

<County: Yorkshire West Riding>

<Code: L1349>

<MS reference: Cambridge, Fitzwilliam Museum, Bradfer-Lawrence 7>

<Text: Mandeville's Travels>

<Tranche 1>

<fol. 16r><line 6> And who so wille ga to ye land of babilone
 ; wher ye sawtene duelles to

haue leue to ga ye mar sykerle yoro ye contrees
 ; and for to ga to mounte Synay be-for
 he come to *jerusalem* . and yan turne a-gayne to
jerusalem he sall ga fra gasa to ye cas<t>elle dayre
 and aftur men comes oute of s<?>rry & gas
 in-to wildernese . wher ye way is fule sandy
 and yatt wildernese lastes . viij iournese whar
 men fyndes alle att yam neddyse of vitayles
 ; and men calles yat wildernese of achelleke
 ; & when a man comes out of desertte
 he entres in-to Egipte canapote ; & in a-*noyer*
 langage *men* calles itt Mercyne ; and y^e firste
 goode toun^e y^t men fyndes is called beley
 and itt is of ye kyngdome of alape ; And
 <fol. 16v>fro *yennes* men comes to babilone . and *yer* is a fayr
 kyrke of our ladye . wher scho duellyde . vij 3eer
 when scho wentte . when scho went oute of lande
 of Jnde ; For drede of kyng^e heroude ; and yar
 lygges ye body of saynte barbare . and *yer* duellyde
 on iosephe when he was saulde of his bredyr ; &
 yar made Nabogodonoser thre childre be brentte
 er yai wer in ry3te trouthe . whilke childer *men*
 calles ; Anany.^[a] ; a3ary.^[a] ; Misael ; as ye psalme of benedicite
 telles ; Bott nabogodonoser callede yame
 yus ; Sidrake Misaake abdenego . yat is to say . gude
 glorius gode . vittorius gode . our alle kyngdome

and yatt was for ye grett myracle yatt he
 sawe gode ga . yoro ye fyer w^t yes childer ;
 yar duelles ye . souden . For yar is a fayr see
 in a Castelle . and itt is strange . & well sette
 on a roche In yatt Castell . is duellynge to kepe
 yatt Castelle & to *serife* ye sowdane ; mo yane
 viij thosande *persones* of folke ; yatt takes alle
 ye nessessaries of ye contre . of ye soudane
 J awghte well to witte ; For J duellede w^t hym
 <fol. 17r>in his werres soudeour a grett whille . a-gayne
 ye bedoynes ; and he walde haue weddyde me
 to a grett prynce dou3ter ryghte Richelye ; and
 J walde haue for-saken my trouthe ; and ye sowdanne
 is a lorde of . v . kyngdomes . whilke wer
 gitten & conquerde be strenthe . & yes er y^e names
 . Canapot yatt is Egipte ye kyngdome of
 Jerusalem ; whar dauid and Salamon wer kynges
 ye kyngedom . of Surry of whilke ye citee
 of damase was chefe . ye+kyngdom of auayle in
 ye lande of damey . and ye kyngdome of arabi
 ; yatt was on of ye kynges yatt made offeryng
 to our ~~ter~~ lorde ; and many oyer landes
 he haldes in his hande And also he haldes Calaphes
 and yat is a grett thyng to yam itt is to
 say a-mange yame ; Royes Jles . and yis vaile is
 full Calde ; and men gas to ye mounte of saynt
 katerin and yat is mykill hier yane y^e mounte
 of moyses ; and yer . whar saynt kateren was grawyne
 is noyer kirke nor chapell . nor na duellynge
 place bott yar is a hille of stannes gyd_{dryde}
 <fol. 17v>gydderde to-gider a-boute ye place yat was gidrede
 w^t aungels ; yar was wonte to be a .
 chapel bott itt is Casten doune . & 3itt lyges
 ye stanes yar ; and if alle itt be so yatt y^e
 Colett of saynt kateren saie yat itt is alle on
 place . wher our lorde gafe ye lawe to moyses
 & yar saynt kateren was grawen ; and 3e
 sall vnderstande yatt itt is alle in a contre
 or in a stede yatt beres a name ; For yai er

