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The Scottish Text Society

Fergusson's Scottish Proverbs



X

# Fergusson's Scottish Proverbs

From the Original Print of 1641

Together with a larger Manuscript Collection  
of about the same period  
hitherto unpublished

EDITED BY

ERSKINE BEVERIDGE, LL.D.



Printed for the Society by

WILLIAM BLACKWOOD AND SONS  
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## PREFACE.

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SOME years ago the late Dr Erskine Beveridge, whose contributions to Scottish history and archæology are well known, offered to edit these proverbs from Fergusson's original print of 1641 and from an augmented MS. collection of the early seventeenth century in his own possession. He was working on this edition to within a short time of his death in 1920. It was, however, incomplete, and Mrs Beveridge most generously offered to contribute towards the expenses of completion and publication. The revision was entrusted to Mr J. D. Westwood, M.A., of George Heriot's School, who has completed the glossarial notes and vastly extended the list of proverbs traced in earlier Scottish and English works. He has also added the footnotes, which may serve to show the extent to which later collections of Scottish proverbs are indebted to Fergusson. Mr West-

wood's additions are distinguished by being placed within square brackets.

A brief notice of a second MS. collection of Scottish proverbs in the Edinburgh University Library will be found in the Appendix.

BRUCE DICKINS,

*General Editor.*

*11th July 1924.*

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## INTRODUCTION.

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### I.

THE earliest known collection of Scottish proverbs is that "gathered together" by the Rev. David Fergusson in the latter half of the sixteenth century, although not printed until forty-three years after his death.

It is true that George Mackenzie, in his 'Lives and Characters of the Most Eminent Writers of the Scots Nation,' &c., Vol. III., p. 461 (also quoting Dempster), refers to Archbishop James Beaton of Glasgow—the second of that name, b. 1517, d. 1603, and a nephew of Cardinal Beaton—as having left in MS. "a Collection of the Scots Proverbs: of which there have been several Editions, with Mr Fergusson's Additions to them: The oldest of which, that I have seen, is printed at Edinburgh 1610, in 12mo." But again, *ibid.*, p. 467, we find this contradictory entry: "The Scots Proverbs, in 12mo., 1614, and in divers other Years." Both of these statements would seem, however, to be wholly incorrect, although perhaps bearing some confused reference to Fergusson's own collection, which was first published in 1641.

The birth of David Fergusson can hardly be placed

later than about 1525, when we consider that in February 1598 (six months before his death) he was described as "the auldest minister that tyme in Scotland."<sup>1</sup> It further seems that he was a native of Dundee, of humble parentage, and that he had been brought up to the trade of a glover. The local connection is generally accepted from the fact that in July 1558 "George Luvell, David Fergusone, and certane utheris personis withtin the burght of Dunde," were summoned to answer "for thair wrangus using and wisting of the Scripture, and for disputting upoun erronius opinionis and eiting of flesche in Lenterone and utheris forbidding tymes."<sup>2</sup>

Be this as it may, we have somewhat fuller evidence upon the matter of original occupation: in the first place, from an amusing interlude between Fergusson and King James VI., in which the former won success by means of a very temporary reversion to his early handicraft as a skinner<sup>3</sup>; and secondly, from the gibes hurled against him by James Laing, a Roman Catholic controversialist, under the epithets "chirothecarum sutor,"<sup>4</sup> &c.

David Fergusson was among the earliest of the Scottish Reformers—one of six, according to his own statement. Although not a graduate of any university, he was in July 1560 appointed minister at Dunfermline by the Committee of Parliament, and retained that position until his death on 23rd August 1598, having also served as Moderator of

<sup>1</sup> 'Autobiography and Diary of James Melvill,' Wodrow Soc., p. 437; see also Row's 'Historie of the Kirk of Scotland,' Maitland Club, p. xl.

<sup>2</sup> 'Accounts of the Lord High Treasurer,' Vol. X., pp. 369-370; see also M'Crie's 'Life of John Knox,' edn. of 1840, p. 429.

<sup>3</sup> Row's 'Historie of the Kirk of Scotland,' Maitland Club, pp. xxxvi-xxxvii, quoting Wodrow's MSS. in the library of Glasgow University.

<sup>4</sup> 'Tracts by David Fergusson,' Bannatyne Club, 1860, p. xiv of David Laing's Preface.

the General Assembly in March 1573 and October 1578. He was held in the highest esteem, and many anecdotes are recorded in proof of his shrewdness and ready wit. During his lifetime he published two small theological treatises:—

‘Ane Answer to ane Epistle written by Renat Benedict,’ &c., Edin., 1563;

‘Ane Sermon preichit befor the Regent and Nobilitie, vpon a part of the thrid Chapter of the Prophet Malachi,’ &c., St Andrews, 1572.

These pamphlets are of extreme rarity, and indeed only two copies of the ‘Answer’ (both of them imperfect, although fortunately each supplying the other’s deficiencies) are known to exist in Scotland—one in the library of Edinburgh University, which also possesses an apparently unique original of the ‘Sermon.’<sup>1</sup> This latter was reprinted by Principal Lee (? *ca.* 1828), and in 1860 both tracts were reproduced in a small volume as a posthumous contribution by him to the Bannatyne Club, with an interesting preface from the pen of David Laing.

Our special concern, however, is here limited to the ‘Collection of Scottish Proverbs’ by which the Rev. David Fergusson’s name is now chiefly held in remembrance, and will doubtless thus continue to be preserved for all time.

