

<County: Norfolk>

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<Text: South English Legendary>

<Tranche 1>

<fol. 31r>So foul it was þ^t our~ lord . non <2-letters> suffren wolde o lyue
 jn mannys fourme þ^t he hadde take . þerfore he lete hem dryue
 Sterrys honoured ek our~ lord . þo he was j-bore
 for Balaam þ^e prophete seyde . many hundred 3er be-fore
 þ^t a sterr~ springe schulde . of jacob is kende
 and euere after þo men hadde . þat sterr~ in her~ mende
 & prayed þ^t a-mong hem þer-of . Sum tokenyng schulde come
 So þ^t þ^e hey3est men of þ^e lond . a counseyl hadden nome
 þ^t twelue stronge men . euery ny3t to waken þ^{ei} toke
 vp-on an hill þe longe ny3t . after þ^t sterr~ to loke
 Sone after þ^t our~ lord was bore . as he wolde it wer~
 þre kynges come for þ^t sterr~ . to lokyn after þere
 3if þei my3t hym se . þat o kyng hy3t hy3t jaspar
 þat oþer was hotyn Melchior . þe þridde Balti3ar
 jn her~ prayerys þei wer~ longe . til our~ lord hem sente
 Sum tokenyng of þ^t sterr~ . or þei homward wente
 þ^o þei say a sterr~ in heuene . ry3t bry3t as þei stode
 & in þe sterr~ þer~ þ^{ei} sey3 . a child al blody don on rode
 þ^o be-gan þ^t child to speke . goth now faste he sede
 to þe lond of jude . a-noþer sterr~ 3ow schal þeder lede
 þ^o loked þ^{ei} as eftward wer~ . a noþer sterr~ þei sey3e
 so cler a þ^{ing} and so bry3t . þei saw neuere w^t ey3e
 þer 3e schul fynde a kyng born . þ^t kyng is of all kyngys
 of qwom 3e desyr~ so meche . to knowe of his tokenynges
 glad þei wer~ þ^o þei sey3e . þ^t þ^{ei} desyrede so longe
 vp dromedarijs þ^{ei} wente forth . þ^t swyfte ben & stronge
 & beste duryng of alle bestys . for neyþer hors ne mule
 schulde not so meche a-gon . in so litil a qwyle

of þ^e lond of Arabye . and of Perce þei were
 so fer be eft^e þ^e lond is . þat no man wonyth þer~
 a gret water þ^t men calle Saba . in þ^e lond of Perce is
 þerfore men clepen al þ^t lond . þ^e lond of Saba j-wis
 þerfore kyng dauyd of our~ lord . in his sau3tter sumqwyle sede
 þ^t kyngys of Saba & arabye . 3iftis to hym schulde lede
 þ^{ei} ledde hym *presantes* for he was kyng . & no man kyng ne sou3t
 ne to hym cam in þe olde lawe . but men *presantes* brou3t
 gold Myrr~ and encens . þese þre kynges hym ladde
 euerych of þese *presantes* . gret tokenyng þei hadde
 gold is þing of gret nobley3e . þ^t fallith to a kyng
 þerfore as he a kyng was . gold þei gunne hym brynge
 encense fallith to holy cherche . & for he was in þou3t
 prist & mayster of holy cherche . encens to hym þ^{ei} brou3t
 Mirr~ is ry3t bitter þing . a-noþer *vertu* it hath also
 þat noþing schal þer rotyn . þ^t it comyth ny to
 <fol. 31v>þerfore qwan an hy3 man deyde . be olde day3es men wolde
 jn his sepultur~ myrr~ don . þ^t he rotyn not scholde
 þe bitternesse of þe myrr~ . þ^t þ^{ei} to our~ lord þo brou3tte
 tokened strong & luper deth . þ^t jewis to god wrou3tte
 þe myrr~ halt a ded man hol . leyd in his bery3inge
 our~ lordes bery3ing it be-tokened . euere w^t-outte rotyng
 Anon þese þre kyngys wentyn forth . & her~ *presantes* nome
 fro þe ferpest lond of þ^e est . til þei to *jerusalem* come
 þ^t þe mydel is in erþe her~ . and þeder þei wer~ brou3t
 in twelue dayes & many folys . þerfore leuyn it nou3t
 as j seyde of dromedarijs . þ^t þ^{ei} vp on wente
 swyft weryn & w^t goddes *grace* . so sone þeder hem sente
 þ^o þei come to *jerusalem* . ferst þei hadde þer trewis
 þ^{ei} askid qwer~ þ^t child was born . þ^t was kyng of jewis
 þ^o þ^t herodys herde of þⁱs . a-greuyd he was wol sore
 his clerkys he dede clepen forth . þ^t wis wer~ in lore
 þe clerkys sou3tte her~ bokys a-non . 3if þ^{ei} my3t forth brynge
 of ony prophete þ^t hadde told . of ony suych þinge
 of o prophete he fond j-wrete . þ^t bedlem was not leest
 jn þe kyngdam of jude . but wacloker~ he was meest
 for of bedlem schuld come a duk . þ^t jsrael schulde wyte
 þese clerkis tolde þe kyng þerfore . qwan þ^{ei} fonde it wryte
 þⁱs kyng enqueryd þ^o of clerkys . for he was a-gast

