jhesu & hys moder was
þei offryd to hym with grete solace
in fer
golde encens & myrre
11. all’ þei wer both blytthe & glade
qwan þei had’ her offryng mad’
as þe holy gost hem bad
& dedyn’
worschype god & ȝedyn’

12. qwen’ þe lordyngys wer wente
þe chyld’ an angell’ from hevyn’ sente
to þe kyngys þat mad present’
er day
to tech hem þe waye

13. my lord warnyth ȝow euerychone
þat non of ȝow be herowd’ gone
for yf ȝe don ȝe xall be slone
& stroy
& do ȝow mekyll’ noye

14. Thoro þe myȝht’ of god verrey
þe kyngys tokyn’ anodyr away
ownt þei cum or yt’ was day
full’ ryȝht
home þei cum þat nyȝht’

J13.
IMEV 782; EEC 266

fadyr my wyll’ yt is nolo mortem peccatoris

1. ffadyr I am þin owyn chyl’d’
& born of mary mek & myld’
fadyr now my wyll’ yt is
Nolo mortem peccatoris

2. My hert is sore qwan I bethynk
& se mene trespass & in syn synk
For all’ þat is done amyse
Nolo mortem peccatoris

3. þou falce fend with all’ þi slent’
y wyll’ no more mankynd’ be schent’
Of hem þou getyst’ no ryȝht’ ywyys
Vt supra

4. Now mak we both ioy and myȝht’
In worschyp of’ crystys owyn’ byrtht
þis is goddyss owyn’ word ywyys
Vt supra
J14.
IMEV 3214; EEC 400

War yt war yt war yt wele Wemen be as trew as stele f. 9v.

1. Stel is gud I sey no odor
   So mowun wemen’ be kaymys brodur
   Ylk’ on lere schrewdnes at odor
   Wemen be as trew as stele

2. Stel is gud in euery knythe
   So kun þes women both flyt’ & stryfe
   Also þei cun ful’ wele lye
   Wemen vt supra

3. {Stele is gud in euery knyf’}
   Stele is gud in euery nedyll’
   So be þes wemen’ both falce & fekyll’
   & of þer ars evyn’ ry3ht brytyll’
   vt supra

4. Stele is both fayr & bry3ht’
   So be þes women’ be candyl ly3ht’
   & som wyll both {fly3l} flyte & fy3ht’
   vt supra

5. Stel is gud in lond & watyr
   So cun þes women both den & flatyr
   & 3yt for {ny} ned to play þe faytur
   vt supra

J15.
IMEV 4078; EEC 415

Ay ay be þis day y wyll’ mak mery qwyll’ y may

1. Qwyll’ mene haue her bornys full’
   þer of y think my part’ to pull
   for to car for þe kyngys wolle
   Yt war both selye be my fey

2. for be yt’ werr’ or be yt pece
   for me may yt be neuer þe les
   lete hem sytte on þe hye dese
   To serve hem in hys may f. 10r.

3. Me think þis word is wonder wery
   and fadlyth as þe brymbyll bery
   þerfor y wyll’ note but be mery
   how long I xall’ y can not’ sey

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4. Syrs & zë do aftër me
   Car zë not thow þat zë the
   Now y red do aftyr me
   for jak rekles is my name

J16.

IMEV 972; EEC 274; and IMEV 3654; EEC 366
Vertical strokes (|) are used to show line ends, the marks // are as used in the MS.

Now jhesus rector anime
ne cademus sustine

1. God þat all’ þis wrod has wro3th
   And with precius blod hath both
   Of us synfull’ men haue thoute
   ne cademus sustine

2. þou arth lord þat mad all’ thyng //
   for all’ grace is in þi geuynyg []
   þou saue us fro þe fendys fowndyng //
   defensor noster domine []

3. We haue iij emmys qwer’ þat we wende
   þe werd þe fendys & þe flesch
   þat saue us fro {þe} hem þat we not schede
   Inciantes reprime

4. In all’ souble leue wyll’ are here
   we haue but wo trauyll’ & care
   mete dry[n]ke & cloth’ we haue no more
   pro nostro graui opere

   Nowell

5. þis ward is falce I dare wyll’ say
   and man xall’ fade as dose hay
   for as a flour it fallys away
   tunc non ualebit corpore

6. tell’ me sothe qwo so canne
   qwan he hys dede qwat has he wan
   qwre se þe ony rych þede man
   reuela mihi hodie

7. þou plesyst hym both nyth and day
   & knele to serue hym wyll’ to pay
   he may not hym a good wrod say
   cum operitur puluere
8.  hys secutourys withoute lete  
    sow he myth curtesoure sette  
    þei sey he ouyt so mykyll dette  
    non postest solui integre

9.  qwan he is closyd in hys graue  
    þan is he þer he may not craue  
    Os he haue done so xall’ he haue  
    oblitus parue tempore

10.  And þerfor man or þou hens wende  
    dele þi good with þi honde  
    And thynke wyll’ dene last man haue no frond  
    tu miserecis animae

11.  lord ȝyf us grace so to do here  
    þat qwan we {l} are broch on bere  
    þou take our’ sole þat þou both dere  
    pende[n]s alto arbore

12.  and gyfe us grace so to spende  
    þat god þat þou on to us sende  
    þat we may sey at soure last end  
    laus summo regule

J17.  
IMEV 3329; EEC 148; also in BL, MS Sloane 2593, f. 16r.-v. (S37)

A newyr a newyr þe chyld was borne  
    fadyr of hewyn hys owyn son haue send’ hys cyn[gdom]  
    for to clemyn

1.  þis chyld was borne þis endyr nyth  
    vus for to saue with all’ is myth  
    so blyssyd be tyme  
    a newyr

2.  þe chyld was borne þis endys day  
    All’ of a clene madyn as sur tell’ may  
    so blyssyd fadyr of hewe tur

3.  All’ of a clne mad madyn our lord was borne  
    All’ for to wyn þat Adam had forlorn

4.  Lull’ay my letyll’ chyld my own swete seynt  
    [Man]y scharp schourys xall’ þi body hent

5.  lullay lay letyll’ chyld my own suete foode  
    how xuld I suffyr þi fayre body forto be rent on rode

f. 11v.
6. lullay lay letyll’ chyld we owth myrthys to make
for many scharp schoures xall’ þi body schape

7. lullay lay letyll’ chyld w[...] out to mak myrth
And so out euery cristen man to worchyp þi byrth

8. blyssyd be þe modyr þe chyld bare about
And so be þe modyr þe chyld gane soke

9. blyssyd be þe moder þe chyld cam to
benedicamus domino
so blyssyd be þe tyme

J18.
IMEV 2735; EEC 139

Nowell’ nowell’ ell’ ell’ I pray 3ow lystyn qwat I 3ow [tell] f. 12r.

1. Ouer all gatis that I haff’ gon’
Amonge þe grovys so fayer & grene
So ffayer a brownch þan know I non’
As Ivy ys & that I mene

2. Ivy ys grene & wyl be grene
Qwerseouer a grow in stok or ston’
þerffor’ I red 3ow so mut I chene
þe loue well’ Ivy eueryschon’

3. Þe xall’ 3ow tell’ a reson’ quy
þe xall’ low Ivy & think {I} no chame
þe ffyrst letter begynnith’ with I
and ryðh þevyn’ so ihesus name

4. Þe secund letter ys & v
I lykyn’ to {emanuell} a wurthy wyffe
Moder sche ys and maydyn trewe
Non but on I that euer bar’ lyffe

5. Þe thred letter is & e
I lykyn’ to emanuell’
That is to sey cryst with vus be
And euer more ffor to dwell’

6. As I lay in myn bed alone f. 12v.
A comely lady sent to me
And be bad me rede þeis letterys eueryschon’
{xuld I be} & all þe better xuld’ I be

7. All’ how holy be 3oure ffon’
And wuld 3ow tosch’ with tray & tene
Mekenes of Ivy xall hym ouergonne
And ffayer [w]urdys ouer betwene

8. Ouer all gatys that I have gone
Among þeis grouys ffayer & grene
I have be wery son’ anon’
My botte sche was þat ivy tre

9. þus þus Ivy ffull’ ffayer I gan’ spelle
So ffayer a brawnch know I non’
I pray sow tent qwat I sow tell’
And love well’ Ivy eueryschon’

J19.
EEC App. vi

Women’ ben good ffor lo[ve]...
... that sit above

1. In evyn þer sitte a lady...
Off’ all’ women sche...
Women to loue yt y...

2. Women to loue y...
To loue women...
Women to loue...

3. Women xall In...
Day nye nyth’...
Womenys cump[any]...

4. Iwys I hold...
That of no w...
Women to good...

5. Women ben goo...
Women to vus...
Women to lo[ve]...

J20.
EEC App. iv

... d wasche þe & goo to met in honest
... þe xall’ ete
... blys be þour mete
... er þe be

... fest beganne
... e both god & man
... washe
vt supra

... xii day
... is no nay
...
vt supra

... þe blod

...sou good
... [thin]ke on me
vt supra

qwan ȝe haue was[hed]... f. 14r.
My pascho[n]...
þat I suffyrd...

loke...
to sytte at...
in hewne...

so to...
þat we...
amen...

J21.

... of w f. 14v.
...
...
...
synge
...
...
...
wy thynge

Fragments written inside the back cover

puer natus hodie syt we down on owr kne

Fuit homo miserens et deus
Bodleian Library, Oxford, MS Eng. poet. e.1 (Summary Catalogue No. 29734)

E1.
Walther 988

Nowell nowell nowell nowell
myssus est ad virginem angelus gabriell

1. Angelum misit suum deus omnipotens
   vt vnicum per filium eius saluetur gens
   virgo aue clamat ille o maria clemens
   Concipies et paries virgo semper manens

2. virgo clam tremessit nam mira valde audit
   Eam cui est illi missus comfortauit
   Altissimi patris tui virtus obumbrauit
   Cui per flamen sacrum gramen in te seminavit

3. virgo clemens semper tremens ad verba angeli
   Cui flamen consolamen dat responsum illi
   miti voce dicens ecce ancilla domini
   Et secundum tuum verbus ita fiat mihi

4. virgo deum genuit verbum quem alit cum cura
   mirus pater mira mater mira genitura
   parit virgo solo verbo contra carnis iura
   per seuerante post et ante virgine pura

5. Omnia iam sunt noua per ipsam virginem
   humanitas et deitas per humilitatem
   In virgine sunt coniuncte sacraque per aarem
   Iam co[n]cepit et peperit deum et hominem

6. Nobis natus nobis datus quem virgo lactauit
   atque grege sic sublege cuntaque creauit
   miti corde nos a sorde moriendo lauavit
   Miserere plebi tue jhesu fili daut

7. virgo pia o maria pura vt lilia
   Sponsa dei soror ei mater et filia
   Tu hunc ores vtiatores vt fugant vilia
   Et non trahent huc quo gaudent sanctorum milia

8. O pater qui genuisti hunc ab initio
   Et dedisti gentes sibi pregandes precio
   hic cum venit quos redemit sanguinis precio
   Luidicare fac viuere nos a supplicio

E2.

Stanza 1 is Walther 2225 (see also 20365), also in BL, Additional MS 34200, ff. 59v-60r; Bod.,
MS Rawlinson A. 384, f. 116v; Trinity College, Cambridge, MS 12, f. 77v.
Semper viuit misere // qui non habet soluere  

1. Bonum vinum {in tabernam} cum sapore
   Bybit abbas cum priore
   Sed conuentus de peiore
   Semper solet bibere

2. Bonum vinum in taberna
   vbi vina sunt valarna
   vbi nummus est pincerna
   Ibi prodest bibere

3. Dum vadis ad bibendum
   The festina ad videndum
   Quantum habes ad soluendum
   Antequam vis bibere

4. Sic amicus mulieris
   et amorem eius queris
   stabis foras misereris
   Dum non habes soluere

5. Dum burse sunt implete
   Sicut hospes hic manete
   Panem potum hic habete
   Et omnia pacifice

6. Dum burse sunt inanes
   latrat hospes velut canes
   Dicit hospes cur hil[c] manes
   Dum non habes soluere

7. Dum cares querens victum
   Tunc tuum scies delictum
   Quis tibi dabit vestitum
   Nullus vult te tegere

8. Et tunc dicet totus mundus
   tu fuisti vacabundus
   Inonestusque iocundus
   bonis uolens credere

9. Ergo deum deprecare
   vt te possis sperare
   et secum celo regnare
   Ibi non debes luere

**E3.**
IMEV 2050; EEC 382
haue in mynd in mynd in mynd secuters be oft onekynd f. 13r.

1. Man bewar þe way ys sleder
   thy sowle sall go þou wottes not weder
   Body & sowle & al togeder
   lytyll joye ys son done

2. Haue þi sowle in þi mynd
   þe seculars be ryght onkynd
   Mane be þi own freynd
   lytyll joye ys son done

3. In holy bok yt ys wretten
   þat sely sovle ys son forgeten
   & trev yt ys for to seken
   vt supra

4. Her ys a song for me
   Syng another for the
   god send vs love & charite
   vt supra

E4.
IMEV 3552; EEC 402.1

Herfor & therfor & therfor I came
And for to praysse þis pretty woman

1. Ther wer iij wyll .3.te wyly þer wer
   a fox a fryyr and a woman

2. Ther wer .3. angry .3. angry þer [we]r
   a wasp a wesyll & a woman

3. Ther wer .3. cheteryng iij cheteryng þer wer
   a peye a jaye & a woman

4. þer wer .3. wold be betyn 3. wold be betyn þer wer
   a myll a stokefysche & a woman

E5.