Of this work—enumerating only those publications issued in separate form—we are able to chronicle from various sources the following editions, although the list cannot be considered as by any means exhaustive:—

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<sup>1</sup> The second copy of ‘Ane Answer’ was gifted to the Carnegie Library, Dunfermline, by the Editor. A third, also slightly imperfect, is in the Cambridge University Library.

BM.

NLS (+3)  
copy of epistle

reprint



- 123  
A. Scottish Proverbs: gathered together by David Fergusson sometime Minister at Dunfermline: And put *ordine Alphabetico* when he departed this life, anno 1598. 4to. Edin., 1641.

44 pp. (including 2 blank).

Collation, A-E in 4, F in 2.

911 proverbs, not numbered.

- B. (? Titled as above.) 1649.

- 123  
C. Nine hundred and forty Scottish Proverbs, the greatest part of which were at first gathered together by David Fergusson, &c.

8vo. ? Edin., 1659.

- D. Do. Do. Black Letter. 12mo. n.p. 1667.

4+44 pp.

Coll., A 8, B 4, C 8, D 4.

The proverbs are numbered to 945, but no doubt there are omissions, as in F of 1692. The last three proverbs are alike in both editions.

- E. Do. Do. 8vo. ? Edin., 1675.

4+44 pp.

Coll., A-C in 8.

Apparently represented by 1075 K 22 in the British Museum Library; that copy, however, lacking both title-page and last leaf.



Nine hundred and forty <sup>5</sup>

# SCOTTISH PROVERBS.

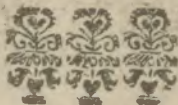
The greatest part of which were  
at first gathered together

BY

DAVID FERGUSON, sometime  
Minister at Dumfermline.

And put into an alphabetical order when he  
departed this life, ANNO 1598.

*The rest being since added, were never  
before printed.*



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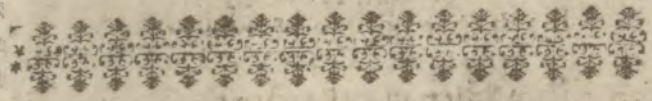
Printed in the Year  
M. DC. LXXIII.



**T H E P R I N T E R**  
to the merry, judicious,  
and discreet Reader.



**I**T is well known, that every Nation hath their own Proverbs, and Proverbial Speeches; yea every Shire, or part of a Nation, hath some Proverbial Speeches, which others have not: so that a man can hardly gather together all such Speeches; yet some are more inclined to such kind of Speeches then others. Therefore many in this Realm that have heard of David Fergusone, sometime Minister at Dumfermline, and of his quick Answers and Speeches, both to great Persons and to others inferiors, and  
A 2 have

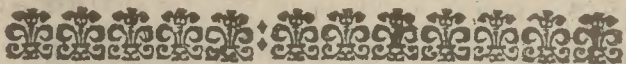


# Scottish Proverbs.

## A


- 1 All things hath a beginning, God excepted.
- 2 A good beginning makes a good ending.
- 3 A boastful man is a beggers brother.
- 4 A vaunter and a liar is both one thing.
- 5 All is not tint that is in peril.
- 6 All is not in hand that helps.
- 7 A tom-purse makes a bleat merchant.
- 8 As long runs the fox as he hath fat.
- 9 A hasty man never wanted wo.
- 10 A wight man wanted never a weapon.
- 11 A fowls bolt is soon shot.
- 12 A giben horse should not be lookt in the teeth.
- 13 A good asker should have a good nay say.
- 14 A dear ship stands long in the haven.
- 15 An oleit mother makes a sweet daughter.
- 16 A rackless hulle makes mony thieves.
- 17 A liar should have a god memory.





## Scottish Proverbs.

### A

- 1  All things hath a beginning,  
( God excepted )
- 2 A good beginning makes a  
good ending.
- 3 A sloathfull man is a beggers  
brother.
- 4 A vaunter and a liar is both one thing.
- 5 All is not tint that is in peril.
- 6 All is not in hand that helps.
- 7 A teem purse makes a bleat merchant.
- 8 As long runs the Fox as he hath feet.
- 9 A hastie man never wanted woe.
- 10 A wight man wanted never a weapon.
- 11 A fools bolt is soon shot.
- 12 A given horse should not be lookt in the  
teeth.
- 13 A good asker should have a good naysay.
- 14 A dear ship stands long in the haven.
- 15 An oleit mother makes a sweir daughter.
- 16 A racklesse huffie makes mony thieves.
- 17 A lyer should have a good memory.
- 18 A black shoe makes a blyth heart.

F. Nine hundred and forty Scottish Proverbs, the greatest part of which were at first gathered together by David Fergusson, &c.

12mo. n.p. 1692.

36 pp.

Coll., A in 8, B-C in 4, D in 2.

932 proverbs, running to 945, but with 14 numbers omitted and one number duplicated.

G. Do. Do. 12mo. Edin., 1699.

H. Do. Do. 12mo. Edin., 1706.

36 pp.

Coll., A in 8, B-C in 4, D in 2.

931 proverbs; as in F of 1692, except that a fifteenth number is omitted.

This may be the edition noted as of 1705 by Laing in 'Tracts by David Fergusson,' 1860, p. xviii.

J. Do. Do. 12mo. Edin., 1709.

K. Do. Do. ? 12 mo. 1716.

L. A Collection of Scotch Proverbs, chiefly selected by Mr David Fergusson. 12mo. Glasgow, 1799

NLS

24 pp. (including one blank).

No preface, and only 577 proverbs.