qwy þ^t sterr~ was so wunderfull . & how longe it hadde last
 þ^o he hadde þer-of enqueryd to þ^o þre kynges he sede
 gob & aspy3ith of þ^t child . 3our~ presentis hym lede
 comyth a-3en homward be me . & tellyth me tydyng
 þ^t j may forth w^t 3ow . fayr~ presentys hym bryng
 so he seyde for he wolde hem sle . qwan he wiste qwer he wer~
 þese þre kynges wentyn hem forth . & comyn no+more þere
 þ^o þei come ferst to jerusalem . þ^e sterr~ fro hem was hyd
 þ^t þ^{ei} schulde after our~ lord aske . þ^t his berþ^e tyme wer~ kyd
 þ^t þ^o jewis schulde not forsake . þ^t he was born a-mong hem þer~
 but a-non as þ^{ei} went fro herodys . þ^e sterr~ hem þ^e wey3e gan ler~
 & wenten ry3t euene forth þ^e wey3e . as it quyk þ^{ing} wer~
 to teche þ^o kynges to bedlem . þ^t þ^{ei} disceyued nere
 jn þ^t sterr~ be-forn alle oþere . þre wunderys sen men my3t
 of her~ stede . & of her~ wendying . & also of her~ ly3t
 of her~ stede . for sche was . in þe eyr boþ^e hy3 and lowe
 & . <mrg>not</mrg> w^t oþere in þe firmament . for men schulde þ^e soþ^e knowe
 of hir~ wendying . for sche wente . as þ^u seest a quyk beste gon
 to lede þ^e kynges þe euene wey3e . so dede 3it neuere non
 <fol. 32r>of her~ ly3t for so cler a sterr~ . neuere seyn þer nas
 al was don to honour~ hym . þat in erþe born was
 and euere wente þ^e sterr~ forþ . & ladde þe kynges be-fore
 til þei come to þat stede . þer~ þat þe child was bore
 but þ^o he was þer ouere-come . wol stillelyche he gan stonde
 þan hoped þ^o kynges þ^t child to fynde . þ^{ei} sou3tte so fer in londe
 þ^{ei} comyn in & fond þ^t child . with his moder Marye
 but joseph fonde þei nou3t . lest þei þou3t in ony foly3e
 þ^t þe child hadde his sone be . & his moder on-clene wer~
 þese þre kynges knelyng to our~ lord . & her~ presaut hym bere
 gold and Myrre & encens . as j haue told be-fore
 as fore her~ lord þ^t child þei helde . þ^t þer was so bore
 an aungel cam & bad in her~ slep . þ^t þei schulde not wende
 be herodys þ^e kyng to telle hym fore . he þou3t þ^t child to schende
 þ^{ei} spokyn of a-cord & wente forth . a-non qwan þ^{ei} a-wook
 jn schippis al be water . & þe hy3e wey3e clene for-sook
 but þ^o þei come ferst to bedlem . þer as þ^e child lay
 þ^e fourteþe day as þe child was bore . as a Candelmasse day<blank line>
 our~ lady dede hir~ cherche gong . as it fil in hir~ lay
 to coluyr bryddes þ^{ei} nome . & a peyr~ of turtures also