1. Et virgine natus christe es sine macula
   mortis pomo cepit homo quam rumpens iacula
   nos gaudere et habere fac habitacula
   vbi manens cunta regens vnicus per secula

2. Spiritus sancte deus fer nobis juuamen
   Cui fuisti matri christi sacrum consolamen
Da cum iudex aduenit rex ad nostrum examen
Nos vnitias in qua extas deus seruet amen

E6.
IMEV 4075; EEC 439

for pencynesse & grett distresse I am full woo
Destitute frome al refute alone I goo

1. Whylome I present was with my soffreyne
   Ignorawnt I was of dolowr & payne
   ffor þan I lyued
   ffro sorow depreued
   Of plesure hauyng habundawnce & delice
   But now forsothe
   Sore hytt me ruthe
   ffortune contrarythe to my device
   
   for pinceyness

2. Whane fortune flatery ay deseveabyll
   My hert en[t]lyced by proysrs delectabyll
   I thowzt in mynd
   I schuld ay fynd
   The whele of fortunat fyxyd fast
   Nott for no chawnce
   To mak delyawnce
   Whyle my terme of lyff had past
   
   ffor pencyness

3. Butt now proysrs glorius be myxyd with gall
   Whyche bytter ys & tedius ouer all
   Venumus os poyson
   To me full naysom
   And from her palyse ryall
   fful cruelly
   And onavysedly
   Sche heth soferyd me to fall
   
   ffor pencynesse

4. And into gret dole & mysery
   Devoyd of all felyce[te]
   With her owtrage
   Me puttyng to dammag
   With hert constrystant thyse wordes I sey
   ffor pencynnesse
   And hyre distresse
   ffad doth my yoye & wannych awey
ffor pencynesse

5. ffor by her rygurus & crabyd violence
Preuentd me sche hath of my pretence
Constreynynge me to fulfyll
that repugnant is to my wyll
ffor heras I neuer entenedyd to be abcent
Distawnce of place
[My] hyherd myschavnce & case
utterly hath alteryd my purpose & entent

ffor pencynesse

6. Schuld i not morne & in hert be sad
Whan slyder tym wych neuer abydyng had
Schuld do me payn
By fortuns dissayn
And al memory on me tak away
That þe dyseys
The hert on thynkys
wher syght ys novt ferwel thowzt & haue gud day

ffor pencynesse

7. Thus my enmye mortale doyth determyne
with dystawnce of place & current tyme
Me wyl consownd
& neuer to red[o]wnd
But me consume & utterly wast
And of al resort
of joy & comfort
Desolate me make & in penurye me cast

ffor pinc[ynesse]

8. whome nature excellethly hath avawncyd
& heuynly grace gyftes most & syngularly hath enf[awncyd]
In bewte in sagacite
In facund spech & in benyngnyte
In behauyowr gudly me vmbyll in spyryt
And sondry wertusse
wych canot dyscuse
frome hym am {I} I sewrd be fortuns despit

E7.
IMEV 2342

1. Now ys wele & all thing arist
And cryst ys come as a trew knyght
ffor our broder ys kyng of myȝt
þe fend to fleme & all hys
Thus þe feend ys put to flyȝt
& all his boost abatyd ys

2. Sythyn yt is wele we do
For þer ys non but one of two
Hevyn to gete or hevyn forgo
Odey men non þer ys
I counsayll ȝow syn þat ys so
þat ȝe wyll do to wyn ȝow blys

3. Now ys wel & all ys wele
& ryȝt wele so haue I blys
And sythyn all thyng ys so well
I red we do no more amys

E8.
IMEV 4236

1. wold god þat men myȝt sene
hertys whan þei bene
for thynges þat bene vntrew
If yt be as I wene
thyng þat semyth grene
ys ofte faded of h[ew]

2. wyll ys tak for reson
Trew love ys full geson
No man sett be shame
Trost ys full of treson
Echy maȝt oderys cheson
No maȝt hym seylfe wyll blame

3. Thys warlde ys varyabell
Nothyng þerin ys stable
Asay now ho so wyll
Syn yt is so mutable
How shuld me be stable
yt may not be thorow skyll

4. when brome wyll appells bere
& humloke hony in feere
þan sek rest in lond
with men is no pees
Ne rest in hart is no lese
with few be see & sond

5. Sythyn þer is no rest
I hold it for þe best

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god to owr’ frend
he þat ys owr’ lord
delyuer vs ouȝt with hys word
& graunt vs a good ende

E9.
IMEV 743; EEC 388

In a blyssefull tyme Þat mane ys borne
Þat may fynd frend to trust vpon

1. Euer ye man in hys degre
Cane say yf he avysyd be
þer was more trust in sum thre
þan ys now in many {mo} {on}

2. þis warld ys now all changed new
So many mene ben found{en} ontrew
þat in trewth lyven but few
feythfull to I tryst vpon

3. Suntym a man myȝt tryst anoþer
Better þan now hys owne broder
For þei ben fekyll as well as oþer
for few be trew to tryst vpon

4. And if þou tell a man þi hart
to kepe it clos as ys hys part
vij þere aftur it may þe smart
for few be trew to tryst vpon

5. A mans feyth ys now sett at novȝt
Suntym þerby men sold & bovȝt
þerfor I say þus in my thovȝt
þat few be trew to tryst vpon

6. yf þou do be my counsayll
thynke well on þe aftur tayll
I warent þe it wyll þe avayll
for few be trew to tryst vpon

7. So many men haue bene begylyd
þe fader ma[y] not tryst hys ovne chy[l]d
I am aferd trost ys exylyd
for few be trew to tryst vpon

8. yf þou doo for a comonte
all þat now lyyth in þe
skarsly shalt þou thankyd be
for few be trew to tryst vpon
9. Now no man kan know hys frend  
   for doubelnese is so mekylly in mynd  
   þus in fayth at the last þend  
   {for} few be trew to tryst vpon

10. whatsoeuer þou thynk to do  
    Beware to whom þou spekes vnto  
    for I trow {few be trew to t} when al is do  
    few be trew to tryst vpon

11. Now jhesu þat art hevvyn kyng  
    {trw} thowrow þi moder prayyn  
    þou send vs all a good endyn  
    for þou art trew to tryst vpon

E10.
                                                                          
IMEV 3627; EEC 150; also in Balliol College, Oxford, MS 354, pp. 473-4; NLS, MS Advocates  
19.3.1., ff. 210v.-211r.; BL, MS Royal Appendix 58, ff. 52v.-54v.

Thys endris nyȝth  
    I saw a syȝth  
    A stare as brȝȝt as day  
    And euȝr among  
    A mayden song  
    Lullay by by lullay

1. þat louely lady sat & song & to hyr chyld sayd  
   my sone my broder my fader der why lyest þou þus in haye  
   my swete byrd  
   þus it ys betyde  
   thow þou be kyng veray  
   But neuerþeles  
   I wyll not ses  
   to syng by by lullay

2. The chyld þan spak in hys talkyng & to hys moder sayd  
   I be kynde {for} ame kyng in crybbe þou I be layd  
   for aungelles brȝȝt  
   done to me lyȝȝt  
   þou knowest it ys no nay  
   and of þat syȝt  
   þou mayst be lyȝȝt  
   to syng by by lullay

3. Now swet son syn þou art kyng why art þou layd in stall  
   why ne þou ordende þi beddyng in sum gret kynges hall  
   me thynkyth it is ryȝȝt  
   þat kyng or knyght  
   shuld ly in good aray
and þan among
it were no wrong
to syng by by lullay

4. mary moder I *am* þi chyld thow I be layd in stall
lорdes & dukes shal worsshyp me & so shall kynges all
þe shal well se
þat kynges thre
shal come þe xij day
for þis behest
þe in þi brest
& syng by by lullay

5. now tell me swet son I þe pray þou art me leue & dere
how shuld I kepe þe to þi pay & mak þe glad of chere
for all þi wyll
I wold fullfyll
þou wotyste full well in fay
& for all þis
I wyll þe kys
& syng by by lullay

6. my der moder whan tym it be þou take me vp on loft
& set me vpon þi kne & handyll me full soft
and [i]n þi arme
þou hyl me warme
& kepe nyat & day
if I wepe
& may not slepe
þan syng by by lullay

7. now swet son syn it is so þat all thynge is at þi wyll
I pray þe graunte me a bone yf it be both ryzt [& skyl]f. 18v.
þat chyld or man
þat wyl {be} or kan
be mery vpon my day
To blyse hem bryng
& I shal syng
lullay by by lullay

**E11.**
IMEV 34; EEC 37

Aye aye þis is þe day þat we shall worshop euer & aye

1. a ferly thyng it is to mene
þat a mayd a chyld haue borne
& syth was a mayden clene
as prophètes sayden her beforne
iwys it was a wonder thyng
That thowrow an aungelles gretyng
god wold lyêt in a mayden ȝyng
with aye
aye aye I dar well say
her maydenhed ȝede no[t] away

2. hys moder was a mayden myld
as holy kyrke wytynse & we
withouten weme she bar a chyld
& so dede neuer non but she
a farly thynge it schuld befell
But god hath all women thrall
in peynes to ber her chylderne all
with aye
aye aye I dar wel say
she felt non of þat aray

3. hys byrth was know þat ylk nyȝth
In all þe lond thorow & thorow
Thedyr þei ȝedyn to se þat syȝth
to bethlem þat fayer borow
an angel bad þat þei shuld go
he seyd þat betwenne beestys two
Godes sonne seker þe fynd so
with aye
Aye aye I dar well say
In a crybe þei found hym þer he lay

4. Thre kynges ovȝt of ynde lond
þei cum to seke þat ferly fode
with rych presantes in þer hond
a sterre styffely afor hem ȝode
A ferly thynge it was to se
þat sterre was mor þan oþer thre
yt held þe course to þat contree
with aye
aye aye I dar wel say
þei {thar} ded not myss of redy way

5. whan þei with þat lady mett
þei fond hyr chyld vpon her kne
full curttesly þei her grett
& present hym with {saftyr} saftys thre
As kyng þei seffe hym gold so rede
myrre & sense to hys manhede
of hyr offryng þus we reede
with Aye
Aye aye I dar well say
þe[i] worshepyd hyme on þe xij day
6. Mary moder maydyn myld
to þe we cry to þe we call
þou be owr socur & owr sheyld
vs þou saue {for} fro myschevys all
þou pray þi sone þat prynce of pees
of al owr’ synnes he vs relees
ovzt of þis warld whane we shal cees
with aye
Aye aye so þat we may
wend with hym at domysday

f. 19v.

E12.
IMEV 3630; EEC 38

Now be we glad & not to sad / for verbum caro factum est

1. þis may I preve withovʒten lett
when gabriell owr’ lady grett
on hys kne he hym sett
so myldly
þou shalt conseythe þis sam day
saluatorem mundi

2. A sterre shoʒne thorow gode grace
as gode avne wyll yt was
þe shepperdes saw in þat place
Angelles two
& hem among þei song a song
gloria in excelcis deo

3. þe chyld was born vpon {ʒ} ʒole day
As prophettes to vs gan say
hys moder sang lullay lullay
into þe est
þefor mankynd withovʒten end
syng verbum caro factum est

4. And þan betokenyng of a starre
iij kynges þer cam fro fare
& offeryd frankyngcens & myrre
to cryst so fre
þan þei seyd with mery chere
mane nobiscum domine

5. Therfor pray we euerychone
to þat barne þat tym was born
he saue vs all fro shame & schorne
in pes & rest
And all mankynd withovʒten end
syng verbum caro factum est
E13.
IMEV 3070; EEC 86; also in BL, MS Sloane 2593, ff. 9v.-10r. (S23); Bod., MS Ashmole 189, f. 107r.

**Alleluia Alleluia de virgine maria**

1. **Saluator mundi domine**
   fader of hevyn blessyd þou be
   & þi son that commeth of þe
   de virgine maria

2. **Adesto nunc propicius**
   he sent hys sonne swet jhesus
   a man becam for loue of vs
   de virgine maria

3. **Te reformator sensum**
   lytyl & mekyll mor & sum
   worship þat chyld þat is cum
   de virgine maria

4. **Gloria tibi domine**
   thre persons in trinite
   worshepe þat chyld so fre
   de virgine maria

E14.
IMEV 3596; EEC 151; also in BL, MS Additional 5666, ff. 2v.-3r.; CUL, MS Additional 5943, f. 145r.

**lullay my chyld & wepe no more**
Slepe & be now stylly
þe kynge of blys þi fader ys
as it was hys wyll

1. þis endrys nyzt · I saw a syȝth
   A mayd a cradyll kepe
   & euer {among} she song · & seyd among
   lullay my chyld & slepe

2. I may not slep · but I may wepe
   I am so wobegone
   slep I [w]old · butt I am cold
   & clothys haue I none

3. me thovȝt I hard · þe chyld answard
   & to hys moder he sayd
   My moder der · what do I her
   In crybbe why am I layd
4. I was borne · And layd beforne
Bestys both ox & asse
Mi moder {chyld} myld · I am thi chyld
But he my fader was

5. {A Adms}
Adams gylt · þis mane had spylt
þat syn grevyt me sore
Man for þe · her shall I be
thyrty wynter & mor

6. Dole it is to se · her shall I be
hang vpon þe rode
with baleis to bete · My woundes to wete
& zeffe my fleshe to bote

7. here shal I be · hanged on a tre
And dye as it is skyll
þat I haue bov3t · lesse wyll I nov3t
It is my faders wyll

8. A spere so scharp · shall perse my herte
for dedys þat {I} haue done
fader of grace · wher þou hase
forgetyn þi lytyll sonne

9. withovtyn pety · her shall aby
and mak my fleshe al blo
adam iwis · þis deth it ys
for þe & many mo

E15.
IMEV 997; EEC 39

make we mery in þis fest
for verbun caro factum est

1. Godes sonne for þe loue of mane
flesshe & blode of mary he nam
as in þe gospell seyth sent johan
verbun caro factum est

2. of joy & myrth now mow3 we syng
god with man is now dwellyng
holy wrytt makyth now shewyng
deus homo natus est

3. god & man hath shewyd hys chyld
þat hath vs bov3t fro þe develys wyld
hym to worshyp now be we myld
congavdete mihi

4. his chyldes moder euermore
   Maydyn she was after & befors
   & so sayd þe prophett in hys lore
   verbo prophesye

E16.
IMEV 1914; EEC 175; also in Balliol College, Oxford, MS 354, p. 462; BL, MS Sloane 2593, ff. 6v.-7r. (S13)

Of a rose a louely rose of a rose I syng a song

1. lyth & lystyn both old & syng
   how þe rose begane to spryng
   a fayyrer rose to owr lekyng
   sprong þer neuer in kynges lond

2. v branchis of þat rose þer ben
   þe wych ben both feyer & chene
   of a maydyn mary hevyn [ryng] quene
   ovzt of hyr bo[s]um þe braich sprong

3. þe [first] branch was of gret honour
   þat blyssed mary shuld ber þe flour
   þer cam an angell ovzt hevyn toure
   to breke þe develes bond

4. The secund branch was gret of myzt
   þat sprung vpon cristmes nyzt
   þe sterre shone & lemezd bryzt
   þat man schuld se it both day & {þ} nyzt

5. þe iiij branch gan spryng & spred
   iiij kynges than to branch gan led
   tho to owr’ lady in hyre chylde bred
   into bethlem þat branch sprung ryzt

6. The iiij branch it sprung to hell
   þe develes powr’ for to fell
   þat no sovle þerin shuld dwell
   þe branchn so blessedfully sprung

7. þe v branch it was so swote
   yt sprung to hevyn both croppe & rote
   In euery ball to ben owr’ bott
   So blessedly yt sprung

E17.
IMEV 813; SL 113
A good medycyn for sor eyen

1. for a man that is almost blynd
   lat hym go barhed all day agey þe wynd
tyll þe soane be sette
   at even wrap hym in a cloke
   & put hym in a hows full of smoke
   & loke þat euery hol be well shett

2. & whan hys eyen begyne to rope
   fyll hem full of brynston & sope
   & hyll hym well & warme
   And yf he se not by þe next {morne} mone
   as well at mydnyzt as at none
   I schal lese my ryzt arme