Of these eleven separate editions at least five can be personally vouched by the present writer, while four others (**C**, **E**, **G**, **J**) are included upon the authority of a memorandum made for his own use by the late Sir Arthur Mitchell,<sup>1</sup> and the other two (**B**, **K**) from notes in William Motherwell's "Introductory Essay," which prefaces Henderson's 'Scottish Proverbs,' Edin., 1832, pp. xviii, xx-xxi, —**C**, **E**, **G** being also given in the last-named volume. Copies of **A** and **H** are in the Advocates' Library, and the Signet Library has a copy of **A**; but strange as it may seem, not one of the eleven is to be found in the University Libraries of Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, or St Andrews. The Library of the British Museum contains **D** (press-mark C 57 aa 44 (5)), and apparently also **E** (1075 K 22), this latter imperfect as noted above, and queried in the catalogue as of 1675. Fergusson's name is printed with a single "s" in **D**, **F**, and **L**.

In the preface to Rowe's 'Historie,' &c. (Maitland Club, pp. xlvi-xlvii), is quoted from Wodrow's MSS. the very reasonable suggestion that the address "From the Printer to the merrie, judicious and discreet Reader" of these proverbs may in all likelihood have been contributed by the Rev. John Row of Carnock, a son-in-law of Fergusson.

This manuscript—described as **M** for purposes of reference—was one of thirteen items bound together in a small

<sup>1</sup> As to these items, the following details are given in Sir Arthur Mitchell's list:—

**C** "Believed to have been printed in Edinburgh. In the Library of Mr Chalmers, and sold with his books." (**C** is also mentioned in Motherwell's 'Essay' as in the catalogue of the Argyll Library).

**E** "With the same title-page. In the Laing Collection, believed to have been printed in Edinburgh."

**G** "Appears in the sale catalogue of Brand's Library as No. 5714."

**J** "Appears in D. Constable's sale catalogue as No. 2431."

quarto volume (lot 1294) which came from the collection of Mr John Scott, sold in April 1905. Those which are dated range from 1587 to 1651, all being in manuscript except a printed pamphlet of 1640.

The collection of Scots proverbs is in more than one handwriting, although it seems obvious that the whole must be ascribed to some period earlier than 1641, in which year Fergusson's collection was first printed. It consists of 83 pp. of about 33 lines to the full page, including 1656 proverbs, with—at the end—8 pages of short jocular pieces in poetry or prose—six of these in Latin.

A partial collation of **A** (of 1641) with **M** (the anonymous manuscript) gives—

For <b>A</b> , under letter <b>A</b> ,	150	proverbs,	while <b>M</b> has	215
	<b>B</b>	61		86
	<b>C</b>	16		33
	<b>D</b>	17		37
	<b>E</b>	15		21
	<b>F</b>	25		43
	<b>G</b>	13		35
	&c., &c.			

Some (but very few) of those in **A** are not in **M**, but even when an apparent omission occurs, it is often to be found under a different initial in the latter, as, for instance, "Anes" is represented by "Once," "Earlie" by "Airlie," "Efter" by "After," and so forth. To take a fuller comparison, under the first letter of the alphabet **M** contains 82 not in **A**, and **A** has 17 not in **M**; but it is noteworthy that 7 of these 17 appear in **M** under other initial words; while of the remaining 10 (altogether omitted in **M**) no fewer than 9 are among the last 15 in **A**. (A similar

remark would also apply to many other letters of the alphabet.)

This fact is suggestive of the theory that **M** represents a much extended version founded upon an unfinished manuscript copy of **A**, no doubt made before the year 1598, when Fergusson's own collection had presumably been completed.

**M** includes many repetitions, a fault hardly occurring in **A**.

In another respect **M** is noteworthy as containing 13 proverbs in which Scottish place-names occur, 4 of these (viz., Dysart, Falkland, Kirkcaldy, and Seafield) belonging to Fifeshire, while others (Aldie, Cramond, Crooks of Forth, Falkirk, Ford, and Luncarty) lie at no great distance.

**M** is very much coarser than **A**, which indeed deserves little or no blame in this respect, taking into account the more primitive speech of the period. One thing seems evident, that **M** was not the handiwork of a clergyman.

It must be added that Fergusson's 'Proverbs' have also been borrowed for inclusion with other matter in works of a more miscellaneous character, such as—

Ray's 'Collection of English Proverbs,' &c., in six editions. Cambridge, 1670 and 1678; London, 1737, 1768, 1813, and 1817.

and

'A Select Collection of Scots Poems, chiefly in the broad Buchan dialect. To which is added, a Collection of Scots Proverbs: by the Reverend Mr David Fergusson, &c.' Edin., 1777, 1785.



## II.

With regard to the 911 Scottish proverbs "gathered together" by the Rev. David Fergusson, there seems no reason to infer that any one of these was originated by himself. It might even be allowable to feel some disappointment that so very few among them bear the slightest impress of either local or national character. A considerable number could be readily identified as translations of adages borrowed, as already old, by Latin authors, while others have their equivalents in the Greek tongue, and perhaps also in the Hebrew. Aristotle (d. 322 B.C.) made a collection of the proverbs which were current in his time, and indeed, as conveying in a popular, pithy, and often very pungent form the crystallised experience of mankind, such sayings must date back to all but the very earliest stages of primæval life. Reference may here be made to a modest volume—'Proverbs and their Lessons,' by Archbishop Trench, first published in 1853—which the present writer has found most interesting and helpful from various points of view. The edition of 1905, pp. 157-158, quotes nearly twenty examples from 'The Precepts of Ptah-hetep' (*ca.* 3440 B.C.), transcribed in the Papyrus Prisse,<sup>1</sup> "the oldest book in the world," professing to be founded upon the wisdom of authorities still more ancient.