& offred in þ^e temple with þ^e child . as men wer~ woned to do
 for þe lawe was þ^t euery woman . þ^t of gret power wer~
 a lomb to offr~ w^t hir~ child . qwan þ^{ei} to þ^e temple it ber~
 but pore women þ^t þ^{er} wer~ . and non oþ^{er} qwar þ^{ei} nadde
 schulden culuerys offren or turturys . wol fayn þ^t þ^{ei} hem hadde
 Fro þ^t tyme our~ lord was bore . al þ^e tyme þ^t he was here
 to 3eue vs ensample he dede . to be meke in euery manere
 w^t coluerys & w^t turturys þ^{ei} ~~toke~~ for lomb hadde þ^{ei} non
 þ^e offryng of þ^e turturys þ^{ei} toke to þ^e temple þ^{ei} gunne gon
 þ^{er} þⁱs blissid child offred was . on Candel-masse day
 and þo four~ bryddes forth w^t hem . as it fel in her~ lay
 an old man þ^{er} was in þe temple . þ^t hoten was Symeon
 an . C . wynter he was old & twelue . vnneþ^e he my3tte gon
 desired he hadde al his lyue . & to our~ lord prayed be-fore
 þ^t he schulde neuere dey3e . til he say our~ lord bore
 so gret wil he hadde hym to abyde . þ^t qwan ony man come
 euere he hopede to her~ sum tydyng . aske he wolde j-lome
 wenyst þ^u þat he wil be bore . and þ^t j may hym se
 wenyst ou3t þ^t j endur~ mow3e . til þ^t he bore be
 Ansuer~ he hadde of þ^e holy gost . þ^t he schulde neuere dey3e
 or he say our~ lord here born . in erþe with his ey3e
 þ^t be-heste he a-bod longe . þat was in Febilnesse brou3t
 and napeles for hope hym to se . his elde greuyd hym nou3t

<Tranche 2>

<fol. 76r>þ^u wunne al man-kynde w^t a tr~ . & now þ^u hem hast lore
 þorw a tr~ & þⁱn foly3e . wo wurþ^e þe þ^{er}fore
 þⁱ joy3e is clenlyche þ^e be-nome . þ^u knowist not how meche wo
 þ^u schalt han with me in helle . for þⁱ dede euere-mo
 þ^o tok our~ lord Sathanas . and bond hym swyþe faste
 & seyde he schulde not þens go . qwil þ^e world laste
 Adam he toke vp be þe hond . come forth he seyde w^t me
 and alle þⁱn þ^t ben goode . comyn þ^{ei} schul wyth þe
 þorw a tr~ 3e wer~ alle lore . & þorw a tr~ eft 3e bep
 þorw my dep to lyue j-brou3t . as 3e now wel sep
 þ^o seyde Adam our~ ferste fader . lord j þanke þe
 þ^t þ^u me takist & suffrest not . my fomen ouercome me
 lord j haue to þ^e jgrad . and þ^u me herd hast