E18.
IMEV 543; EEC 344

I hold hym wyse & wel Itaust
can bar an horn & blow it navt

1. Blowyng was mad for gret game
   Of þis blowyng cometh mekell grame
   þerfor I hold it for no schame
   to ber a horn & blow it nou[zt]

2. hornes ar mad both lovd & shyll
   whan tym ys blow þou þi fyll
   & whan ned is hold þe styll
   & ber a horne & blow it nov[zt]

3. whatsoeuer be in þi thov[zt]
   her & se & sey ryzt nov[zt]
   þan schall men say þou art wel tov[zt]
   to bere &c

4. Of al þe ryches vnder þe son
   þan was þer neuer betur wonne
   þan is a taw[zt] man for to konne
   to ber &c

5. whatsoeuer be in þi brest
   & stop þi mov[zt] with þi fyst
   & lok þou thynk well of had I wyst
   & ber &[c]

6. And whan þou syttyst at þe all
   & cryyst lyk an nyattyngall
   Bewar to whom þou tellist þi tale
   but ber &c
Make me myrth
For crystes byrth
& syng we 3ole tyl candel[mes]

1. þe fyrst day of 3ole haue we in mynd
   how god was man born of owr’ kynd
   for he þe bondes wold onbynd
   of all ow[r syn]nes and w[yked]nes

2. þe secund day we syng of st[ene]vene
   that stoned [was] & steyyd vp even
   To god that he saw stond in hevyn
   & crounned was for hys provesse

3. The iij day longeth to sent johan
   þat was cristys darlyng derer non
   whom he betok whan he shuld gon
   hys moder der for hyr clennesse

4. The iiiij day of þe chyldren þong
   þat herowd to deth had do with wrong
   & crist þei covd non tell with tong
   but with þer blod bar hym wyntesse

5. {The v day longeth to sent thomas
   þat as a strong pyr pyller of bras
   held vp þe chyrch & clyyn he was
   for he stod with rystwessnesse}

6. The viij day tok þhesu hys {nam] name
   þat saved mankynd fro syn & shame
   and circumsysed was for no blame
   but for ensample of meknesse

7. the xij day offerd to hym kynes iij
   gold myr & cence þes gyftes free
   for god & man & kynge was he
   þus worschyppyd þei hys worthynes

8. On þe xl day cam mary myld
   vnto þe temple with hyr chyld
   to shew hyr clen þat neuer was fylyd
   & þerwith endyth crystmes

E20.
IMEV 3735; SL 53
1. Tydynges I bryng zow for to tell
what me in wyld forest befell
whan me must with a wyld best mell
with a bor so bryme
a bore so bryme þat me pursued
me for to kyll sor sharply ameved
þat brymly best so cruell & vnryd
þer tamyd I hym
A reft fro hym both lyth & lyme

f. 23r.

2. Trvly to shew zow þat is trew
hys hed with my swerd I hew
to make þis day zow myrth new
now etys þerof anon
etys on much good do yt zow
Take zow bred & musterd þerto
joy with me þat I haue þus done
I pray zow to be glad euerychon
& joy all in one

E21.  
IMEV 210; EEC 406

Care away away away care away for euermore

1. All þat I may swynk or swet
My wyfe it wyl both {3} drynk & ete
& I sey ovz she wyl me bete
carful ys my hart þerfor

2. If I sey ovz of hyr but good
she loke on me as she war wod
& wyl me clovz abovz þe hod
carfull &[c]

3. If she wyll to þe gud ale ryd
Me must trot all be hyr syd
& whan she drynk I must abyd
carfull &[c]

4. If I say it shal be þus
she sey þou lyst charl iwovs
wenest þou to ouercome me þus
carfull &[c]

5. yf ony man haue svch a wyfe to lede
he shal know how iudicare cam in þe cred
Of hys penans god do hym med
carfull &c

f. 23v.
A a a · yet I loue wherso I go

1. In all þis warld is a meryar lyfe
   þan is a song man withovtyn a wyfe
   for he may lyven withovsten stryfe
   in euery place wherso he go

2. In euery place he is loved ouer all
   among maydyns gret & small
   in daunsyng in pypyne & rennyng at þe ball
   in euery place &

3. Thei lat lyzt be husbondmen
   When þei at þe ball rene
   Thei cast hyr loue to song men
   in euery &c

4. þan sey maydens farwell jacke
   þi loue is pressyd al in þi pake
   þou beryst þi loue behynd þi back
   in euery &

man be ware & wyse indede
& asay þi frend or þou hast nede

1. vnder a forest þat was so long
   as I me rod with mekyll dred
   I hard a berd syngyng a song
   asay þi frend or þou hast ned

2. I þerat stod & houed styll
   & to a tre I {s}teyd my sted
   & euer þe byrd sang ful shyll
   asay þi frend or þou hast ned

3. me thovst it was a wonder noyse
   alwey ner & ner I ȝed
   & euer she song with lovd voys
   asay þi frynd or þou haue ned

4. I behyld þat byrd full long
   she bad me do as I þe rede
   wheþer þat þou do ryzt or wrong
Asay þi frynd or þou haue ned

5. The byrd sat vpon a tre
with fethers gray þan was hys wed
she seyd & þou wylt do after me
Asay þi frend or þou haue ned

6. Of me I trow she was agast
She tok hyr flyþth in lenþth & bred
& þus she sang when she shan[g] last
Asay þi frend or þou haue ned

7. Away full fast she gan hyr hyþe
God graunt vs well owr lyves to led
for þus she sang when she shan[g] last
Asay þi frynd or [þou hau]e ned

IMEV 1234; EEC 337; also in Bod., MS Arch. Selden B.26, f. 5r.; BL, Additional MS 5665, ff. 31v.-32r.; BL, Egerton MS 3307, f. 66v.

I pray zow all with hert and thovzþt
Amend me & peyer me novzþt

1. holy wrytt sayth no thyng sother
þat no man shuld apeyer oþer
sythen I am [in] god þi broder
Ame[nd me] & pey[er me nouzþt]

2. þis in þe gospell ych man may se
If þi broder trespace to þe
Betwen zow to corectyd he be
amend me &c

3. If þou se I do gretly amys
& no man wott butt þou of þis
Mak it not so yl as it is
amend me &c

4. Apeyer no man with þi word
Neþer in ernest ne in bord
lat þi tong þat is thy swerd
amend me &c

5. lok þat þou no man defame
Ne apeyer no mans fame
Ryþt as þou woldest haue þe sam
amend me &c

6. Now to amend god zyffe us grace
Of repentans and very space
And *in* hevyn to se hys face
wher al thyng amend & peyer noveوث

**E25.**
*IMEV 4000; EEC 335*

Why why what is *his* whi but *virtus verbi domini*

1. when nothyng was but god alone
   *pe* fader *pe* holy gost *with* *pe* son
   on was iij & iij was on
   what is *his* why
   To frayn why I hold but foly
   it is *non* *oper* sertenly
   But *virtus verbi domini*

2. *fiat* was a word ful bold
   *pat* mad al *ping* as he wold
   hevey[n] & erth & *men* of mod
   what is why
   to frayn why I hold it but foly &c

3. *pe* warld gan wax & multiply
   *pe* planetes mad *hem* full besy
   To rowll ychy thyng by & by
   what is why
   To frayn why I hold it but foly &c

4. *pe* planetes wark nothyng in veyn
   But as *pei* be ordent so must *pei* reygne
   for *pe* word of god wyl not ageyne
   what is why
   To frayn why I hold it but foly &c

5. when Bede had *prechyd* to *pe* stonys dry
   *pe* my3 of god mad *hem* to cry
   *Amen* certys *pis* is no ly
   what is why
   To frayn why &c

6. *heretykes* wonder of *his* thyng most
   how god is put *in* *pe* holy host
   her & at rome & in euery cost
   what is why
   To frayn why &c

**E26.**
*IMEV 1650; EEC 180; also in BL, MS Sloane 2593, f. 24v. (S48)*
Of M· A· R· I syng I wyll a new song

1. Of þes iij letters purpose I
   of M· & A· R· & I
   þei betokyn mayd mary
   all owr joy of hyr it sprong

2. withovsten wem of hyr body
   M & A· R· & I
   Of hyr was borne a kyng truly
   þe jewys [dedyn] to deth with wrong

3. vpon þe movnte of caluery
   M and A· R· and I
   þer þei betyn hys bar body
   with schorges þat war sharp & long

4. Owr’ der lady she stod hym by
   M &· A· R· and I
   & wep[t] water ful bytterly
   & terys of blod euer among

E27.
IMEV 2400; EEC 206

Salue regina mater misericordie

1. O blyssedfull berd full of grace
   To all mankynd þou art solas
   Quene of hevyn in euery place
   Salue

2. To owr’ helth þou bar a chyld
   & set with syn wart neuer fylyd
   Mary moder mek & myld
   Salue

3. fro þe fend þou vs defend
   & of syn þou vs ame[n]d
   mary þi mercy þou to vs send
   Salue

4. O worthy whyat we worship þe
   full of mercy & of pyte
   wherefor we syng in ech degre
   Salue

5. And lat vs not from þe fale
   & þerto we cry & also call
   Both zong & old grett & small
Salve

6. And bryng vs to þi sons blysse
Wher þat þi wonnyng is
Of þat we pray þe þat we not mys
Salve

E28.
IMEV 890; EEC 237; also in Balliol College, Oxford, MS 354, p. 464

Regina celi letare

1. Gabriell þat angell bryȝt
Bryȝter þan þe sonne is lyȝt
Fro hevyn to erth he [to]ok hys flyȝt
letare

2. In nazareth þat gr[et] cete
Befor a maydyn he knelyd on kne
& seyd mary god is with þe
letare

3. Heyll mary full of grace
God is with þe & euer was
He hath in þe chosyn a place
letare

4. Mari was afrayd of þat syȝt
þat cam to her with so gret lyȝt
þan seyd the angell þat was so bryȝt
letare

5. Be not agast of lest ne most
In þe is conseuyyd þe holy gost
To saue þe soþles þat war forlost
letare

E29.
a.
IMEV 2049

Man be war or þou knyte þe fast
Oftyn ran rewth at þe last
þis wrat I oftyn poverte partyth company
Red þis & ly not

b.
IMEV 3919

What why dedyst þou wynk whan þou a wyfe tok
þou haddest neuer mor ned brodde to loke
a man þat wedyth a wyfe whan he wynkyth
But he star afterward wonder me {l} [it] thyn[kyth]

c.
IMEV 2056; also in BL, Harley MS 2316, f. 56v; University of Glasgow, Hunterian Museum, MS 230, f. 248v.

Man haue þis in þi mynd  
þat þou doest with thyn hond þat shalt þou fynd  
wyves be rekeles [chy]ldren be onkynd  
exexecuturs be covety[s and] hold þat þei fynd

f. 26v.

d.
IMEV 1354
Also in Bod., MS Rawlinson D. 328, f. 144r.

I saw iij hedles playen at a ball  
On hanles man served hem all  
Whyll iij movthles men lay & low  
iij legles away hem drow

E30.
IMEV 2082; SL 59

1. man vpon mold whatsoeuer þou be  
I warn vttelry þou getyst no degre  
ze no worshyp abyd with þe  
but þou haue þe peny redy to tak to

2. If þou be a zeman a gentyllman wold be  
Into sum lordes cort þan put þou þe  
lok þou haue spendlyng larg & plente  
& alwey þe peny redy to tak to

3. If þou be a gentyllman & a squyer wold be  
Rydest ovt of cuntre as wyld as eny fyer  
I þe warn as my frend þou faylyst of þi desyr  
but þou haue &c

4. if þou be a squyer & wold be a knyzt  
& darest no in armur put þe in fyzt  
þan to þe kynges cort hy þe full tyzt  
& lok þou haue þe &c

5. if þou be a lettryd man to bere stat in scole  
a pilion or taberdr to wer in hete or cole  
þe to besy þer about I hold þe but a fole  
but þou haue &c

6. if þou be a bachelar & wold[est ever thryve]  
prekyst ovt of contre & bryng[est home a wyfe]  

f. 27r.
in much sorow & car ledyst þou þi [yfe]

7. If þou be a marchant [to bu]ly or to sell & ouer al þe countr[e] wold[est bere] þe bell I þe crnsell as a frend a[t hom þe]r to dwell but þou haue

8. If þou be a song man in lust þi lyfe to lace abovt chyrch & market if byshop wyl þe chace & yf þou mayst be get þou getes nouþer grace but þou

9. If þou haue ovt to do with þe law to plete at london at þe parvis many on wyll þe r[ehete] I warne þe com not þer but þi purse may swete and þat þou

E31.
IMEV 889; EEC 238; also in Balliol College, Oxford, MS 354, p. 460; University of Glasgow, Hunterian Museum, MS 83, f. iiiv.

Noua noua ave {fft} fit ex eva

1. Gabryell of hyæ degree
   Cam down from þe trenyte
to nazareth in galilee
   with nova

2. he fond þe mayd al in hyr place
   he knelyd down befor hyr face
   & seyd al heyl full of grace
   with nova

3. þou shalt conseythe & ber a chyld
   þov þou with syn wer neuer defylyd
   þou has fond grace þou mary myld
   with nova

4. þe byrd abasshyd of all ble
   answerd & seyd how may þis be
   man thorow syn tovchyd neuer me
   with nova

5. [the angell s]eyd onto [þat] free
   [the holy gost sh]al lyzþ in þe
   [god and] m[an in] on shal be
   with nova

6. syx [m]onthy[s i]s ner gon
syn elyz[abeth con]seyvd johan
she [at was barre]n a babe haue borne
with nova

7. The ve[rgyn said] vnto þe fere
Now hys we[ll be] don in me here
& godes mayd now se me here
with nova

E32.
IMEV 2041; EEC 332

Lefte owr hertes with good entent
& thanke [g]od þat al hath sent

1. Man & wo[mm]an in euery place
god hath sow sent vertu & grace
þerfor spend wel owr’ space
And thanke god þat al hath sent

2. If þou be a man herdy & strong
with þi strenke do þou no wrong
But lat reson rewll þe among
& thank god &c

3. If þou haue wysdom at þi wyll
thorow þi wysdom do þou no yll
kep in þi hert both lovd & styll
& thank god &c

4. If þou be syk or elles pore
God hymshelf may þe socur
with stedfast hert & þou hym honovr
& thank god &c

5. what wo or tene þe betyd
God can help on euery syd
Buxsumlych þou must abyd
& thank god &c

E33.
IMEV 1219; EEC 157; also in NLS, MS Advocates 18.7.21, f. 121r. (IMEV 2036); Huntington Library, Christmas carolles newly Inprynted, pp. 31-3 (STC 5204.3; IMEV 2111); BL, MS Sloane 2593, f. 23r.-23v. (SÅ5) (IMEV 2111); BL, MS Additional 31042, f. 94v. (IMEV 2111);
Balliol College, Oxford, MS 354, p. 427 (TM 1647)