The Proverbs of Solomon (*ca.* 1000 B.C.) and those con-

<sup>1</sup> Professor Flinders Petrie, in his 'History of Egypt,' 4th edn., p. 81, notes the reign of Assa as "signalised by the earliest well-dated papyrus composition, the Proverbs of Ptah-hetep," adding that although the actual copy which we possess (Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris), is probably of the twelfth dynasty, there seems no reason to doubt the statement that Ptah-hetep wrote this work in the fifth dynasty.

tained in the Book of Ecclesiastes and Ecclesiasticus (Apocrypha), both perhaps dating *ca.* 200 B.C., come into quite a different category, being didactic in type and without the leaven of homely humour. Wise as they are, few among them can claim any degree of general adoption for ordinary purposes.

Various indeed have been the opinions expressed regarding the qualities necessary to constitute a proverb. Archbishop Trench, who devotes much attention to this point, insists upon popularity as obviously the first essential, accompanied by conciseness and wisdom, together with—in the choicest cases—a figurative expression, even if veiling truth under the guise of a paradox. Among those definitions which seem to be specially discriminating we may quote—

Erasmus (d. 1536): “Celebre dictum, scitâ quâpiam novitate insigne.”

Cervantes (d. 1616): “No ay refrán que no sea verdadéro, porque todas son sentencias sacadas de la misma experiencia, madre de las ciencias todas.”

Thomas Fuller (d. 1661): “Much matter decocted into few words.”

James Howell (d. 1666):

“And what are proverbs but the people’s voice,  
Coined first, and current made by common choice?”

(Authority unknown): “The wit of one, and the wisdom of many.”

## III.

Here follow a number of proverbs included by Ferguson which we have been able to trace as also appearing in the works of early vernacular writers, whether Scottish or English :—

- A 1. [For everything a ginning hath it nede. Chaucer, 'T. C.,' II., 671.]
- A 2. God beginning maketh god endyng. Hendyng, St. 2.  
[For qua begin wil ani thing  
[He aght to thinc on the ending. 'Cursor Mundi,'  
l. 4379.]  
[Of a good beginning comth a good end. Heywood,  
p. 43.]
- A 4. [A vauntour and a lyere, al is on. Chaucer, 'T. C.,' III.,  
l. 309.]
- A 8. "Ay rinnis the Foxe, als lang as he fute has." Henryson, Vol. II., p. 62, l. 819.  
"Ay rynniss the fox Quhill he fute hais." Dunbar, Vol. I., p. 191, ll. 47-8.
- A 9. [For hasty man ne wanteth never care. Chaucer, 'T. C.,' IV., ll. 1567-8.]  
[The hastie man never wanteth woe. Heywood, p. 8.]  
[Cf. also Skeat's 'Early English Proverbs,' p. 135.]
- A 10. Cf. Ane wicht man wantit neuer. Henryson, Vol. II., p. 156, l. 2100.
- A 11. [Sottes bolt is sone i-schote. 'Proverbs of Alfred,' A 421.]  
Sottes bolt is sone shote. Hendyng, St. 11.  
[A fooles bolt is soone shot. Heywood, p. 100.]
- A 12. [A gyven hors may not be loked in the tethe. Wynkyn de Worde's, 'Vulgaria Stambrigi' (circa 1510.)]  
[No man ought to looke a given horse in the mouth. Heywood, p. 22.]
- A 20. Sely chyld is sone ylered. Hendyng, St. 9.  
[For seli child is sone ilered. 'Life of Beket' (*Percy Society*), l. 158.]  
[Fore sely barnis are eith to leire. 'Ratis Raving,' E.E.T.S., 43, p. 94, l. 121.]  
[For sely child wol alday sone lere. Chaucer, 'C. T.,' B l. 1702.]
- A 21. [A cat may looke on a King. Heywood, p. 122.]
- A 24. [A scald head is soone broken. Heywood, p. 103.]

- A 25. A skabbit scheip infeckis All the haille flok. 'Bannatyne MS.,' Pt. III., p. 380, ll. 35-6.
- A 26. [Brend child fur dredeth. Hendyng, St. 24.]  
[They that han ben brent,  
Allas! can they nat flee the fyrës hete. Chaucer,  
'C. T.,' G 1407-8.]  
[Burnt child fire dredth. Heywood, p. 94.]
- A 29. Selde cometh lone lahynde hom. Hendyng, St. 25.
- A 33. [An old dog biteth sore. Heywood, p. 130.]
- A 34. [A short horse is soon currid. Heywood, p. 39.]
- A 36. [3ef þu isihst [er] he beo icume  
his strençe is him wel neh binume. 'Owl and  
Nightingale,' ll. 1225-6.]  
[Halfe warnd, halfe armd. Heywood, p. 132.]
- A 40. Pilgrymes and palmers . . . hedden leue to lyȝen al  
heere lyf aftir. 'Piers Plowman,' A (*Prologue*,  
ll. 46-9).
- A 41. [Cf. One ill woord axeth another. Heywood, p. 37.]
- A 42. [Hungree flyes bite sore. Heywood, p. 154.]
- A 49. [The still sow eats up all the draffe. Heywood, p. 46.]
- A 51. [Oft failyeis the fulis thocht. Barbour, 'Bruce,' I., 582.]  
[But alday falleth thing that foles ne wenden. Chaucer,  
'T. C.,' I., l. 217.]  
[Thus alday fayleth thinges that fooles wende. Usk,  
'Testament of Love,' II., 8, 122.]
- A 63. [The kayes hang not all by one man's girdle. Heywood,  
p. 65.]
- A 66. [So many heads so many wits. Heywood, p. 14.]
- A 67. [A blind man can nat juggen wel in hewis. Chaucer,  
'T. C.,' II., l. 21.]  
[Blind men should judge no colours. Heywood, p. 127.]
- A 68. [The yong cocke croweth as he the old heareth. Hey-  
wood, p. 39.]
- A 69. [A scald horse is good enough for a scabd squyre. Hey-  
wood, p. 71.]
- A 70. It is a mirk mirroure. Henryson, Vol. III., p. 153,  
l. 90.
- A 75. [Thet coc is kene on his owne mixenne. 'Ancren  
Riwle' (*Camden Soc.*), p. 140.]  
[Every cocke is proud on his owne dunghill. Heywood,  
p. 53.]
- A 80. A fule quhen he hes spokkin He is all done. 'Banna-  
tyne MS.,' III., p. 380, ll. 4-5.
- A 81. [An old sacker asketh much patching. Heywood, p. 99.]
- A 84. [An old knave is no childe. Heywood, p. 99.]
- A 85. [Cf. A good wife maketh a good husband. Heywood,  
p. 151.]