bathe callede mounte Sinay . bott itt is betwen
 a grett way and a grett valey
Now when a+man has visetyde yis place
of saynt katerine; and he wille turne
 to Jerusalem ; he sall firste take leefe att ye monkes
 . & Recomaunde hym specialie to yer prayere
 and ye same Monkes gifes w^t goode wille
 vitayles to pilgrymes to passe w^t yoro wildernese
 to Surry and yatt lastes well xiij
 iournese ; and in yatt Contre duelles many
 arabiens yat men calles bedoynese and
 <fol. 18r>ascoperdes . and yes er men of alle Euel condicoun
 & yai haue ne houses . bott tentes whilke yai
 make of Camelus & of oyer bestes y^t yai ette
 and yar vnder yai lygge ; and yai duel . in
 places whar yai may fynde water of y^e rede
 see ; For in yat wildernese is grett faute
 of water . and itt falles oft . yar as a man
 fyndes water a+daye . he fyndes nan a-noyer
 day . And yar-for yai make na houses in yatt
 contre nor yai tille na lande ; For yai ett na
 brede bott yai duel . ner a gude toune . and yai
 roste alle yar flesche . and yar fische in hotte stones
 a-gayne ye sonne ; and yai ar strange men
 and well fi3ttinge and yai do nott elles botte
 chases wilde bestes ; for yer Sustinance and yai
 sett nott be yar lifes ; and yar-for yai drede nott
 ye soudan nor oyer lordes of ye warlde ; and
 ofte yai werre w^t ye soudane . yai hade bott
 a schelde and a speer for to fende yame with
 & yai haue na noyer armour bott wyndes yer
 <fol. 18v>hedes & yar nekkes w^t lyne clathe ; and yai
 er men of Euel condicionse . & when men
 passes yis way to Jerusalem yai come to barsabee
 ; yatt was summe thyme a fayr citee and
 a likyng of Cristen men . and 3itt yar is
 summe of yar kyrkes . and in yat toune
 duellyde summe thyme ye patriarke abraham
 yis citee foundede vrrie his wife

dauid was of yam bothe . yatt war kyge
 of Jerusalem and of xij kyngdomes of israel
 and he rengnyde xl . wynter ; And fro yin
 men gas to ye vale of Ebren yat is fra
 Ebrew xii myle . and summe men calles itt
 ye vale of mambre . and so itt is Called
 ye vale of teres Jn as mykyle as Adam
 wepyde yar an . c . 3eer For ye dede of
 his sone abel . yat kaym slew ; And ebren
 was summe thyme ye chefe toune of alle
 ye philistians . and yar duelles Giauntes
 & yar itt was so free y^t men toke trispassours
 and alle oyer yatt hade don euel .
 <fol. 19r>Jn Ebren Josue Calofe; and yai sent men to aspye
 how yai my3te wyne ye lande of promission
 Jn Ebren dauide Regnyde firste viii 3eer and
 a halfe ; And yar is alle ye grawes of ye patriarkes
 ; adam abraham & Jacob & yar wifus
 . Eue . Sarra . and . rabecca . and yai er on a hye
 hille & vnder yam is a fair kirke & itt is couered
 as a Castell . yatt 3ara3ens kepes well
 and yai haue yatt place in grett werschipe for
 ye holie patriarkes yatt ligges yar . and yai
 suffre na cristen men come yar ; nor Jews
 bott yai haue speciale grace of ye soudane
 For yai halde cristen men as dogges yat
 sulde nott come in-to no halie place as spelunk
 caue or oyer double graues ; For an of
 yam ligges on a-noyer ; And ye sara3ens
 calles itt in yar langage Canatharba . yat
 is to say a place of patriarkes . and ye Jewes
 calles itt arbay & in yat same place was
 abraham hous . and yat was ha yat satt in
 his dore and saw thre persones . yatt is for
 <fol. 19v>for to say he sawe thre . and an he wirschipped
 and hym he toke to his house <lat></lat>
<lat></lat> and ryghte ner y^t place
 is a caue in a Roche wher adam & Eue duellyd
 when yai war dryfen oute of paradiste . and

yar yai gatt yar childer ; and in yat same place
 was adam as men says ; For men Called
 summe thyme yatt . ye felde of damase ; for itt
 was in ye lordeschiþe of damase ; and fro yine
 he was translatede in-to Paradise as men
 sais afturwarde he was draw.^[e]ne oute agayn
 For ye same day . yatt he was pute in-to Paradise
 . he was pute oute a-gayne ; For he
 synnede ; yar begynnnes ye vale of Ebrew
 yat lastes ner to Jerusalem ; and ye aungel bade
 Adam yat he sulde duel . w^t his wife . and he
 gatt seth ; and in yatt vale is a felde yatt
 men drawes out a thinge yat men Calles
 Cambile & yai ett yat yinge in-stede of spices
 ; & yai ber itt to sell ; and if men make
 itt neuer so depe ; itt wille be fule agayne at