Mary modyr cum & se þi son is naylyd on a tre

1. his body is wappyd all in wo
hand & fot he may not go
þi son lady þat þou louyst soo
nakyd is naylyd vpon a trer

2. þe blyssyd {son} body þat þou hast born to saue mankynd þat was forlorn his body lady is al to torn hys hed with thornys as ze may se

3. Wan johan þis tal began to tell mary wyld not lenger dwell Thyl sche cam to þat hyll þer sche myth her owyn son see

4. My swet son þou art me der qwy haue men hang þe her þi hed is closyd wyth a brer qwy haue men soo doo to the

5. johan þis woman I þe betake kep þis woman for my sake on þe rod I hyng for mannys sake for synful man as þe may se

6. This game & loue me must pley ffor synfull sowlis þat ar to dey Ther ys no man þat gothe be þe wey þat on my peynis wyl lok & se

7. fadyr my sowle I þe betake my body deth for mannys sake tto hel I go withowel wake mannys sole to make fre

8. Prey we al to that blyssyd son that he vs help wan we not mon & bryng us to blys þat is aboue amen amen amen for charite

E34.
IMEV 74; EEC 40

All þat leue in cristen lay worshup euery cristmes day

1. A man was þe fyrst gylt & þerfor he was spylt þe profyce was neuer spylt Thyl on þe cristmes day

2. þe fyrst day þat lely sprung þhesu crist be us among
Euer we thowte it was to long
Thyl on þe cristmes day

3. It was dyrk it was dym
   for men þat leuyd in gret syn
   lucyfer was vs al within
   Thyl on þe cristmes day

4. Ther was wepping þer was woo
   for euery man to hel gan goo
   It was lityl mery thoo
   Thyl on þe cristmes day

**E35.**
*IMEV 893; EEC 358*

Syng we to þe trinite with parce mihi domine

1. Game & ernest euer among
   & among al othyrdegre
   It is gud to thynk on my son[g]
   with parce mihi domine

2. qwan þou rysyst vpon þi rest
   make a cros vpon þi brest
   I make þis song for no vanite
   with parce mihi domine

3. Go þou to þe chyrche & her þi mes
   & ser[ue] god with humilite
   aske forseuenes of þi trespas
   with parce mihi domine

4. Qwan þou cumste home onto þi tabyll
   þou art servid with gret dignite
   hold þis song for no fabyll
   with parce mihi domine

5. prey we bothe nyth & day
   the gret god in trinite
   tho heune god theche vs þe wey
   with parce mihi domine

**E36.**
*IMEV 1633; EEC 340*

A man þat con his tong stere
he ther not rek wer þat he go

1. ittes knowyn in euery schyre
wapyd tongges haue no per
I wold þei wer brent in the fer
þat warke men soo mykyl wo

2. ittes knowyn in euery lond
wapyd tongges don gret wrong
þei make me to lyyn long
& also in myche car

3. ȝyf a man go in clotes gay
or elles in gud aray
wapyd tongges yet wyl say
wer cam þe by þerto

4. ȝyf a man go in cloys ill
& haue not the world at wyl
wapyd tongges þei wyll hym spyll
& seyd he ys a stake lat hym goo

5. Now vs to amend god ȝeue vs graue
of repentens & of gud grace
þat we mut se hys glorius face
amen amen for charyte

E37.
IMEV 3344; EEC 41

Nowel: el el el el el I thank it a maydyn euery del

1. The fyrst day waȝ crist was borne
Ther sprong a ros owt of a thorne
to saue mankynd þat was forlorn
I thanke it a maydyn euery dyll

2. In an ox stall þe chyld was fownd
in por clothyn þe chyld was wond
he soferyd manȝ a dedly wond
I thanke [it] a ma[y][d][yn] euery dy[l]

3. A garland of thornys on his hed was sett
a scharp sper to his hart was smet
þe jewys seydyn take þe that
I th[a]nke [it] a may[dy]n euery dy[l]

4. The juwys dedyn cryyn her perlament
On þe day of jugment
they werryn aferd þei [s]huld hem sche[n]t
I thanke it a maydyn euery dyll

5. Tho þe peler he was bow[n]dyn
tho his hart a sper was stunggyn
for us he sofered a dedly wondyn
I thanke it a maydyn euery dyll

E38.
IMEV 436; EEC 134

Po po po po loue brane & so do mo

1. At þe {p} begynnyng of þe mete
of a borys hed 3e schal hete
& in þe mustard 3e xal wete
& 3e xal syngyn or 3e gon

2. Wolcum be 3e þat ben here
& 3e xal haue ryth gud chere
And also a ryth gud fare
& 3e xal syngyn or 3e gon

3. Welcum be 3e euerychon
for 3e xal syngyn ryth {or 3e gon} anon
hey 3ow fast þat 3e had don
& ye xal syngyn or 3e gon

E39.
IMEV 4278; EEC 404

in soro & car he led hys lyfe
þat haue a schrow ontyll his wyfe

1. 3yng men I red þat 3e bewar
That ye cum not in þe snar
for he is browt in meche car
þat haue a schrow onto hys wyfe

2. In a panter I am caute
my fot his pennyd I may not owt
In sorow & car he his put
þat haue a schrow onto his wyf

3. with a qwene 3yf þat þou run
Anon it is told into þe town
Sorow he hath both vp & down
þat haue a schrow onto hys wyf

E40.
IMEV 1225; SL 50

1. Holvyr and heyyvy mad a gret party
Ho xuld haue þe maystri
In londes qwer þei goo
2. þan spake holuyr I am frece and Io[ly]
   I wol haue þe maystri
   In londes qwer þei goo

3. þan spake heyvy I am lowd & prowde
   and I wyl haue þe maystri
   in londes qwer þei goo

4. þan spak holvyr & set hym downe on his kne
   I prey þe lentyl heyvy
   sey me no veleny
   in londes qwer we goo

E41.
IMEV 3707; EEC 356; also in BL, MS Sloane 2593, f. 6r.-v. (S12)

Synful man for crystes sake I red þou amendas make

1. Thow þou byst kyng & wer þe crowne
   thow þou byst lord of towr & towne
   I set not by þi gret renowne
   but ȝyf þou wylt amendas make
   synful man for crystes sake

2. man þou art both styf and strong
   many a man þou hast do wrong
   welaway sal be þi song
   but ȝyf þou wit amendas make
   vt supra

3. [man] ber not þi hed to hey
   for pumpe and pryd and lechery
   In hel þi sole xal sor aby
   but ȝyf þou wylt amendas mak
   vt supra

4. man be war þe wey ys scheder
   þou mast scleder þou wonest weder
   Body & sowll & all toogeder a
   but ȝyf þou wylt amendas make
   vt supra

E42.
IMEV 281; EEC 282

Off al þe knottes þat I se I prese þe knot in trinite

1. An aungell fro heun’ gan lyth
   A greth a maydyn þat was so bryth
A treu knot þer was knyt
betwyn them both in trinyte

2. After þis þat fayyrly fod
for hus he bled his hart blod
Qwan he was don on þe rod
þe knottes war knit with nales iij

3. wetnes of apostyll johan
he ros hup & wold gon
þe knot was knit with marbyl ston’
thorow þe vertu of þe {holy} trinyte

4. on scher thursday he steyd to heun’
hys fader hym blyssyd with myld steun
for to fulfył þe deddes wyll
þe knot was knit with persons iij

5. God xal rysyn at domusday
hys v knottes for to spray
to al men he xal say
lo man wat knot i knyt for þe

E43.
IMEV 2239; EEC 125; also in BL, Sloane MS 2593, ff. 17r.-18v. (S39); St. John’s College,
Cambridge, MS S.54, ff. 7v.-9r. (J12); BL, Harley MS 541, f. 214r.-214v.

1. Now ys þe thwelthe day cum
þe fadyr and þe son togeder is won
the holy gost his wyth them num
In fere
god send us gud nev ere

2. I wold zow syng and myth
of a chyld so fayyr in syth
A maydyln bar on cristmes nyth
so styll
As it was hys wyll

3. iij kyngges com fro galely
Tho bedlem þat fayer sety
for to ofer & se
be nyth
it was a wol fayre syth

4. As þei zedyln with her offeryng’
þei met herowd þat mody kyng’
he askyd hem of her comyng’
þat tym
& þus to them gun say
5. for wense cum 3e now kyngges iij
   owt of þe est os 3e may se
   for sekyn þat euer xal be
   thowre ryth
   lord kyng & knyth

6. Qwan 3e have at þat chyld be
   Cum ageyn þis way be me
   & tell me as 3e have see
   I prey
   go not anothyry wey

7. Of harowd þat mody kyng’
   þei toke her leue both held and 3yng’
   & for þei 3edyn with her offeryng’
   be nyth
   þe stere 3af them lyth

8. Qwan þei com to þat blysful place
   jhesu with hys modyr was
   þer þei offeryd with gret solas
   In fere
   gold sens and mere

9. qwan þei had her offeryng mad
   as þe holy gost hem bad
   þen wer þei both mery & glad
   & lyth
   it was a w[el] fayr syth

10. Anon as þei awey went
    þe fathyr of heuu an’ aunegg sent
    to þe kyngges þat mad present
    or day
    & þis tyl hem he say

11. My lord warnyd 3ow euerychon
    þat 3e not be harowd gon
    for yf ye don he wol 3ow sclon
    & strow
    & do 3ow mekyll woo

12. þei 3edyn all anothyry wey
    thorow þe myth of goddes lay
    As þe angel tyl hem gan say
    fol tyth
    it was a wol fayre syth

13. Qwan þei were cum into hyr cunte
mery & glad then wer þei
for þe syth that þei had se
be nyth
for as þei cam be lyth

14. prey we al with gud devocioun
to þat lord of gret renown
& of owre synnys we ask remyssion
& grace
in heune to haue a place

E44.
IMEV 18; EEC 31; also in Bod., MS Arch. Selden B.26, f. 15r.; BL, MS Additional 5665, ff. 28v.-29r.

Make we jow in þis fest in quo christus natus est

1. A patre vnigenitús to a maydyn is cum to vs
Syng we of hym & sey wolcum {a} veni redemptor gencium

2. Agnoscat omnie seculum a bryth stare kyngges mad cum
for to take with her presens verbum supernum prodiens

3. a solís ortus cardine so myty a lord is non as he
and to owr lord he hath greth

4. marya ventre concepit þe holy gost was ay hyr with
of hyr in bedlem now born he is consors paterni luminis

5. Alme beata trinitas þat lay betwyn an ox an a as
By hys modyr maydyn fre gloria tibi domine

E45.
IMEV 2618; EEC 184

Man asay say say make þi mone to mary þat myld m[ay]

1. of all þi fremes sche is þe flowr'
sche wyll þe bryng’ to þi honowr'
mary to kall þou hast colowre
assay asay

2. Sche bar þhesu owr sauyowr
of al myschyfe sche is socowr
mary is strowne in euery schowr
asay asay

3. Sche is cundas full of grace
þat sryngyth & spredyth in euery place
mary to callyn gret ned þou has
aasy say

f. 33v.
4. hyf þou be put in pouerte
   or of þi frendes forsakyd þou be
   mary his lady of gret Pete
   asay say

5. 3yf þou be aferd of þi foly
   or of þi day wan þou xa[l]t dey
   mary his laydy of gret mercy
   asay say

6. So gracious & so gud sche is
    Sche bryng’ vs al into blys
    ther mary lady & qwen is
    asay say

E46.
IMEV 361; EEC 145; also in BL, MS Sloane 2593, ff. 16v.-17r. (S38)

Modyr whyt os lyly flowr
3owr lullyng lessyth my {lal} langovr

1. As I vp ros in a mornynge
   my thowth was on a mayd synge
   That song aslep with hyr lullyng
   her swet son owr sauowr

2. As sche hym held in hyr lape
   he toke hyr louely by the pape
   & þerof swetly he toke a nappe
   And sok hys fyll of þe lycowr

3. To hys modyr gen he seye
   ffor þis mylke me must deye
   It ys my kynd þerwith to playe
   My swet modyr paramowr

4. The maydyn frely gen to synge
   And in hyr song she mad mornynge
   How he þat is owr hevyn kyng
   shuld shed hys b[lod] with gret delowr

5. Modyr þi wepyng grevyth me sor
   But I wold dey þou haddys be lor
   Do awey modyr & wep no mor
   Thy lullyng l[es]syth my lang[ovr]

6. Swych mornynge as the maydyn mad
   I can not tell it in þis howr
   Therfor be mery and glade
Hey howe sely men god helpe 3owe

1. Thys indrys day befel a stryfe
   Totwex an old man & hys wyfe
   Sche toke hym be þe berd so plyst
   with heyl how

2. Sche toke hym be þe berd so fast
   Tyll boþe hys eyn on watyr gan brast
   with heyl how

3. Howt at þe dore as he can goo
   met he with neybrys too
   Neybyr why wepyst soo
   with he ho[w]

4. In my hows ys swyche a smyeke
   Goo ondyr & 3e schall wete
   with heyl ho[w]

{Make we joy both more & lesse
one þe day of sent thomas

Pastor cesus in gregys medio
Pacem emit cruorys precio

f. 35r.

1. As storys wryght & specyfy
   Sent thomas thorow goddes sond
   beyng a byschop of canturbery
   was martyrdf for þe ryght of englond

2. hys moder be blyssyd þat hym bar
   & also hys fader þat hym begatt
   for war we wel kep fro sorow & care
   thorow þe deth of þe prelat

3. Thys holy mane of god was {ecept} accept
   For whatsoeuer þat he ded prayd
   vs frome þe daunger conseruyd & kepte
   of þe ransone we xuld haue payd

4. To & fyfty poynites onresonabyl
consentyd of byschoppes many on
þon was noþhlyng therto agreayll
þe for þou sufferyd þi passyon

5. of knytes cruell & also wykyd
þou sufferyd þi deth with mylde mod
wherfor þe chyrch is gloryfyed
In {sc} þe schedyng of þis blod

6. to cryst þe for lat vs prey
þat for vs deyyd on þe rood
conserue vs al both nyght & day
thorow þe schedyng of thomas blood)

E49.
IMEV 1471; EEC 21; also in Balliol College, Oxford, MS 354, p. 466; Trinity College, Cambridge, MS O.358, r.; CUL, MS Ee.1.12, f. 1; BL, Additional MS 31042, f. 94v.; Lincoln College, Oxford, MS Lat. 141, f. 3r.