91. [A man may well bring a horse to the water  
But he cannot make him drinke. Heywood, p. 58.]
- A 92. It makis a perte mowss Ane unhardy catt. 'Bannatyne  
MS.,' III., p. 380, ll. 37-8.
- A 95. [Cf. The looth stake standeth long. Heywood, p. 104.]
- A 98. [Hit is not al gold that glareth. Chaucer, 'Hous of  
Fame,' l. 272.]  
[But al thing which thet shyneth as the gold  
Nis nat gold. Chaucer, 'C. T.,' G 962-3.]  
[For every glittering thing is nat gold. Usk, 'Testament  
of Love,' II., 3, 47.]  
[All things that shineth is not by and by pure golde.  
'Ralph Royster Doyster,' Act V., Sc. I.]  
[All is not gold that glisters. Heywood, p. 47.]
- A 109. [Old sinne makes newe shame. 'Havelok the Dane,'  
l. 2461.]  
[Old sennë, newe schame. Gower, 'Confessio Amantis,'  
III., 2033.]  
Commounly auld syn Makis new schame. 'Banna-  
tyne MS.,' III., p. 380, ll. 13-14.
- A 110. [He that will thrive must ask leave of his wife. Hey-  
wood, p. 60.]
- A 111. [Children learne to creep ere they can learne to goe.  
Heywood, p. 66.]
- A 123. [For I of lytill wald be fane. Dunbar, Vol. I., p. 229,  
l. 87.]  
In Icelandic *Prose Edda* ('Skáldskaparmál,' ch. 43),  
Vöggr is described as *fátækr* (poor); and, later,  
Hrolfr Kraki says, "Lítlu verðr Vöggr feginn,"  
*i.e.* Voggr is pleased with a little.
- A 133. [Som tym an ende ther is of every dede. Chaucer,  
'C. T.,' A l. 2636.]
- A 134. [All is well that endes well. Heywood, p. 43.]
- A 136. A work weill begon, Hes the bettir end. 'Bannatyne  
MS.,' III., p. 380, ll. 22-3.
- A 142. [A friend is never known till a man have neede. Hey-  
wood, p. 80.]
- A 145. [Thy guse is gude, thy gansell sour as gall. Henryson,  
Vol. II., p. 26, l. 345.]
- A 148. [Timely crooketh the tree that will a good camok bee.  
Heywood, p. 159.]
- MS. 154. [A soft answer putteth away wrath. Proverbs xv. 1.]
- MS. 175. [There is ane old proverb that says that ane herand  
damysele and ane spekand castel sal neuyr end with  
honour. 'Complaynt of Scotland,' XIII., 108.]
- MS. 191. [Of jung sanctis growis auld feyndis but fable. Dunbar,  
Vol. I., p. 175, l. 35.]



- MS. 203. [A groning horse and a groning wife.  
Never faile their master. Heywood, p. 104.]
- A 152. [Cf. For wyse ben by foles harm chastysed. Chaucer,  
'T. C.,' III., l. 329.]  
Felix quem faciunt aliena pericula cautum. Henryson,  
Vol. II., p. 76, l. 1025.
- A 153. [Cf. Better is half a loaf than no bread. Heywood, p. 66.]
- A 154. [Betere is appel y-geve then y-ete. Hendyng, St. 13.]  
It is a blessed thing to giue, rather than to receiue.  
Acts xx. 35.  
[Better to give then to take. Heywood, p. 21.]
- A 156. [Cf. Ful sooth it is that swich profred servyse  
Stinketh. Chaucer, 'C. T.,' G 1066-7.]
- A 159. [For bet than never is late. Chaucer, 'C. T.,' G 1410.]  
Better late than never. Heywood, p. 44.
- A 164. [Beter is lyte to have in ese  
Than much to have(n) in malese. 'King Alexander,'  
l. 7365.]
- A 172. [Better one byrde in hand than ten in the wood. Hey-  
wood, p. 64.]
- A 173. [Better spare at brim than at bottom. Heywood, p. 115.]
- A 175. [Bettir is gud name Nor evill win geir. 'Bannatyne  
MS.' III., p. 380, ll. 14-15.]
- A 176. [Better eie out then alway ake. Heywood, p. 33.]
- A 181. [Better be happie then wise. Heywood, p. 130.]
- A 183. [Wit is never good till it be bought. Heywood, p. 31.]
- A 184. [Better bowe þan breke. E.E.T.S., Extra Series 8,  
p. 65, l. 12.]  
The yerde is bet that bowen wole and winde  
Than that that brest. Chaucer, 'T. C.,' I., ll. 257-8.]  
[Rather to bowe than breke is profitable,  
Humylite is a thing commendable. 'Morale Proverbs  
of Cristyne.' Transl. from French by Earl Rivers,  
and printed by Caxton, 1478.]  
[Better is to bow then breake. Heywood, p. 37.]
- A 186. [Better bairnes weepe then bearded men. Master of  
Glamis to James VI. See Note.]  
[Better children weepe then old men. Heywood, p. 59.]
- A 187. [Betweene two stooles my tail goe to the ground. Hey-  
wood, p. 13; also Note.]
- A 188. [Cf. I hopping without for a ring of a rush. Heywood,  
p. 13.]
- A 190. [Better sit still than ryse and fall. Heywood, p. 118.]
- A 191. [Better leave than lacke. Heywood, p. 19.]
- A 192. [Far betere is child unbore thane unbuhsun. 'Proverbs  
of Alfred,' A 449.]  
[Better unborne then untaught. Heywood, p. 42.]