<Tranche 2>

<fol. 71r><line 11> **For to ga fra yis ile to see occian
 towarde ye est many Journes**

a man sall fynde a kyngdome . yat is callýde
 mansye and itt is in Jnde ye maste
 and ye beste . & ye moste dilettable and
 moste plente of gudes yat is in y^e power
 of mane ; Jn yis lande dwelles cristen
 men and 3ara3ens . for itt is a grett lande
 yar-in is ij thousande grett citees & towns
 Jn yis lande gase na men of beggyng
 for yar is no poore men yer-in ; . and y^e heyr
 of mens berdes yar is lieke cattes heyre
 <fol. 71v>Jn yis lande er fayr women ; and yar-for
 men calles yis lande albanye . be-cause
 of ye whitte folke : and yar is a citee
 yat men calles latoryme ; and itt is mykill
 mar yane parische . Jn yat citee is
 a fayr water beringe schippes . and in y^t
 lande is twa gretter brygges yan is in any

oyer landes ; and yar is gude chepe os<?>itales
 . and yar is grett plente of neddres
 of whilke yai make grett festes and etys
 yame att grett solempnites ; for if a man
 make a grett feste . bott if he haue of y^e
 neddres <exp>ane</exp> att ye hende of ye feste
 he has na maner of thanke of yame for
 all yat grett feste ; Jn yis contre er
 whitte hennyse . & yai ber wole in-stede
 of fedys . as schepe dose in yis contre ;
 and women yat er weddyde . bers crownes
 on yer heddes . att yai may be knawne
 yar-bye ; Jn yis contre yai take a beste
 yat men calles loyrus ; and yai teche
 <fol. 72r>itt to go in-to ye Riuer . and o-non itt bringes
 oute of ye water grett fisches & yus yai
 take fische tyll att yai haue att yame neddys
 ¶ Fra yis citee men gas be many Jouurnays
 to a cite yat is callyde Cassay y^t
 is ye maste citee of ye warlde : for yat
 citee is . l . myle a-bowte . and yar is in y^t
 citee moo yan twelfe 3ates ; & euer-ilke a //
 3ett is a gude towre . whar ye kepars
 dwele to kep itt agayne ye grett Cane
 for itt markes on his lande . and be ye
 syde of yis citee rynnes a grett Rywer
 and yar dwelles cristen men and oyer
 also . yar is a gude contre and a plentywose
 . and yar growes righte gude wyne
 yat men calles bigone yat is a noble
 citee ; yar ye kyng of ma^[n]ssy wase wonte
 to dwell and yer dwelles religious men ;
 cristen frers . and men gase on yat rywer
 to yai come to a abbay of monkes of
 ye citee ; And yer in yat abbay is a
 <fol. 72v>grett gardene and a fayr and yar-jne is many
 maner of trees & diuerse fruttes ; Jn y^t
 gardene is many maner of bestes as baboyns
 ; apes marmosettes and many oyer ; Ande

when ye cowent has ettyne . a monke takes
 ye relife and garse ber itt in-to ye garden
 and he smyttes ans w^t a clekytte of siluer
 whilke he bere in his hande . and sone efter
 comes oute ye bestes yat j spake of and oyer
 many . ner iij m^l and he gifes yame yar
 mett of fayr vessell of Siluer . and when
 yai haue ettyne he smyttes w^t ye clekytte
 agayne . and yan yai ga agayne yar yai
 come fra ; and ye monkes says att yes bestys
 er saules of lordes . and of oyer riche
 men and yes yat er foule bestes er sauls
 of oyer comoners ; and J askede yam if itt
 nott ben bettyr to haue gifen ye relife
 to por men . and yai sayde yer is no poore
 men in yat contre . and gife yer warre
 3itt itt wer mar almus to gife yes poore
 saules . y^t suffres yar yar paynes ; for yai
 <fol. 73r>ga na foryer to gitte mett ; yane men commes
 to a citee yat men calles chebeus . and yar
 wase ye firste segge of ye kynge of mansy
 jn yis cite is fourte bryggys of stane righte
 fayre

**Whane men passes fra ye cite of
 chebeus ; yai may passe a grett**

rywer of fresche water and itt is ner four
 myle brade . and yan men entres in-to y^e
 lande of ye grett Cane yis lande gase yoro
 ye lande of Pigmaynes and ye folke of
 yat lande is of lityll stature . for yai er
 bott thre spane of lenthe . and if all yai
 be lityll yai er righte fayre . and yai er
 weddyde when yai er halfe 3eer alde
 yes smale men trawels noghte . bott yai
 haue a-monge yame grett men as we
 er ; yat trawels for yame . and yai haue
 grett scorne of yes grett men ; Ryghte
 as we haue of giauntes . yat wase amange
 vs ; Fra yis lande men gase into