To blys god bryng vs al & sum
christe redemptor omnium

1. In bedlem þat fayer cyte
was born a chyld þat was so fre
lord & prince of hey degre
Iam lucis orto sidere

2. Jhesu for þe lowe of þe
chylder wer slayn grett plente
In bedlem þat fayer cyte
a solis ortus cardine

3. As þe sune schynyth in þe glas
So jhesu of hys moder borne was
hym to servue god gyffe vs grace
o lux beata trinitas

4. Now is he owr lord jhesus
þus hath he veryly vysyt vs
now to mak mery amo[n]g vs
exultet celum laudibus

E50.
IMEV 3307; also in Balliol College, Oxford, MS 354, pp. 207-208

1. The best tre if ze tak entent
Inter ligna fructifera
Is þe vyne tre by good argument
Dulcia ferens pondera

2. Sent luke seyth in hys gospell

f. 36r.
Arbor fructu noscitur
The vyne beryth wyne as I zow tell
Hinc aliis preponitur

3. The fyrst þat plantyd þe vynnayard
Manet in celi gaudio
Hys name was noe as I am lernyd
Genesis testimonio

4. God gaue vnto hym knowyng and wytte
A quo precedunt omnia
ffyrst of þe grape wyne for to gytte
Propter magna misteria

5. Melchisedech mad offeryng
Dando licorem vinium
fful myghtyly sacryfyyng
Altaris sacrificium

6. The fyrst of myraculs þat jhesu dyd
Erat in vino rubeo
In cana galylee þer it betyd
Testante euangelio

7. He changyd þe watur into wyne f. 36v.
Aque rubescunt idrie
& bad gyve it to archetriclyne
Vt gustet tunc primarie

8. Lyke as þe rose excedyth all flowres
Inter cunta {florida} florigera
Soo doyth wyn oþer lycurs
Dans multa salutifera

9. Dauid þe profyte sayth þat wyne
Letificat cor hominis
It makyth men mery if it be fyne
Est ergo digni nominis

10. The malycoly fumosytesse
Que generant tristiciam
It causyth frome þe hert to resse
Tollens omnem mesticiam

11. The fyrst chaptur specyfyeth
Libri ecclesiastici
That wyn is musyke of conyng delyeth
Letificat cor clerici

12. Surs yf þe wyll see boys
De disciplina scolarium
her xall ye fynd withinen mysse
Quod vinum acuit ingenium

13. fyrst when Ipocras schuld dyspute
	cum viris sapientibus
Gud wyne befyr was hys prefute

Acumen prebens sensibus

14. It qwykynyth a manys sprytes in hys mynd
Aducaian dat loquentibus
yf þe wyne be good & well fynd
Prodest sobrie bibentibus

15. Good wyne receyvyd moderatly
Mox cerebrum letificat
Drunkyn alsoo soberly
Omne membrum fortificat

16. Naturall hete well it strenggthes
Digestionem roborans
Helth of body also it lengthes
Naturam humanam propsperans

17. Good wyne prouokes a man to swete
& plena lauat viscera
It makyth a man wel to ete his mete
facitque corda prospera

18. It noryssyth if it be good
facet vt esset juvenis
It gather to hym jentyl blood
Nam purgat venas sanguinis

19. Me thynkyth syrs by þes causys
Que sunt racionabiles
þat wyne is best of al drynkkys
Inter potus notabiles

20. ffyl þe cop wel bealeamy
Potum mihi jam ingere
I haue seyd tyll my lyppes be dry
Vellum vinum nunc bibere

21. Gentyll blood loueth gentyll drynk
Simile amat simile
fyll þe cope by þe brynk
Parum manebit bibere

22. Wyne drynkers with grett honoure
semper laudate dominum
\( \text{pe wych sendys his lycore} \)
propter salutem hominum

23. Plente to all \( \text{quat} \) loue good wynes
f. 38r.
Donet deus hoc largius
\& bryng \( \text{hem} \) self when \( \text{he} \) go hens
vbi non siciant amplius

E51.
IMEV 503; EEC 140

Of \( \text{he puryfycacoun} \)

Reuertere reuertere \( \text{pe quene of blysse} \) & of beaute

1. Behold what lyfe \( \text{hat} \) we ryne ine
ffrayl to fale \& euer lyke to syne
Thorow owr ennys entysyng
\( \text{perfor we syng} \) & cry to \( \text{he} \) \( \text{// reuertere} \) \&c'  

2. Come hyder lady fayryst flovre
\& kepe vs lady frome dolovre
Defend vs lady \& be owr socovre
For we cease not to cal to \( \text{he} \) \( \text{// reuertere} \) \&c'  

3. Torne owr lyfe lady to goddys luste
Syne to fle \& fleschly luste
For aftur hym \( \text{in} \) \( \text{he} \) we trust
To kep vs frome aduersyte \( \text{// reuertere} \) \&c'

4. Thys holy day of puryfycacyon
f. 38v.
To \( \text{he} \) \( \text{temple} \) \( \text{hou} \) bare owr so saluacyon
\( \text{jhesu} \) cryst \( \text{pin} \) own swet sone
To whome \( \text{perfor now syng we} \) \( \text{// reuertere} \) \&c'

5. ffarwell crystmas fayer \& fre
Farrwell newers day \text{with} \( \text{he} \)
ffarwell \( \text{he} \) holy epyphane
And to mary now syng we \( \text{// reuertere} \) \&c'

E52.
IMEV 375; EEC 370; also in Balliol College, Oxford, MS 354, p. 374; Huntington Library,
Christmas carolles newely Imprynted, p. 41 (STC 5204.3)

In what estate so euer I be
Timor mortis conturbat me

1. As \( \text{I went in} \) a mery mornyng'
I hard a byrd bo\( \text{e} \) wep \& syng'
Thys was \( \text{he} \) tenowr of her talkyng
timor &c

2. I asked þat byrd what sche ment
I am a musket boþe fayer & gent
For dred of deth I am al schent
timor &c’

3. When I schal dey I know no day
What countre or place I cannot sey
Wherfor þis song syng I may
timor &c’

4. jhesu cryst whane he schuld dey
to hys fader he gan sey
fader he seyd in trynyte
timor &c’

5. Acrysten pepull behold & se
þis world is but a vanyte
& replet with necessyte
timor &c’

6. Wak I or sclep ete or drynke
When I on my last end do thynk
For grete fer my sowle do shrynke
timor &c’

7. God graunte vs grace hym for to serue
& be at owr end whan we sterue
& frome the fynd he vs preserue
timor &c’

E53.
IMEV 2443; EEC 104

To almyghty god pray for pees
Amice christi johannes

1. O glorius johan euangelyste
Best belouyd with jhesu cryst
In cena domini vpon hys bryst
eius vidisti archana

2. Chosen þou art to cryst jhesu
Thy mynd was neuer cast frome vertu
þe doctryne of god þou dydest renu
per eius vestigia

3. Cryst on þe rod in hys swet passyon
Toke þe hys moder as to hyr sone
ffor owr synnes gett grace & perdon
per tua sancta merita

4. O most nobble of euangelystes all
Grace to owr maker for vs þou call
And off swetenesse celestyall
Prebe nobis pocula

5. And aftur þe cowrs of mortalite
In heven with aungels for to be
Sayynge ozanna to þe trinyte
per seculorum secula

E54.
IMEV 3776; EEC 103; also in Trinity College, Cambridge MS. O.3.58, f.; Balliol College, Oxford MS 354, p. 465; BL, Additional MS 5665, ff. 37v.-38r.; BL, Additional MS 5665, ff. 48v.-49v.; BL, Harley MS 4294, f. 81v.

Pray for vs þou prynce of pes amici christi johannes f. 40r.

1. To þe now crystys der derlyng
þat was a mayd bothe old and syng
Myn hert is sett for to syng
amici christi johannes

2. ffor he was so clene a maye
On crystys brest aslepe he laye
The preuyteys of heyun þer he saye
Amici christi johannes

3. Qwhen cryst beforne pilate was browte
Hys clene mayd forsoke hym nowte
To deye with hym was all hy{r}s thowte
Amici christi johannes

4. Crystys moder was hym betake
Won mayd to be anodyris make
To help þat we be nott forsake
Amici christi johannes

E55.
Walther 14887
Song set to monophonic music; black void mensural notation.
cantus f. 40v.

1. Psallimus cantantes domino noua cantica dantes cum canore iubilo
Et tibi discipulo qui ex príuilegio pre ceteris a domino
dilectus es
amice christe johannes
2. Tu in christi cena meruisti bene veneranda profli
   {Fontis vnda limpidi pe
    Relictum a ceteris tuis condiscipulis in}
   Fontis vnda limpidi pectoris dominici fluenta euangelli
   potatus es

3. En christum magistrum tradendum in capi in capiendo a missis
   Relictum a ceteris tuis condiscipulis in atrium pontificis
   secutus es

4. Dum stans iuxta crucem dat tibi christus in nutricem venerabilem
   Contristantem flebilem morienti similem ut tu virgo virginem
   deligeres

5. In porta latina tu missus es coqui in feruenti oleo
   Sed illesus ad olio existi vt a vicio et carnis contagio
   alienus es

6. Omnibus est viris notum quod tu menti tu mentibus hominum
   Tuleris obprobrisium ante aristodium calcem letiferum
   ebiberes

7. Et post dies paucas es ductus ante an augstum seuissimum
   Domicianum pessimum propter euangellium in pathmes exilium
   dimissus es

8. Exilio reuersus in nauigio submer submersorum titulo
   Clarebas in epheso et destructo ydolo templ a data domino
   purgatus es

9. Nonagentis annis transisti in pa pace tua tempor a
   In sacra ecclesia post diuina misteria senex ad conuiuiia
   vocatus es

E56.

IMEV 3736; EEC 239; MC 4A; also in Yale University Library, MS 365, f. 79v.; Balliol College,
Oxford, MS 354, p. 480; full version this MS f. 51v. (E66)

Song set to monophonic music, black void mensural notation.

Nowell nowell nowell þis is þe salutacyon of þe angell gabryell  f. 41v.

1. Tydynges trew þer be cum new sent frome þe trynyte
   Be gabryell to nazareth cety of galile
   A clen maydyn & pur’ virgyn thorw her humlyte
   hath conceuyd þe person secunde in deyte

   Thys is þe tewyn For þe song foloyng  fo 10
   yf so be þat 3e wyll haue anoþer tewyn it may
   be at 3owr’ plesur for I haue set all þe song

E57.
Bryng vs in good ale & bryng vs in good ale
ffor owr blyssydyd lady sak bryng vs in good ale

1. Bryng vs in no browne bred fore þat is mad of brane
   Nor bryng vs in no whyt bred fore þerin is no game
   But bryng vs in good ale
   f. 42r.

2. Bryng vs in no befe for þer is many bonys
   but bryng vs in good ale for þat goth downe at onys
   & bryng vs in good ale

3. Bryng vs in no bacon for þat is passyng fate
   but bryng vs in god ale & gyfe vs Inought of þat
   & bryng vs in good ale

4. bryng vs in no mutton for þat is often lene
   Nor bryng vs in no trypys for þei be syl dom clene
   but bryng vs in good ale

5. Bryng vs in no eggys for þer ar many schelles
   But bryng vs in good ale & gyfe vs noþ[y]ng ellys
   & bryng vs in good ale

6. Bryng vs in no butter for þerin ar many herys
   Nor bryng vs in no pygges flesch for þat wyl mak vs borys
   but bryng vs in good ale

7. Bryng vs in no podynges for þerin is al godes good
   Nor bryng vs in no veneson for þat is not for owr blod
   but bryng vs in good ale

8. Bryng vs in no capons flesch for þat is often der
   Nor bryng vs in no dokes flesch for þei slober in þe mer
   but bryng vs in {go} good ale

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Nova noua Sawe yow eu er such
The most mayster of þe hows weryth no brych

1. Dayly in englond meruels be fownd
   & among maryd peple haue such radicacyon
   qwych to þe vtermost expresse may no thong
   Ne pene can scribull þe totall declaracyon
   For women vpon þem tak such domynacyon
   & upon þemself þei tak so mych

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4 Stanza 1 written is last in ms, but marked ‘a’, and other stanzas are marked ‘b’, ‘c’, etc.
2. Syns þat eve was procreat owt of adams syde
cowd not such newels in þis lond be inuentyd
þe masculyn sex with ryghurnesse & prid
with þer femals þei altercatt þerself beyng schentyd
& of þer owne self þe corag is abatyd
wherfor it is not acordyng to syth to mych
lest þe most mayster may ner no brych

3. Yt is sene dayly both in borows & townys
Wheras þe copuls han mad oborgacyon
þe gowd wyff ful humanly to hyr spowse gaue gownys
wych [th]yng is oryginat of so gret presumpcyon
þat often tymys þe good man is fal in a consumpcyon
wherfor as I seyd suffer not to mych
lest þe most mayster weryth no brych

4. Nat only in england but of euery nacion
þe femynyng wyl presume men for to gyd
set god at þe tym of adams creacyon
Gaue man superiorite of þem in euery tyd
but now {is} in theys women is fyxyd such pryd
& vpon þemself wyl tak so mych
þat it constrreynyth þe most mayster to wer no brych

5. But many women be ryght dylygent
& so demver þer husbondes aforne
for of cryme or fact þei be innocent
but falser þan þei be wer neuer borne
for wantenly þer husbondes þei wyl so dorne
þat owther þei wyl mak hym nothyng rych
or ellys þe most mayster to wer no brych

6. An adamant stone it is not frangebyll
with nothyng but with mylke of a gett
so a woman to refrayne it is not posybyll
with wordes except with a staffe þou hyr intrett
for he þat for a fawt hys wyff wyl not bett
wherin sche offendyt hym very mych
þe gyder of hys hows must nedes wer no brych

7. A scald hed maye be coueryd & not sene
& many thynge mo may be sone hyddyn
but þe hed of a syr 3e wott what I mene
wych with too hornys infeckyd was & smyttyn
by surgery to be helyd it is forbyddyn
for þei haue such an yssue abow þe cheke
þat it constrereynyth þe most master to wer no bryke
8. Wherfor þe maryd men þat with wyvys be acommyrkyd
dysplease nott yowr wyuys whom þat 3e haue
for whan þei be angry or sumwhat dysplesyd
þei wyl gyffe a man a mark þat he xal ber it to hys grafe
whobeit þer husbonds honeste to saue
clokydly without þei obey very mych
& inwerdly þe most mayster wer no brych

9. Was not adan / hercules / & mythy sampson /
dauyd þe kyng / whan þei be angry or suym what dysplesyd
þei wyl gyffe a man a mark þat he xal ber it to hys grafe
wherfor 3e maryd men ordur 3e soo
þat with 3owr wyftys 3ow stryfe not to mych
lest the most mayster wer no brych

E59.
IMEV 399; EEC 402; also in Balliol College, Oxford, MS 354, p. 508; BL, Printed Book I B.
55242 (Trevisa’s Bartholomeus Anglicus, de Worde, 1495), ff. 00v.- 00r.