- A 193. [Better be envied than pitied. Heywood, p. 55.]
- A 196. [Blacke will take none other hew. Heywood, p. 157.]
- A 198. ["Had I wyst" is a thyng it seruys of nocht. 'Towneley Plays,' p. 119, l. 93.]  
[Beware of had I wist. Heywood, p. 7.]
- A 199. [Better but stryfe to leif allane in le  
Than to be machit with ane wickit marrow. Henryson,  
Vol. II., p. 216, ll. 2917-8.]
- MS. 301. [The blinde eate many flyes. Heywood, p. 127.]
- A 223. [Cf. Hot love soone colde. Heywood, p. 7.]
- A 229. [Bot that þow pres to do, my sone,  
Rycht as þow wald to the war done. 'Ratis Raving,'  
E.E.T.S., 43, p. 35, ll. 337-8.]  
[For swich lawe as man yeveth another wight  
He sholde himselven usen it by right. Chaucer, 'C. T.,'  
B ll. 43-4.]  
[Therefore all things whatsoever ye wolde that men shulde  
do to you, even so do ye to them. Matthew vii. 12.]
- A 230. [Doe well and have well. Heywood, p. 153.]
- MS. 353. [Dwelling hath ofte scathe wrouht. 'Havelok the  
Dane,' l. 1352.]
- A 251. [Every man can rule a shrew save he that hath her.  
Heywood, p. 130.]
- A 252. Eit and drynk with mesour And defy the leich. 'Ban-  
natyne MS.,' III., 380, ll. 28-9.  
[Feed by measure and defie the phisition. Heywood,  
p. 140.]
- A 254. [Every man basteth the fat hog. Heywood, p. 80.]
- A 256. [But I wot best wher wringeth me my sho. Chaucer,  
'C. T.,' E 1553.]  
[Myselpe can tell best where my shooe doth wring mee.  
Heywood, p. 121.]
- MS. 391. [Cf. And why seest thou the mote that is in thy brother's  
eye and perceivest not the beame that is in thyne  
owne eye. St Matt. vii. 3.]  
[Ye can see a mote in another man's eie  
But ye cannot see a balke in your owne. Heywood,  
p. 139.]
- A 261. [Fayre woords make fooles fayne. Heywood, p. 119.]
- A 264. [A Fredome is a nobill thing. Barbour, 'Bruce,' I., l. 225.]
- A 268. [Many kisse the child for the nurses sake. Heywood,  
p. 145.]
- A 270. [Cf. For oft tunge brekeþ bon. 'Proverbs of Alfred,'  
B 26, l. 425.]  
[Tonge breketh bon. Hending, St. 19.]  
[It hurteth not the toung to give faire woordes. Hey-  
wood, p. 37.]

- A 271. [Foule water as sone as fayre will quench hot fire. Heywood, p. 22.]
- A 273. [Cf. I saw ful set one segis of honore, and wysmen set one lawar segis. 'The Wisdom of Solomon,' E.E.T.S., 43, p. 23, ll. 765-6.]  
[Sen want of wyse men makis fulis to sit on binkis. Henryson, Vol. III., pp. 170-172, ll. 8, 16, etc.]
- A 277. [Folow pleasure and then will pleasure flee ;  
Flee pleasure, and pleasure will follow thee. Heywood, p. 57.]
- MS. 416. [Cf. A 583, and He is liveles, that is faultles. Heywood, p. 62.]
- MS. 419. [Ye fysh before the nett. 'Towneley Plays,' p. 104, l. 139.]  
[It is ill fishing before the net. Heywood, p. 67.]
- MS. 422. [For peril is bothë fyr and tow tassemble. Chaucer, 'C. T.,' D 89.]  
[To lay fire and tow togither. Heywood, p. 127.]
- A 286. [Ane gude turne for ane uther. Henryson Vol. II., p. 114, l. 1459.]
- A 289. [God send'th the cold after clothes. Heywood, p. 17.]
- A 293. [God never send'th mouth but he sendeth meat. Heywood, p. 17.]
- A 298. [Nan othir salss thartill Bot appetyt. Barbour, 'Bruce,' III., 540.]  
[Cf. Hunger maketh hard beans sweet. Heywood, p. 50.]
- A 304. [He that will not be ruled by his owne dame  
Shall be ruled by his step dame. Heywood, p. 157.]
- A 305. [He that will be angry without cause  
Must be at one, without amendes. Heywood, p. 111.]
- A 310. [Vor everich thing that schuniet right  
Het luveth thuster and hatiet light. 'Owl and Nightingale,' ll. 229-30.]  
[For everie man that evill doeth, hateth the light. St John iii. 20.]
- A 314. Quha spendis his gud on a hure He hes bayth skayth and schame. 'Bannatyne MS.,' III., p. 380, ll. 9-10.
- A 315. [Cf. Measure is a merrie meane. Heywood, p. 141.]
- A 317. [Ful ofte he heweth up so hihe That chippes fallen in his yhe. Gower, 'Confessio Amantis,' ll. 1917-8.]  
[He that heweth to hye, with chippes he may lese his sight. Usk, 'Testament of Love,' I., 9, 19.]  
[Hew not too hie lest the chips fall in thine eye. Heywood, p. 141.]