þ^u hast of þⁱ grace saued me . now fro helle last
 beþ glad and syngiþ to our~ lord . alle þ^o þ^t his ben
 for in his wil is deþ & lyf . as 3e now wel sen
 syngiþ now seyde dauid . to our~ lord a newe song
 for he haþ her~ wunderys don . w^t his power so strong
 his ry3t-fulnesse he haþ schewed . a-mong vs ful wel
 of his mercy haþ vnderstonde . þ^e meyne of ysrael
 þ^o seyde alle with . o . voys . þe blisse þ^t we seþ
 & þat be schewid euere vs wurþ^e . & alle þ^t w^t hym beþ
 he is . o . god & euere schal . in þ^e world w^t-outtyn ende
 rewarde he wil vs in þ^e ioy3e of heuene . for þeder we schul wende
 our~ blissid lord alle þ^o deueles . in gret mysese brou3t
 & ladde forþ his hand-werk . þ^t he so der~ a-bou3t
 seynt Myhyl he hem be-tok . in heuene for to brynge
 & hym-self as his wille was . wente to his vp-rysyng
 þ^o comyn a-3ens hem tweyn olde men . & askid qwat þei wer~
 and qwy þ^{ei} hadde not in helle be . qwil þ^t þei wer~ þere
 we ben he seyde Ennok & Elye . & prophetis we ben twey3e
 we suffred neuere erpelyche deþ . þefore we ben bey3e
 jn erpely paradys . and til domysday we schulle
 be þ^e frut of þ^e tr~ of lyf . we lyuen & ben fulle
 we knew þorw þ^e holy gost . of 3our~ blissid comyng
 þefore we comyn 3ow a-3ens . we moun 3ow no ferþere bryng
 a-noþer þer com a-3ens hem . as þow3 he come fro dome
 as a presoner a rode he bar~ . we askid fro qwens he come
 so lyche a þef as he was . 3e seyn soth he seyde
 a þef j haue euere ben . & don many a wikkid dede
 on þ^e rode j was w^t god do . but or j ded wer~
 j vnderstood þ^t he was god . þorw his myraclis þer~
 j be-sechid hym þ^o of for3euenesse . and he me 3af a-non
 for joy3e of 3ow j haue a-byde . & now wil w^t 3ow gon
 <fol. 76v>seynt Myhyl ladde hem alle þorw3 . þ^e water of jordan þer~
 þ^t þ^{ei} my3t þer cristened ben . as our~ lord hym-self was er~
 for þer may no man to heuene come . but he cristened wer~
 jn water or in his owene blood . as þ^e book doþ vs lere
 & to soþ^e þ^t our~ lord lete . boþⁱn water and bloode
 vp-on þ^e rode out of his syde . & al for our~ goode
 lentik and karyn þo twey breyerin . seynt Myh3il bad þo
 and also many oþer soulys . to her~ bonys in erþe go

& w^t þe bodyes þei hadde in erþe . fro deþ to lyue a-ryse
 w^t our~ lord to honour~ hym . & to makyn his son a-gryse
 many on ros fro deþ to lyue . suych as þei in erþe wer~
 & 3ede a-bou3tte in-to al þe lond . & summe be-lefte þer~
 al þ^t Ester with her~ frendis . but at Ester þorw3 goddes ore
 þ^{ei} wer~ take in-to þe eyr . men my3t se hem no more
 no more we dar~ her-of telle . but doþ yow wel schryue
 & boteþ 3our~ synnys þ^t 3e han don . ellis come 3e neuere to lyue
 boþin þese breþerin begunne at o tyme . & at o tyme þ^{ei} hadde do
 and al þei had wryte euery wurd . & euery letter also
 þ^o þei hadde al þⁱs wrete . caryn nome his book
 Cayphas & gamaliel . and he to hem be-took
 but Nichodemus & joseph . lentyk be-toke his
 & sore þ^{ei} wer~ alle a-dred . qwan þ^t þ^{ei} say þⁱs
 lentik & Caryn þese twey berþerin . oþer colour þei nome
 þ^{ei} be-comyn as qwy3t as+ony snow . wist no man qwer þ^{ei} be-come
 þ^t neuere more men wist of hem . þe jewis dradde ecchon
 but joseph & Nichodemus . to Pilat þ^{ei} tolde a-non
 þ^o wer~ þei alle sore a-drad . 3if þ^t þⁱs out come
 þ^t þe emperour hem wolde sle . gret counseyl þer-of þei nome
 for joseph a-3ens hem was . & w^t our~ lord held faste
 & for þ^o myraclis þ^t of hym was . þe schrewis weryn a-gaste
 þat he wolde hem þer-of wrey3e . þerfore at þe laste
 a strong presoun þ^{ei} made with wallis . & þerin þei hym caste
 & be-walled hym al a-bou3tte . for hunger þ^t he schulde dey3e
 no man toward hym þer come . ne no+man hym þer sey3e
 but fourty 3er þer afterward . as we fynde wrete
 þⁱs good+man was o lyue founde . as 3e schul sone wete
 Pilat durst not fro jerusalem . a-3en wende to Rome
 for þe trespas þ^t he hadde do . lest þe emperour hym nome
 þe emperour hem send wurd for all . oftyn þat þei schulde
 as ry3t was to hym bowe . but euere þei seyde þ^{ei} nolde
 our~ lord for-bar~ hem longe also . & ofte myraclys sende
 a wunder þretnyng for her~ trespas . 3if þei wolde a-mende
 þe seuenþe 3er þ^t þ^{ei} hadde . slawn hym on þe rode
 seynt Jeme he sente þeder . to prechen hem to goode
 her~ trespas to knowlyche . & lyue as þ^{ei} schuld don
 þe schrewis slow þⁱs good+man . in strong deþ a-non
 <fol. 77r>3it our~ lord hem forbar . and sent hem oþer tokenyng