Whane þes thynges foloyng be done to owr’ intent
þan put women in trust & confydent

1. When nettulg in wynter bryng forth rosys red
& al maner of thorn trys ber fygys naturally
& ges ber perles in euery med
& laurell ber cherys abundantly
& okes ber dates very plentuosly
& kyskys gyfe of hony superflueens
þan put women in trust and confydent

2. whan box ber papur in euery lond & towne
& thystuls ber berys in euery place
& pykes haue naturally fethers in þer crowne
& bulles of þe see syng a good bace
& men be the schypes fyschys do trace
& in women be fownd no incypyns
þan put hem in trust and confydent

3. Whan whytnges do walke forestes to chase hertys
& herynes þer hornys in forestes boldly blow
& marmsattes morn in mores & in lakys
& gurnades schot rokes owt of a crosebow
& goslynges hurt þe wolfe to ouerthrow
& sprates ber sperys in armys of defens
þan put women in trust & confydent

4. Whan swyn be conyng in al poyntes of musyke
& asses be doctors of euery scyens
& kattes do hel men be practysynge of fysyke
& boserds to scryptur gyfe ony credens
& marchans by with horne insted of grotes & pens
& pyys be mad poetes for þer eloques
þan put women in trust & confydens

5. Whan spawrus byld chyrchys on a hyth
& wrenys cary sekkes onto þe myll
& curlewes cary tymber howsys to dyth
& semavs ber butter to market to sell
& wodkokes wer wodkyfys cranis to kyll
& gren fynchys to goslynges do obedyens
þan put women in trust & confydens

6. Whan crowes tak sa{r}mon in wodes & parkes
& be tak with swyftes & snaylys
& cammels in þe eyer tak swalows & larkes
& {schy} myse move movtans with wagyng of þer tayles
& schympen tak a ryd insted of saylls
& whan wyfys to þer husbondes do no offens
þan put women in trust & confydens

7. Whan hantlopes sermovntes eglis in flyght
& swans be swyfter þan haukes of þe tower
& wrennys ses goshaukes be fors & myght
& muskestes mak vergese of crabbes sower
& schyppes seyl on dry lond sylt gyfe flower
& apes in westmynster gyfe {gu} jugment & sentes
Than put women in trust & confydens

E60.
IMEV 2098; EEC 232; also in St. John’s College, Cambridge, MS. S.54, f. 2r.-v. (J4); Balliol College, Oxford, MS 354, p. 468

Off þe 5 joyes of owr lady

A· A· A· A· gaude celi domina

1. Mary for þe loue of þe
Glad & mery schal we be
Whe schal syng vnto þe {ge}
tua quinque gaudia

2. The fyrste joy þat came to þe
Was whan þe aungel greted þe
& sayd mary ful of charyte
Aue plena gracia

3. The secund joy þat was ful good
Whan goddes son tok flesch & {go} blood
Withowt sorow & changyng of mood
Enixa est puerpera

4. The thyrd joy was ful of myght
   Whan goddes son on rood was pyght
   Deed & buryed & layd in syght
   Surrexit die tercia

5. The fourth joy was on holy thursday
   Whan god to heven tok hys way
   God & man withowten nay
   ascendent supra sydera

6. The fyfth joy is for to come
   At þe dredful day of dome
   Whan he schal deme vs al & some
   Ad celi palacia

7. Mary to serue god gyue vs grace
   & grete hyr with joys in euery place
   To cum afor hyr sones face
   In seculorum secula

E61.
IMEV 3235; EEC 93

A song in the tvne of (And I were a mayd &c

1. Swet Jhesus / is cum to vs
   þis good tym of crystmas
   wherfor with prays / syng we always
   welcum owr messyas / hey now now now

2. The god almyght / & kyng of lyght
   whose powr is ouer all
   Gryue vs of grace / for to purchas
   hys realme celestyal
   hey &c’

3. Whe hys aungels / & {al} archangels
   Do syng Incessantly
   Hys princypates / & potestates
   Maketh gret armony
   hey &c’

4. The cherubyns / & seraphyns
   with þer tvnykes mery
   the trones al / most musycall
   Syng the heuenly kery
   hey &c’
5. The vertues clere / ther tunes bere
   þer quere for to repayre
   whose song to hold / was manyfold
   of domynacyons fayer
   hey &c’

6. With on acord / serue we þat lord
   with lavdes & orayson
   þe wych hayth sent / by good assent
   to vs hys onely sone
   hey &c’

7. Borne ful porly / redy to dey
   for to redeme vs all
   In the jury / of mayd mary
   In a poore oxes stall
   hey &c’

8. He taught þe sawes / of crysten lawes
   to hys apostels twelue
   In flome jordan / of good saynt johan’
   he was crystned hymself
   hey &c

9. hymselfe ded preche / & þe folke tech
   þe commavndmentes tene
   he went barfote / þat swete herte rote
   Example to al mene
   hey &c’

10. The lame & blynd / men: owt of mynd
    & þe demonyacle
    þe deef & dombe / men: layd in tombe
    wher hol by hys myracle
    hey &c’

11. The jewes truly / had grete enuy
    to se hys myght expresse
    þei ded conspyre / by grete desyre
    to deth hym for to dresse
    hey &c’

12. But by hys myght / þei had no syght
    to know hys corpolence
    tyll vwnyses bold / judas: hym sold
    for thrysty golden pence
    hey &c’

13. Than þei hym tost / & at a post
    þei bownd hym lyk a thefe
pei ded hym bete / with scorges grete
 to put hym to reprefe
 hey &c’

14. Nakyd & bare / hys flesch þei tare
 & with a crowne of thorne
 þei ded hym crowne / þe blod rane downe
 & gaue hym a rede in scorne
 hey &c’

15. With mokkes & mowes / buffetes & blowes
 & oþer cursed thewes
 þei gan to cry / dyspytously
 al hayle þe kyng of Jewes
 hey &c’

16. With dredfull othes / þe wych hym lothes
 þei cryd {cruf} crucifige
 to caluary / þei gan hym hy
 þe crosse hymself bar he
 hey &c’

17. They hym nayld / & yl flaylyd
 alas þat Innocent
 lunges blynd knyght / with al hys myght
 with a spere hys hart rent
 hey &c’

18. Watur & blod / fro hys hart yode
 & yet þat blyssyd sone
 Prayd for thosse / þat ware hys fose
 to get for þem perdone
 hey &c’

19. Lo what kyndnesse / in owr dystresse
 þat lord ded schow vs þan
 þe deth to tak / al for owr sake
 & bryng vs fro sathan
 hey &c’

20. Owr sauyour / our creatur
 on þe crosse deyed ther
 of newe tourment / we do hym rent
 when we hys membres swer
 hey &c’

21. Then let vs pray / both nyght & day
 to hym per omnia
 þat we may cum / to hys kyndome
 In finis secula
a song vpon (now must I syng &c)

Nowel nowel nowel syng we with myrth
Cryst is come wel / with vs to dewell
By hys most noble byrth

1. vnder a tre / in sportyng me
alone by a wod syd
I hard a mayd / ſat swetly sayd
I am with chyld ſis tyd
nowell &c’

2. Gracyusly / conseuyyd haue I
ſe son of god so swete
hys gracyous wyll / I put me tyll
as moder hym to kepe
nowell &c’

3. Both nyght & day / I wyl hym pray
& her hys lawes taught
& euery dell / hys trewe gospell
in hys apostles fraught
nowell &c’

4. Thys goostly case / dooth me enbrace
withowt dyspyte or moke
with my derlyng / lullay to syng
& louely hym to roke
nowell &c’

5. Withowt dystresse / in grete lyghtnesse
I am both nyght & day
ſis heuenly fod / in hys chyldhod
Schal dayly with me play
nowell &c’

6. Soone must I syng / with reiocyng
For ſe tym is all ronne
ſat I schal chyld / all vndefyld
ſe kyng of hevens sonne
nowell &c’

E63.
IMEV 376; EEC 371

Everemore wheresoeuer I be
The dred off deth do troble me

1. As I went me fore to solasse
   I hard a mane syght & sey alasse
   Off me now thus stond the casse
   þe dred off &c

2. I haue be lorde off towr & towne
   I sett not be my grett renowne
   ffor deth wyll pluckyd all downe
   þe dred off deth {wyll} do trobyll me

3. When I shal deye I ame not suere
   In what countrre or in what howere
   Wherefore I sobbyng sey to my power
   þe dred off deth do troble me

4. Whan my sowle & my body depertyd shall be
   Off my Iugment no man cane tell me
   Nor off my place wher þat I shal be
   þerfore dred off deth do troble me

5. Jhesu cryst when þat he shuld sofer hys passyons
   To hys fader he seyd with gret deuocyon
   Thys is þe causse off my intercessyon
   þe dred off deth do troble me

6. Al crysten pepul be ye wysse & ware
   Thys world is butt a chery ffare
   Replett with sorow & fulfyllyd with car
   þerfor þe dred off deth do troble me

7. Wheþer þat I be mery or good wyne drynk
   Whan þat I do on my last daye thynk
   it mak my sowle & body to schyrnke
   ffore þe dred off deth sore troble me

8. Jhesu vs graunt hyme so to honowr
   That at owr end he may be owr socowr
   And kepe vs fro the fendes powr
   ffor þan dred off deth shal not troble me

E64.

IMEV 1704; EEC 309

Stanza 1 is IMEV 1703; in Bod., MS Douce 54, f. 35r.; Bod., MS Rawlinson C.48, f. 134v.; New College, Oxford, MS 310, f. 115r.; Bod., MS. Gough Liturg. 7, f. 81r.; BL, Arundel MS 285, f. 178r.; BL, Harley MS 2445, f. 136r.; BL, Harley MS 2851, f. 31v.; BL, Additional MS 27924, f. 221r.; Trinity College, Cambridge, MS O.9.38, f.89v.; Billyngs MS art. 3.; Bod., Gough Liturg. 3, f. 28v.; BL, Sloane MS 747, f. 46v.; Wellcome, MS 632 (roll); Bod., Rawlinson Liturgy, f. 36r.; BL, Harley MS 63, f. 44v.; BL, Harley MS 494, f. 105; Worcester Cathedral, MS F.172, f. 116v.; Magdalene College, Cambridge. Pepys Library, Example of Virtue (1510), flyleaf (three-line variant, added in 16th c. hand); Warkworth Church, Northumberland (inscription); Nijmegen
Prey we to þe trinitye
And to al þe holy compaine
ffor to bryng vs to þe blys
The wych shal neuer mysse

1. Jhesus for þi holy name
& for þi beter passyon
Saue vs frome syn & shame
And endeles damnacyon
And bryng vs to þat blysse
That neuer shall mysse

2. O gloryusse lady quen off heuen
O mayden & o mothere bryght
To thy sonne with myld steven
Be owr gyde both day & nyght
That we may cum to þat blysse
þe wych neuer shalt mysse

3. Gabryell & raphaell
With cherapyn & seraphyn
Archangell mychaell
With all þe orderes nyne
Bryng vs to þat blysse
The wych neuer shalt mysse

4. O ye holy patryarkys
Abraham ysaak & many moo
ye were full blyssed in yowr werkes
With Johan þe baptyst also
ffor to bryng vs to þat blysse
The wych neuer shalt mysse

5. The holy apostles off cryst
Peture paule & bartylmewe
With thomas & Johan þe euangelyst
And Andrew Jamys & mathewe
Bryng vs to þat heuenny blysse
The wych neuer shalt mysse

6. Pray for vs þe seyntys Bryght
Stevyn laurence & christofore
And swete georg þat noble knyght
with all þe marters in þe qwere
þat we may cum to þat blysse
þe wych neuer shall mysse

vert folium
7. Blyssyd *confessor* sent gregory
   *With* nycholas & edward kyng
   Sent leonard & antony
   To yow we pray aboue all thyng
   To helpe vs to *hat* blysse
   þe wych neuere shal mysse

8. O yow blyssed matrones
   Anne & swet sent elsabeth
   *With* al þe gloryus vyrgyns
   Kateryne & noble sent margaret
   bryng vs to *hat* heuenly blysse
   þe wych neuere shal mysse

9. All the company celestyall
   þe wych do syng so musycall
   To *hat* kyng pryncypall
   Pray fore vs terrestyall
   That we may cum to *hat* blysse
   þe wych neuere shall mysse

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**E65.**

*IMEV 4198; EEC 342; MC 10A*

_Burden set to monophonic music, full black nonmensural notation._

Off al the enmys þat I can fynd þe tong is most enmy to mankynd  f. 50v.

1. *With* pety movyd I am *constreynd*
   To syng a song fore yowr _comfort_
   How þat dyuers haue _compleynyd_
   Off tong ontru & ill report
   Sayng þus _withowt_ dysport
   off all &c’

2. Thys tong is _instrument_ off dyscord
   Causyng war & grett dystans
   Betwyne the subiecte & þe lord
   The _perfytt_ cause off _euery_ grevans
   Wherfore I syng _withowt_ dysplesans
   off all &c’

3. Thow *hat* prestes be _neuer_ so pacient
   In towne cite or in cowrt ryall
   Thow þe religyus be _neuer_ so _obedient_
   Yeit a ill tong wyll trobull them all
   Wherfore þis song reherse I shall
   off all &c’

4. Iff he *hat* ill be anoþer do saye
   hys _propere_ fawtes wold behold
how oftyn is hymeselff wer owt off þe way
Sylens to hyme þan shuld be gold
And with me to syng he wold be bold
off all &c’

5. ffroome þis tong a venamus serpent
Defend vs fader to þe we pray
As þou onto vs þi sone haue sent
ffore to be borne þis present daye
Lesse þat we syng & euermore saye
off all &c’

E66.
IMEV 3736; EEC 239; also in Yale University Library, MS 365, f. 79v.; Balliol College, Oxford,
MS 354, p. 480; this MS f. 41v. (E56)

Nowell nowell þis is þe salutacion off the aungell gabriell

1. Tydynges trew þer be cum new sent frome þe trinite
Be gabriel to nazaret cite off galilee
A clene mayden & pure virgyn thorow hyre humilite
Conceyvid the secund person in diuinite

2. Whan he fyrst presentid was before hyre fayer visag
In þe most demuere & goodly wys he ded to hyre omag
And seid lady frome heven so hy þat lordes herytag
The wich off þe borne wold be I am sent on messag

3. Hayle virgyn celestial þe mekest þat euer was
Hayle temple off deitie & myrroure off all grace
Hayle virgyn puer I þe ensur in full lyty space
þou shalt receyue & hym conceyue þat shal bryng gret solace

4. Sodenly she abashid truly but not al thyng dysmaid
With mynd dyscret & mek spyryt to þe aunglel she said
By what maner shuld I chyld bere þewich euer a maid
Haue lyvid chast al my lyf past & neuer mane asaid

5. Than ageyne to hire certeyn answered þe aungell
O lady dere be off good chere & dred þe neuer a dell
þou shalt conceyue in þi body mayden very god hymself
In whos byrth heven & erth shal joy callid emanuell

6. Not it he seid vj monethys past þi cosyn elyzabeth
þat was baren conceyvid sent johan tru it is þat I tell
Syn she in ag why not in yought mayst þou conceyue as well
If god wyl whome is possybyll to haue don euery dell

7. Thane ageyne to the aungell she answered womanly
Whateuer my lord commaund me do I wyll obey mekely
Ecce sum humilima ancilla domini
Secundum verbum tuum she seid fiat mihi