- A 324. [Cf. He wys is, that ware ys. Robert of Brunne,  
'Handlyng Synne,' l. 8085.]  
[Avysement is good before the nede. Chaucer, 'T. C.,  
II., 343.]
- A 331. [Men seyn 'the suffraunt overcometh' pardee. Chaucer,  
'T. C.,' IV., 1584.]  
[Cf. He hasteth well that wysly can abyde. 'T. C.,' I.,  
956.]
- A 335. [For wit thou weil, Hal binks ar ay slidder. 'The Priests  
of Peblis,' 614.]  
[Hall benkis ar rycht slidder. Henryson, Vol. II., p. 192,  
l. 2600.]
- A 337. [Him thar nat wenë wel that yvel dooth. Chaucer,  
'C. T.,' A 4320.]
- A 340. [Cf. Whoso shedeth mans blood, by man shal his  
blood be shed. Gen. ix. 6.]
- A 342. [Hwo ne deth hwon he mei, he ne schal nout hwon he  
wolde. 'Ancren Riwe,' p. 296.]  
[He þat nul not whon he may  
Ofte haþ not whon he wol craue. Cato's 'Distichs,'  
E.E.T.S., 117, p. 608, ll. 615-6.]  
[The man that will nocht quhen he may  
Sall haif nocht quhen he wald. Henryson, III., p. 93,  
ll. 91-2.]  
[He that will not when he may  
When he would he shall have nay. Heywood, p. 10.]
- A 343. [(Wedding is destiny,) And hanging likewise. Heywood,  
p. 15.]
- A 344. [He is a fool that wol foryete himselve. Chaucer, 'T. C.,'  
V. 98.]
- A 345. [Happy man, happy dole. Heywood, p. 15.]
- A 350. [Therfor behoveth him a ful long spoon  
That shall ete with a feend. Chaucer, 'C. T.,' F 602-3.]  
[He must have a long spoone shall eat with the devill.  
Heywood, p. 124.]
- A 356. [Reckeners without their host must reckon twice.  
Heywood, p. 32.]
- A 358. [Haste maketh waste. Heywood, p. 6.]
- A 361. [Who wedth ere he be wise shall die ere he thrive,  
Heywood, p. 31.]
- A 369. [A poore cooke that may not licke his owne fingers.  
Heywood, p. 151.]
- A 372. [Home is homely. Heywood, p. 18.]
- A 379. See MS. 419, and Scho fischit lang befor the Net.  
Henryson, Vol. II., p. 130, l. 1755.
- MS. 550. [Cf. He which that nothing undertaketh  
Nothing he acheveth. Chaucer, 'T. C.,' II., ll. 807-8.]

- A 388. [Cf. A 455. Cf. also *Man maketh ofte a yerde*  
 With which the maker is himself y-beten. Chaucer,  
 'T. C.,' I., 740-1.]  
 [But now myne owne yerd  
 Betith me to sore, 'Tale of Beryn,' l. 2324.]  
 [Beaten with his owne rod. Heywood, p. 8.]
- A 392. [Draffe is your errand, but drinke ye wold. Heywood,  
 p. 54.]
- A 399. [All this wind shakes no corne. Heywood, p. 64.]
- A 403. [Your heart is in your hose. Heywood, p. 65.]
- A 404. [More frayd then hurt. Heywood, p. 18.]
- A 409. [Cf. He winketh with the tone eye and looketh with the  
 tother. Heywood, p. 71.]
- A 413. [The moone is made of a greene chese. Heywood,  
 p. 145.]
- A 418. [That thou robbe Petur and gif this robber(i)e to Poule  
 in the name of Christ. Wyclif, 'Select Works'  
 (ed. Arnold, Oxford, 1871), III., 174.]  
 [To robbe Peter and pay Paule. Heywood, p. 54.]
- MS. 596. [An of messagers corbun. 'Cursor Mundi,' l. 1892.]  
 [Schir Corbie Rauin wes maid Apparitour. Henryson,  
 II., p. 86, l. 1152.]
- MS. 605. [He that striketh with the sword shall be stricken with  
 the scabbard. Heywood, p. 133.]
- A 428. [Boxome as of berynge to burgeys And to lordes  
 And to pore peple han peper in þe nose. 'Piers Plow-  
 man,' XV., 197.]  
 [He taketh pepper in the nose. Heywood, p. 111.]
- A 432. [If even song and morwe song acorde. Chaucer, 'C. T.,'  
 Prol., l. 830.]
- A 434. [This hitteth the naile on the hed. Heywood, p. 171.]
- A 445. [She thinks her farthing good silver. Heywood,  
 p. 45.]
- A 446. [She maketh so much of her paynted sheath. Heywood,  
 p. 45.]
- A 452. [But manly set the world on sixe and sevene. Chaucer,  
 'T. C.,' IV., 622.]  
 [Set all at sixe and seven. Heywood, p. 68.]
- A 455. [Cf. A 388.]
- MS. 647. [Cf. "ge ne haveþ in hire non galle." 'Mid. Eng.  
 Bestiary,' V., 654.]
- A 459. [God gif ye war Johne Thomsounis man. Dunbar, Vol.  
 II., pp. 218-9.]
- A 461. [Their heads full of bees. Heywood, p. 83.]
- A 469. [Beware of false Prophetes, whiche come to you in  
 shepes clothing, but inwardely they are ravening  
 wolves. St Matt. vii. 15.]