3if þei wolde her lyf a-mende . he wolde not . to þ^e+deþ hem bryng
 ouyr þ^e cytee a kene swerd . þer was seyn euery ny3t
 al a 3er in þe eyr on hy3 . and in þ^e poynt a sterr~ bry3t
 þ^e sterr~ be-tokened our~ lordes grace . 3if þ^{ei} it wolde fonge
 þ^e swerd be-tokenyth 3if þ^{ei} wolde not . veniaunce ful stronge
 þ^{ei} say oftyn so meche ly3t . a-bou3t Ester tyme at myd-ny3t
 þer~ þ^t þ^{ei} our~ lord slow3 . þ^t al þ^e countr~ was bry3t
 sumtyme in þ^t feste . a gew a calf he nome
 for to don his sacrifice . and to a lomb it be-come
 Sumtyme an hy3 in þe eyr . cartys þ^{ei} sey3e fle
 ful of men wel-armed . þ^t euery man my3t se
 þ^t be-tokened her~ destructioun . but þ^{ei} a-menden wolde
 & be-leuen in ihesu crist . but neuere þo schrewis nolde
 þ^o armed men betokened . al redy for to fy3t
 þ^t þorw strengþ^e of armys . be-nymen schulde her~ my3t
 jn þ^e eyr þ^{ei} herde þese wurdis . þ^e qwyle þ^t 3e ben sounde
 go . <mrg>3e</mrg> fro þⁱs wrecchede stede . for it wurþ^e j-brou3t to grounde
 jn þ^e ny3ne & pritty 3er . þ^t þei slow our~ lord þere
 þ^e jewis maden a gret feste . as it fel in þe 3ere
 þ^o was þer oon of hem . þat lowde be-gan .^[for] to grede
 he wist not hym-self qwat it was . but þese wurd^es sede
 men schul telle fro est & west . & fro þ^e wyndes also
 þ^e wrecchedede þ^t jerusalem . & þ^e temple is comyng to
 þese maystris hym toke swyþ^e faste . & askid qwy he so sede
 þ^{ei} my3t han of hym non oþer wurd . but euere oon he gan grede
 be-forn þ^e prince he was lad . and euere he seyde on
 þ^{ei} gunne to bete hym & defoule . þ^t men my3t se euery bon
 euere on he seyde & lowde cri3ed . & at þ^e laste he seyde þerto
 a-wey wrecchid jerusalem . qwat schalt þ^u now do
 alle þese tokenynges our~ lord hem sent . 3if þ^{ei} wolde turne her~ þou3t
 & to a-mendement come . but þ^o schrewis wolde nou3t
 No wunder þow3 our~ lord suffred . þ^t þ^{ei} wer~ to schame brou3t
 telle j wil her~ destruccioun . how he was ferst wrou3t
 Pilat was euere þer~ . he durst not þens wende
 he drad euere þ^e emperour . þ^t hym sle wolde at þe ende
 Sore wer~ þe jewis alle a-drad . þ^t he hem wolde destroye
 þerfore þei held hem faste in fer~ . þ^{ei} wolde hym not obey3e
 as to his lord he was a-drad . til he wer~ j-come
 and seyde þ^t he giltles was . of ihesu cristis dome



but þe jewis hym slow w^t-outte hym . & also hym nome
and bad hym his wrappe for-3eue . as he had be-sou3t <3-letters> ylome
and graunte þ^t he muste . in good pees & loue come