many contres citees and tounes to
 <fol. 73v>yai come to a citee . yat men calles ; Menkeus
 ; Jn yat citee is a grett nawie of
 schippes . and yai er as whitte as yai snawe
 of ye kynde of ye wode att yai er made
 of . and yai er made as yai wer grette
 houses w^t halles and chaumbres . and
 oyer esmentys ; Fra yine men gase on+a
 Ryuer yat men <exp>men</exp> calles Coromasane
 yis ryuer gase yoro Cathay . and dose
 many tyme grett harme . when itt waxes
 grett ; Cathay is a grett citee and a+fayr
 and wyde . and fulle of marchandyse
 yider <exp>comes</exp> comes many marchandes
 euery 3eer ; and fechis spices and oyer
 marchandise mor comon yan yai do in
 oyer landes ; And 3e sall vnderstande yat
 marchaundes yat comes fra venis or
 fra gene or fra oyer places of lumbarde
 or fra Romaine yai ga be ye see and
 be ye lande . and 3itt itt is xj moneths
 <fol. 74r>or yai may come to Cathay ; and towarde
 ye est is an oyer citee yat is in y^e prouince
 of Cathay . & tartaryus hade made a
 oyer citee yat men calles Cadoine . yatte
 has xij 3attes ; and euer be-twen ilke two
 3attes is a grett myle . So yat yes cites
 ye alde and ye newe is aboute mar
 yan xx myle . Jn yis citee is ye sege
 of ye grett Cane . & itt is a full fayre
 palase and a grett of ye whilke ye walles
 er ij myle a-boute . & w^t-Jn yatt is
 many fayr palases . and in ye gardene
 of yat palase is a grett hille ; on ye whilke
 is a-noyer palase and itt is ye fayreste
 yat may be fonne in any place . and all
 a-boute yat hille is a grett dieke . and yer
 ner is many Riuers and wyners on ilke
 a syde . and yar is many wilde foules .

yat he may take . and go nott oute of
 his palase . and in ye haule of y^e palase
 is xxiiij pilers of golde . and all y^e walles
 <fol. 74v>er cowerde w^t rede bestes skynnes yatt men
 calles planters . yes er fayr bestes and well
 smellynge and for ye smellynge of y^e skynnes
 na ewill smell may come to yat palase
 & yer skynnes er as reede as blode . yatte
 vnyse may men be-halde yame a-gayne ye
 sone . so schyne yai ; and men pray³es yes
 skynnes as mykill as yai wer fyne golde
 In myddyse ye palace is a place made ; y^t
 men calles ye mountour . yatt is made for y^e
 grett Cane righte well w^t precyose stanes
 and grett perles hyn^[g]ynge all aboute ; and
 att ye four corners of ye mountour is four
 neddres of golde ; and vnder yat mountour
 and a-bowne is condithes fulle of beuerage ;
 And ye halle of yat palase is richelye dighte
 and well ; firste att ye owermare hille
 of ye hall . is his sette and his troune
 righte hye whar he sittes att his mette
 & a table yat is righte well borderyde w^t
 golde . and yat borde is fulle of peerles
 & preciose stannes ; and ye greces yatte
 <fol. 75r>he gas vpe-on is of precyose stannes borderyde
 w^t golde ; and att ye lefte hande
 of his trone is ye sege of his wife J .
 degre lawer ; yan hym-selfe syttes . and
 yat is of iasper borderyde w^t golde ; And
 ye sege of his secunde wife is J degre .
 lawer yan his oyer wife . and yatt is of iasper
 borderyde w^t golde ; And ye sege of his
 thirde wife is on de-gre laweer yan his
 secunde wife ; for all-way he has iij wives
 w^t hyme . whar so he wendys ; be-syde
 yes wives on ye same syde syttes oyer
 lades of his kyne . ilkon lawer yan oyer as
 yai er of de-gre ; . and all yes yat er weddyde



has a conterfett of a marke lieke to
a mans fotte vp-on yar heddes . and itt is
a+schaftmonde lange . and made w^t *preciose*
stannes and a-bowen yai er made w^t schynynge
fedys . in tokenynge att yai er
in subieccoun to man . and vnder manes
fotte ; and yai att er nott weddyde . has
nan slike ; And on ye righte syde of ye
<fol. 75v>Emperour sittes firste his sone . yat salle
be emperour efter his day ; and he sittes a
gre lawer yan his fader . in sike a *maner*
of sege as his fader sittes Jne ; and be
hyme sittes lordes of his kynne ilkone .
lawer yan oyer in yar degrees ; And ye
Emperour has his table be his on ; and y^t
is of golde & of *preciose* stanes or of whitte
cristall or of 3alowe borderyde w^t golde
and ilkon of his wifes has a table be *yamselfe*
.