**E67.**
IMEV 163; EEC 423

Doll þi ale doll doll þi ale dole
Ale mak many a mane to haue a doty poll

1. Ale mak many a mane to styk at a brere
   Ale mak many a mane to ly in þe myere
   & ale mak many a mane to slep by þe fyere
   *with* doll

2. Ale mak many a mane to stombyl at a stone
   Ale mak many a mane to go dronken home
   & ale mak many a mane to brek hys tone
   *with* doll

3. Ale mak many a mane to draw hys knyfe
   Ale mak many a mane to mak gret stryfe
   & ale mak many a mane to bet hys wyff
   *with* dole

4. Ale mak many a mane to wet hys chekes
   Ale mak many a mane to ly in þe stretes
   & ale mak many a mane to wet hys shetes
   *with* dole

5. Ale mak many a mane to stombyll at þe blokkes
   Ale mak many a mane to mak his hed haue knokkes
   & ale mak many a mane to syt in the stokkes
   *with* dol

6. Ale mak many a mane to ryne ouer þe falows
   *f. 52v.*
   Ale mak many a mane to swere by god & alhalows
   & ale mak many a mane to hang vpon þe galows
   *with* dol

**E68.**
IMEV 998; EEC 44

Blyssid be that lady bryght
that bare a chyld off great myght
*withouten* peyne as it was right
mayd moþer marye

1. Goddys sonne is borne / his moder is a maid
   both after & beforne / as þe prophocy said
   *with* ay
a wonder thyng it is to se
how mayden & moder on may be
was there nonne but she
maid moder marye

2. The great lord off heaven / owr servant is becom
thorow gabriels stevyn / owr kynd haue benom
with ay
A wonder thyng it is to se
How lord & servant on may be
Was þer neuer nonne but he
born off maid marye

3. Two sons togyþer þey / owght to shyne bryght
so did þat fayer ladye / whan iesu in her light
with ay
A wonder thyng is fall
þe lord þat bought fre & thrall
is found in an assis stall
by his moder marye

4. The sheperdes in her region / þei lokyd into heaven
þei se an angell commying dovn / þat said with myld steven
with ay
joy be to god almyght
& pece in þerth to man is dyte
ffore god was born on chrismes nyght
off his moder marye

5. Thre kynges off great noblay / whan þat child was born
to hym they tok þe redy way / & kneled hym befor
with ay
Thes iij kynges cam fro fare
thorow ledyng off a stare
& offered hym gold encence & mure
& to hys modere marye

E69.
IMEV 3876; EEC 42; also in Huntington Library, Christmas carollers newly Inprynted, (STC 5204.3), pp. 28-9
O meruelous & blessed natuuite off goddes sonne in diuinite

1. Welcome be thys blissed feest
Off iesu christ in trinite
þat is reformer of owr reste
lovynge peace & charite

2. In tyme off peace thys chyld was borne
as it was shewed in prophicye
to save mankynd þat was forlorn
ffore kyng off peace he is trulye

3. Born mervelously he was
ffull off blysse & diuinite
& she a mayd neuer þe lesse
and so was neuer nonne but she

4. In his byrth holy was knytt
god & man in his degre
moder & mayd togeþer were sett
fferth in mans hart euer to be

5. Therfore praye we to þat lord
& to his moder mayden fre
to make vs wisse in wark & word
to praysse & pleasse þe trinite

E70.
IMEV 1195; EEC 137

Alleluia Alleluia Alleluia now syng we

1. Her commys holly þat is so gent
to pleasse all men is his intent
alleluia

2. But lord & lady off þis hall
whosoeuer ageynst holly call
alleluia

3. Whosoeuer ageynst holly do crye
In a lepe shall he hang full hye
alleluia

4. Whosoeuer ageynst holly do syng
he maye wepe & handys wryng
alleluia

E71.
IMEV 3438; EEC 138

Ivy chefe off treis it is veni coronaberis

1. The most worthy she is in towne
He that seyth ober do amysse
And worthy to bere the crowne
veni coronaberis

2. Ivy is soft & mek off spech
Ageynst all bale she is blysse
Well is he ṭat may hyre rech
veni coronaberis

3. Ivy is green with colore bright
of all treis best she is
& ṭat I preve well now be right
veni coronaberis

4. Ivy beryth berys black
God graunt vs all his blysse
ffore there shall we nothyng lack
veni coronaberis

E72.
IMEV 2090; EEC 410; also in Balliol College, Oxford, MS 354, p. 503; BL, Additional MS 22718, f. 86v.

In villa quid vidistis in villa
f. 54v.

1. Many a man blame his wif parde
yet he is more to blame ṭan she
Trow ye ṭat ony such there be
in villa

2. ye ye hold yowr peasse fore shame
be owr lady ye be to blame
wene ye ṭat womens tonges be lame
in villa

3. Nay god forbed / it is naturall
ffor them to be right liberall
I now report me ouer all
in villa

4. Euerwhere I haue espyed
all women be not tong tyed
& if ṭei were / ṭei be belied
in villa

5. If ought be said to them sertayn
wene ye ṭei will not answer agayn
yes by christ fore euer word twayn
in villa

6. Now in good faith ṭe soth to say
ṭei haue gret cause frome day to day
ffore thei may noþer sport nor playe
in villa
7. Ther husbondes controll þem so secretly but yet no forse fore þat hardly ffore þer scewise shalbe mad so craftely in villa

8. Who sey ye women þat husbondes haues Wyl not yow owr honour saves And call them lowsy stynekyng knaves in villa

9. ye so haue I hard tell ore thys not fare out off thys contre Iwis off some off them men shal not mys in villa

10. God wott gret caus haue þei among but dovt ye not þer hartes be strong ffore þei may suffere no maner off wrong in villa

11. And if þei dyd þer hartes wold brast Wherfor in soth I hold it best Lett them alon in þe devillis rest in villa

12. Ye husbondes all with on assent Lett yowr wyffis haue þer entent Ore by my trowth ye wilbe shent in villa

13. It is hard ageynst the strem to stryve ffor he þat cast hym for to thryve He must ask off hys wiffe leve in villa

14. Or elles be god and be þe rood Be he neuer so wild ore wood His her shal grow thorow his hood in villa

E73.
IMEV 1485; EEC 399; also in Balliol College, Oxford, MS 354, p. 507

Of all creaturs women be best f. 55v.
cuius contrarium verum est

1. In euery place ye may well se þat women be trew as tyrtyll on tre not liberall in langag but euer in secrete & gret ioy among them is fore to be
2. The stedfastnesse off women wil neuer be don
so gentyll so curtes þei be euerichon
mek as a lambe stylly as a stone
crockyd ne crabbyd fynd ye none

3. Men be more combres a thowsand fold
& I mervill who þei dare be so bold
agenyst women fore to hold
seing them so {so} pacient soft & cold

4. ffore tell a woman all your counsayle
& she cane kepe it wonder weyll
she had leuer go qwyck to hell
þan to hire neyboure she wold it tell

5. ffore by women / men be reconyled
ffore by women / was neuer man begiled
ffore by women was neuer man betraied
ffore by women was neuer man bewreyed

6. now sey well by women ore elles be stylly
ffore they neuer displeasid man by þer will
to be angry ore wroth þei cannot skyll
ffore I dare sey they thynk no ill

7. Trow ye þat they lyst to smatter
ore aegynst þer husbondes to clatter
Nay þei had leuer fast bred & water
then fore to presse such a matter

8. Thowe all þe pacience in þe world wer drownd
& nonne were left here on the grownd
ageyn in women it myght be fownd
such vertu in them doth abownd

9. To the taverne þei will not goo
nore to þe ale howse neuer þe moo
ffore god wott þer hartes shulbe woo
to spend þer husbondes money soo

10. If here wer a woman or a mayd
þat list forto go freshness arayd
ore with fyne kercheves to go displaid
ye wold saie þei be provd it is evil said

E74.
IMEV 3171; EEC 401; also in Balliol College, Oxford, MS. 354, p. 507; Lambeth Palace Library,
MS Lambeth 306, f. 135r.-v.
Women Women Women Women

a song I syng even off women

1. Some be mery & some be sad
   & some be good & some be bad
   some be wyld be sent chad
   yet all be not so
   ffore some be lewd & some be shrewd
   go shrew wher so euer ye go

2. Some be wise & some be fond
   some be tame I vnderstond
   some wil tak bred at a mans hond
   yet all be not so
   fore some be lewd and some be shrewd
   go shrew where so euer ye go

3. Some be angry and cannot tell wherfor
   some be scornyng euer more
   & some be tuskyd lyk a bore
   yet all be not so
   ffore some be lewd & some be shrewd
   go shrew where so euer ye go

4. Some wilbe dronken as a movse
   some be crokyd & will hurt a lowse
   & some be fayer & good in a howse
   yet all be not so
   ffore some be lewd & some be shrewd
   go shrew where so euer ye go

5. Some be snowtyd lyk a ape
   some can noþer pley ne jape
   & some off them be well shape
   yet all be not so
   ffore some be lewd & some be shrewd
   go shrew where so euer ye go

6. Some can prate without hyere
   some cane pley check mat with owr syere
   & some make debate in euery shyere
   yet all be not so
   ffore some be lewd & some be shrewd
   go shrew wher so euer ye go

How gossip myn gossipe myn

**E75.**

IMEV 1362; EEC 419; also in Balliol College, Oxford, MS 354, pp. 432-434; BL, Cotton MS Titus A.xxvi, ff. 161r.-162r. (IMEV 2358.5); BL, Cotton MS Vitellius D.xii, f. 43v. (IMEV 2358.5)
When wyll ye go to the wyn

1. I wyll yow tell a full good sport
how gossyps gather them on a sort
theyre syk bodes for to comfort
when þei mett in a lane ore strete

2. But I dare not fore þer displesaunce
tell off þes maters half the substaunce
but yet sumwhat off þer gouernaunce
as fare as I dare I will declare

3. Good gossipe myn where haue ye be
it is so long syth I yow see
Where is the best wyn tell yow me
Can yow ought tell full wele

4. I know a drawght off mery go downe
the best it is in all thys towne
but yet wold I not fore my gowne
my husbond it wyst {it} ye may me trust

5. Call forth your gossips by & by
Elynore jone and margrey
Margaret alis and cecely
ffore þei will come both all & sume

6. And ich off them wyll sumwhat bryng
Gosse pygge ore capons wyng
Pastes off pigeons or sum oþer thynge
ffor a galon off wyn þei will not wryng

7. Go befoore be tweyn & tweyn
wysly that ye be not seen
ffore I must home & come ageyn
to witt Iwys where my husbond is

8. A strype ore ij god myght send me
If my husbond myght her se me
She þat is aferd lett her fle
quod alis than I dred noman

9. Now be we in tauern sett
a drowght off þe best lett hyme fett
to bryng owr husbondes out off dett
ffore we will spend tyll god more send

10. Ech off them brought forth þer dysch
sum brought flesh & sume fysh
quod margaret mek now with a wysh
I wold ane were here she wold mak vs chere

11. how sey yow gossips is þis wyne good
   þat it is quod elenore by þe rood
   it cherisheth þe hart & comfort þe blood
   Such jonckettes among shall mak us lyv long

12. Anne byd fill a pot off muscadell
    ffore off all wynes I love it well
    swete wynes kepe my body in hele
    If I had off it nought I shuld tak gret thoug[ht]

13. How look ye gossip at þe bordes end
    not mery gossip god it amend
    all shalbe well elles god it defend
    be mery & glad & sitt not so sadde

14. Wold god I had don aftur your counsell
    ffore my husbond is so fell
    he betyth me lyk þe devill off hell
    And the more I cry þe lesse mercy

15. Alys with a lowd voyce spak than
    Iwis she seid lyttyll good he cane
    þat betyth ore stryketh ony woman
    And specially his wyff god gyve hym short lyve

16. Margaret mek seid so mot I thryffe
    I know no man þat is alyffe
    þat gyve me ij strokes but he shall haue fyffe
    I ame not aferd though I haue no berd

17. On cast down her schott & went here wey
    gossip quod elenore what dyd she paye
    not but a peny lo þerfore I saie
    she shal be no more off owr lore

18. Such gestes we may haue Inowe
    þat will not fore þer shott alow
    With whom cum she gossipe with yow
    Nay quod jone I come alone

19. Now rekyn owr shott & go we hence
    What cost it ich off us but iij pence
    Parde thys is but a smale expence
    ffore such a sort and all but sport

20. Torn down the strett where ye cum owt
    & we will compasse rownd abowt
    gossip quod anne what nedy þat dowl
yowr husbondes be plesyd when ye be reisyd

21. What so euer ony man thynk
Whe cum fore nowght but fore good drynk
Now lett vs go whom & wynk
ffore it may be sen where we haue ben

22. Thys is the though þat gossips tak
ons in þe weke mery will þei mak
& all small drynk þei will forsak
but wyne off the best shall han no rest

23. Sume be at the taverne ons in a weke
& so be sume euery daie eke
ore ellis þei will gron & mak þem sek
ffore thynges vsid will not be refusyd

24. Who sey yow women is it not soo
yes suerly and þat ye wyll know
And þerfore lat us drynk all a row
And off owr syngyng mak a good endyng

25. Now fyll the cupe & drynk to me
And than shal we good felows be
And off thyts talkyng leve will we
And speak then good off women

**E76.**
IMEV 112; EEC 79; also in Balliol College, Oxford, MS 354, p. 465; Coventry Shearmen and Taylors’ Play

Tyrle tyrlo so merylye the shepperdes began to blowe

1. Abowt þe fyld þei pyped full right
even abowt þe middes off þe nyght
adown frome heven þei saw cum a lyght
Tyrle tirlo

2. Off angels þer came a company
with mery songes & melody
þe shepperdes anonne gane them aspy
Tyrle tyrlo

3. Gloria in excelsis þe angels song
and said who peace was present among
to euery man þat to the faith wold long
tyre tyrlo

4. The shepperdes hyed them to bethleme
to se þat blyssid sons beme
and per they found hat glorious streme
tyre tyrlo

5. Now preye we to that mek chyld
& to his mothere hat is so myld
the wich was neuer defylidy
tyre tyrlo

6. That we may cum vnto his blysse
Where joy shall neuer mysse
hat may we syng in paradice
Tirle tirlo

7. I pray yow all that be here
Fore to syng & mak good chere
In pe worship off god thys yere
tyre tirlo

E77.
IMEV 3852; EEC 386; also in Balliol College, Oxford MS 354, p. 475

God hat sytteth in trinite
amend pis world if pi will it be

1. Vycyce be wyld & vertues lame
& now be vicyce turned to game
herfore correcion is to blame
and besyd his dignite

2. Pacyence hath taken a flyght
& melady is out off syght
Now euery boy will counterfett a knyght
report hymself as good as he

3. princypally among euery state
in court men thynk per is gret bate
& peace he stondyth at pe gate
and morneth afture charite

4. Envy is thyk & love thyne
& specally among owr kyne
ffore love is without pe dore & envy within
and so kyndnesse away gane fle

5. ffortewn is a mervelous chaunce
& envy causyth gret distaunce
both in englond & in fraunce
exilyd is benyngnyte

6. Now lett vs pray both on & all
& specyally vpon god call
to send love & peace among vs all
Among all men in christente
Appendix B

1. Rhyme schemes

Capitals indicate refrain lines. Different refrain lines are marked by subscript numbers. Rhymes in italics are maintained throughout, rhymes in plain type vary each stanza. A space is used to separate burden and stanza. Imperfect rhyme schemes are marked ‘imp.’. Rhymes internal to a line are indicated with round brackets.

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<th>Structure</th>
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Other verse forms

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* E29a, b, c and d counted separately

2. Number of stanzas

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<td>B – S – S – etc.</td>
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4. Scribal presentation of refrains

B: burden (separate initial refrain)
b: burden incipit
S: stanza
R: refrain (part of stanza)
r: refrain incipit
&: vt supra, &c’
<p>| 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 30, 34, 38, 42, 43, 45, 46, 47, 51, 52, 53, 54, 57, 58, 60, 62, 63, 72, 73 | J: 2, 4, 5, 11, 15, 16, 18 | E: 1, 2, 4, 9, 12, 14, 15, 16, 19, 23, 33, 34, 36, 42, 44, 46, 48, 49, 53, 56/66, 58, 59, 60, 64, 69, 73, 75, 77 |
| B – SR – SR – etc. | S: 48 (refrain internal to stanza), 68 | J: 3 | E: 10, 11 (internal refrain), 13, 26 (internal refrain, from B), 27 (one word R = b), 28 (one word R), 31 (two word R, from B), 35, 37 (R is l.2 of B), 38, 39, 45 (two word R, from B), 47 (three word R, from B), 54 (R is l. 2 of B), 57 (R = b), 67 (2 word R, from B), 68 (2 refrains, 1 internal), 70 (R = b, one word), 71 (R is two words, l. 2 of B), 72 (R = b), 74, 76 (R = b) |
| B – SR – Sr – etc. | S: 8, 12, 18, 21, 33, 50 (one &amp;), 56 (imp.), 61 | 9 | 22 | 25 |</p>
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<td>SR – SR – etc.</td>
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<td>B – SR – S – S etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>B – SR – Sr&amp; - S&amp; - S&amp; etc.</td>
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5. Correspondences (vernacular texts)

◦Manuscript with musical notation for corresponding texts

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<th>Total: Eng. poet.</th>
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<td>The Shearmen and Taylor’s Play</td>
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<td>(Coventry Corpus Christi Play)</td>
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<td>Multiple mss for E64, st. 1</td>
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Appendix C: An edition of unpublished verses in Lincoln College, Oxford, MS Lat. 141

The following edition of the first seven texts in Lincoln College, Oxford, MS Lat. 141 is to be published in my forthcoming article in Medium Ævum, ‘An Unpublished Fifteenth-Century Carol Collection: Lincoln College, Oxford, MS Lat. 141’. Song numbers and line numbers have been added, along with descriptive headings and details of textual correspondences. In the manuscript the texts are written without separation of stanzas, but here stanzas have been separated and punctuation has also been added (except to the initial fragment), although there is none in the manuscript. Capitalisation is that of the manuscript. Expansions from abbreviations are italicised. Letters written as superscript in the manuscript are dropped into the main text here. Þ is used here, although in the manuscript it is indistinguishable from y. Emendations are contained within square brackets and manuscript readings given in the critical apparatus. I have tried to keep emendations to a minimum and have restricted them to vernacular sections. Interpretative notes follow the critical apparatus and details of the corrections to the texts made by the later writer (B) are included after these notes.

Fragments

ore sclayne
brak hys brayn
yed
fell on Saule
…clia
Pro nobis deus exora

f. 1v
f. 2r.

5
That we may in heweyne brezt
Inter sanctorum agmina

Notes

2-4 brak… Saule] The song’s subject may have been David, referring to his battle against Goliath and his troubled relationship with Saul.

6 Pro… exora] The line adapts a phrase sometimes used in prayers to Mary, ‘pro nobis Christum exora’, found, for example, in the antiphon ‘Ave Regina Coelorum’.

B. Faded notes at the top of f. 2r.

1. Carol on the Holy Innocents

Syng we now þis holy feste,
Vox in rama audita est.

Rachel þat wepyth withowt consalacoun,
ffor her chylderne is ded þat suke[d] her brest,
[i]gurit þe chyldern’ of I[œ]rael destru[œ]ion,
ffor vox in rama audita est. 5

Thys day in bedleem þes Innocens
Herod martyrd for þe luf of cryste;
This glorius blod was offyr[d] to hevy[n],
ffor vox in rama audita est. 10

Critical apparatus

4 suked] suke

4 her brest] Her brest; written at the start of line 5, but should end line 4 to maintain the rhyme scheme

5 figurit] fugurit
5 Israel] Irael

Notes

1 Syng we now] Cf. the burdens of EEC 21 D and 312. Several carol burdens open with the declaration or command ‘Syng we’ (EEC 47-8, 152, 168, 185-6, 289, 293, 295, 297-8, 358, 390). The Slaughter of the Innocents is the subject of five other carols, EEC 108-112.

2 Vox in rama audita est] The refrain line is the opening words of an antiphon sung on the feast day of the Holy Innocents (Dec. 29). It is taken from Matthew 2.18, which derives from Jeremiah 31.15. Although quotation from antiphons is common practice in carols (see EEC pp. civ-cvi), this is the only extant carol to use this antiphon.

5 figurit] ‘figured’. Compare, for example, the mid fifteenth-century East Midlands Life of Saint Elizabeth of Spalbec: ‘she figurith þe sendynge of þe holy goost’. This reading makes the stanza unusually complex in its syntax and in its reference to the scriptures. The carol’s difficulty may explain why the later scribe has ignored it: this is the only text for which there are no corrections.

2. Verse on the nativity

Agnus dei hodie natus de pura virgine. f. 2v.
Ihesu lombe for hys fadyr is [b]orne;
He is comtynn a pure virgynys wombe,
Conceptus sacro flamine.

Glad and lyth be we þerfor:
þis day a mayd a child her bor;

per is a medsyne for euery sor,
Virili sine semine.

Tho worship hym com kyngys iij,
Euery lord in hys degre;
They offyrd gold, myr & solemnite,
Noue stelle lumine.

Critical apparatus

2 borne] thorne

Notes

As it is written, this piece consists of three quatrains with an unstable rhyme scheme. Stanzas two and three rhyme aaab, a common pattern in carols. Possibly, l. 1 is the song’s burden (which could be displayed as a couplet) and a line has been omitted from the first stanza. The piece is rather awkward, not only formally but also because lines 5-8 read like a conclusion but are followed by a single stanza on the story of the Epiphany.

1 Agnus… virgine] The line combines words from two pieces of sung Latin, the ‘Agnus Dei’ and the nativity hymn ‘Hodie puer natus est’. Lines 2-3 roughly translate the Latin.

8 Virili sine semine] The words are regularly used in descriptions of Christ’s conception, and the line ‘Sine virili semine’ is part of a Christmas hymn also quoted in EEC 23 A and 58.

11 solemnite] Carols referring to the Epiphany often list the three gifts, but this is the only instance of ‘solemnite’ being written as a substitute for frankincense.

B.
3. Carol of the Annunciation

IMEV 1471, EEC 21; also in Balliol College, Oxford, MS 354, f. 222v.; Trinity College, Cambridge, MS O.3.58, r.; Cambridge University Library, MS Ee.1.12, f. 1r.; British Library Additional MS 31042, f. 94v.; Bodleian Library, MS Eng. poet. e.1, f. 35v.

To blysse god bryng vs all & sume, \( f. \, 3r \)

*Christe redemptor omnium.*

In bedleem, in þat fayr cyte,
A chyld was borne of owr lady
That schall lord & pryns be, \( 5 \)
A solis ortus cardine.

He is borne of owr lade
Withowten w[ec]lmb[e of hyr body,
ffadyr and sone þat syttys so hye,
Ihesu saluator seculi. \( 10 \)

Ryth as þe sone schyne in þe glas,
So Ihesu in his modyr was;
Hym to serwe god gif vs gras,
O lux beata trinitas.

*Apparatus criticus*

8 *wembe*] wombe

*Notes*
2 Christe… omnium] This line and all the Latin lines in the carol are first lines of well-known hymns, all featured in the Sarum use. The line ‘Christe redemptor omnium’ also appears in EEC 9 and 122.

5 A… cardine] The line also appears in EEC 31, 39.1, 52 and 122B.

8 wombe] A possible scribal error for ‘wembe’ (imperfection), found in the other extant versions of the carol.

10 Ihesu… seculi] The line also appears in EEC 122 A, C and 273.

14 O… trinitas] The line also appears in EEC 31a, b.

B:

3 Bedleem] d deleted; th interlined above d 3 cyte] y written over e  5 schall] final l made into b; e interlined above b, with caret 5 pryns] s deleted; ce interlined above s, with caret  9 ffadyr] dy deleted; the interlined above dy 11 Ryth] deleted; Ry3te (unclear) interlined 11 glas] sse written over s 13 serwe] w deleted and v (poorly formed) interlined above

4. Penitential carol

A blyssydffull songe þis is to vs, Miserere mei deus. f. 3v

Thow þat know þi selfe gylty, 5
Azens þi god þou hast done wrong,
For god dys lowe lerne þis of me,
With hertely will to syng þis song:
Miserere mei deus.

In dedly synne if þow be cast
ffor god dys lowe byd not þer in
f for god will helpe þe at þe last

8 For when the hymns are prescribed, see EEC, pp. lxxvi-lxxxvii.
If þow þis song will syng to hymne:  
Miserere mei deus.

In holy chyrch if þat þow be
Lyfte vpe þi hed & behold þe rod,
Set þe downe vpe on þi kne  
And syng þis song with myld mod:  
Miserere mei deus.

Notes

2 Miserere mei deus] Opening of Psalm 51, a Penitential Psalm known in many musical settings. For other exhortations to penitence in carol form see especially EEC 358-360.

B:

4 Azens] Azens deleted; Ever since to interlined above  
8 dedly] a interlined above e  
9 byd] e interlined above d, with caret  
13 chyrch] u interlined above y  
14 rod] o interlined above o

5. Annunciation carol

Salue mater delicie.

Almyty god in trinite,  
Thow sendyst þi sone frome heuen cyte  
To be borne in humylyte  
Off a virgyne mary.  
Salue mater delicie.  

Gabriell so bryth of ble  
Thow chesse þi messenger to be  
To say þat mayd of solemnnyte:  
‘Salue mater delicie.’  

The mayd answerd with hert so fre,  
‘As þow hast so be it with me,  
Goddys will fulfyllyd be.’  

f. 4v
Salue mater delicie.

All ywis þat mayd in humylite
Bar goddys sone in trinite,
þerfor wirschipe all we:
Salue mater delicie.

Critical apparatus

15 ywis] yws

Notes

The form of this text is uncertain and the layout above is offered only hesitantly. Alternatively, line 2 may be part of the burden, but this would not form a clear semantic unit. Clearly, the arrangement above seriously disrupts the first stanza’s formal regularity. It also leaves the carol with a single line burden. Although generally unusual, this is recurrent practice in Marian carols using Latin burdens, see EEC 191, 200.1, 206, 220-226, 234, 237. The carol is unusual within the manuscript for its use of a single rhyme throughout (cf. EEC 185, a Marian carol in Sloane that uses the same single rhyme).

This is the third text in the manuscript that has a problematic beginning but then becomes clearer (cf. numbers 1 and 2). The relative instability of the openings may have occurred at the point of composition, as the writer combined various familiar lines and ideas before determining a secure verse form. An alternative is that if the texts were copied from a notated text, the burden and first stanza would have been written under the music and not displayed as verse. The scribe of Lincoln Lat. 141 or his exemplar may have found these parts harder to copy but adapted from the second stanza, at which point the verses would have been displayed below the notation.
1 Salve... delicie] The words ‘Salve mater’ open numerous hymns, but I have not found an exact correspondence with this line.

B:

7 bryth] g interlined above y 7 ble] e added after e 8 chesse] deleted;
chose interlined above 8 be] e added after e 9 say] to interlined above y
15 mayd] id interlined above yd 16 Bar] e inserted after r 17 wirschipe]
deleted; to worshyepe interlined above

6. Carol in praise of Jesus

IMEV 1738, now TM 857, EEC 91; also in British Library, Additional MS 5665, two versions fully set for two and three voices, ff. 29v-30r and ff. 43v-44r.

Ihesu, fili virginis, miserere nobis.

Ihesu, of a maydyn woldyst be borne
To sawe mankind þat was forlorne,
And all for owr mys: miserere nobis.

Borne þou wer of mary fre
And afyr þow dydyst on a tre,
ffor owr synne: miserere nobis.

We prey to þe lord of þi gret gras
That we mow se þi fas
In hewen blysse: miserere nobis.

Notes

1 Ihesu... nobis] Cf. burden and refrain of EEC 278.

4 mys] sin

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7 This text is not listed in the new IMEV, because the listed versions date to the early sixteenth century. It was number 1738 in The Index of Middle English Verse, eds Carleton Brown and Rossell Hope Robbins (New York: Columbia University Press, 1943). It is now TM 857.
7. Carol for Christmas

Man lat be þi cruelnese
And be glad of crystmes.

All myty god, blyssyd myth he be,
Hath sent hys sone thorow hys pyte
To sle pryd and cruelte
And draw vs to hys kyndnes.

What myth a lord do mor for vs
But send hys owne sone, cryst jhesus
To tak owr kynd & dy for vs,
How myth he do more kyndnes?

Synne is full of cruelte;
Meknes is full of charite;
So was mary, blyssyd mote sche be,
That bar owr ball of byttyrnes.

Now prey we all to be owr socowr
That bar lhesu owr sawyowr,
He bryng vs all in to hys towre
Where is bot euer blysse.

Notes

1-2 Man... crystemes] The burden combines two common carol themes: moral advice and the celebration of Christmas.

14 ball of byttyrnes] The meaning is obscure; ball may be an error for another word, such as ‘bote’ (relief, salvation).
15-17 Now... towre] The lines are rather elliptical. Their meaning could be
emended by inserting ‘She’ at the start of l. 16 and ‘That’ at the start of l. 17.
Scribe B has attempted to resolve the stanza, see below.

B:
2 crystenes] e deleted and a interlined above; sse written over final s    6
draw] a deleted and e interlined above    7 myth] g interlined above y; h
deleted    10 myth] g interlined above y; h deleted    10 kyndnes] sse written
over s    14 ball] b turned into h    16 sawyowr] first w deleted and v
interlined above    18 bot] h now interlined after t, with caret    18 blysse] vs
good lord inserted at end; both now and ever Amen inserted below