- A 470. [Cf. Breake my head and then geve me a plaster. Heywood, p. 161.]
- MS. 722. [Let not thy left hād knowe what thy right hand doeth. St Matt. vi. 3.]
- MS. 769. [Ye stumbled at a straw and lept over a blocke. Heywood, p. 156.]
- A 476. [Cf. The qued (evil) comuth nowher alone. 'King Alisaunder,' 1281.]  
[Ill weede growth fast. Heywood, p. 48.]
- A 479. [In space comth grace. Heywood, p. 17.]
- A 480. [It will not out of the flesh that is bred in the bone. Heywood, p. 149.]
- A 481. [Cf. Gud ma nocht lang lest, That is evill win. 'Bannatyne MS.,' III., p. 380, ll. 21-2.]
- A 486. The nek to stoup, quhen it the straik sall get  
Is sone aneuch. Henryson, Vol. II., p. 130,  
ll. 1759-60.
- A 487. [It is merrie in hall when beards wagge all. Heywood, p. 138.]
- A 495. [It is dith to cry Yule On ane uder manis coist. 'Bannatyne MS.,' III., 380, ll. 24-5.]
- A 497. [He must needes swim that is held up by the chinne. Heywood, p. 20.]
- A 501. Dere is boht the hony that is licked of the thorne.  
Hendyng, St. 31.
- A 502. [If God be on our side, who [can be] against us. Romans viii. 31.]
- A 507. [Whoso that knew what would be deare  
Should neede be a marchant but one yeare. Heywood,  
p. 3.]
- A 508. [All may nocht be leiss That every man sayiss.  
'Bannatyne MS.,' III., p. 381, ll. 41-2.]  
[It must needs be true that every man sayeth. Heywood, p. 66.]
- A 510. [Und eek be war to sporne ageyn an al. Chaucer,  
'Truth,' l. 11.]  
[It is hard for thee to kicke against prickes. Acts ix. 5.]  
[Folly is to spurne agaynst a prick. Heywood, p. 117.]
- A 514. [It is nought good a sleping hound to wake. Chaucer,  
'T. C.,' III., l. 764.]  
[It is evill waking of a sleeping dogge. Heywood,  
p. 51.]
- A 516. [A man may not wyfe And also thryfe, And all in a yere.  
'Towneley Plays,' p. 103, ll. 97-9.]  
[It is hard to wive and thrive both in a year. Heywood,  
p. 61.]

- A 517. [Where the hedge is lowest men may soonest over.  
Heywood, p. 119.]
- A 519. Thow wenis to draw the stra befor the catt. Henryson,  
Vol. II., p. 148, l. 2002.  
[No playing with a straw before an old cat. Heywood,  
p. 150.]
- A 533. [Cf. Wummen wepeð for mod  
Ofter þanne for eni god. 'Proverbs of Alfred,' B 25,  
l. 323.]
- A 534. ["It is weill said but wha will bell the cat"—said  
by Archd. Douglas in 1482 (*Pitscottie*).]  
[Hang the bell about the cat's necke. Heywood, p. 68.]
- A 537. [As meete as a sow To beare a saddle. Heywood,  
p. 89-90.]
- MS. 908. [It is a deere collup that is cut out of th' owne flesh.  
Heywood, p. 49.]
- MS. 909. [In love is no lack. Heywood, p. 17.]
- A 565. [Cf. Litel jangling causeth muchel reste. Chaucer,  
'C. T.,' H 350.]  
[Of litle medling commeth great rest. Heywood, p. 99.]
- A 571. [Like well to like. Heywood, p. 17.]
- A 574. [Let them that be a colde blow at the cole. Heywood,  
p. 51.]
- A 575. [Long standing and small offring Maketh poore Parsons.  
Heywood, p. 166.]
- A 585. See p. xxxvi.
- A 586. [Lyht chep, luthere yeldes. Hendyng, St. 30.]  
[Cf. Impressiounes lighte  
Ful lightly been ay redy to the flighte. Chaucer,  
'T. C.,' II., 1238-9.]  
[And lightly as it comth so wol we spende. Chaucer,  
'C. T.,' C 781.]  
[Light come light goe. Heywood, p. 158.]
- A 593. [As I would needes brewe so must I needes drinke.  
Heywood, p. 31.]
- A 598. [Love me little, love me long. Heywood, p. 98.]
- MS. 974. [For love covereth the multitude of sinnes. 1 Pet.  
iv. 8.]
- MS. 988. [Look ere ye leape. Heywood, p. 9.]
- MS. 992. [Love ne lordshipe Wol nocht, his thankes, have no  
felawshipe. Chaucer, 'C. T.,' A 1625-6.]  
[But the frute of the Spirit is love etc.; against suche  
there is no Law. Galat. v. 22-23.]
- A 602. [Cf. Mani appel is wiðuten grene, Briht on leme And  
bitter wiðinnen  
So is moni wimmen in here [fader] bure. 'Proverbs of  
Alfred,' A 306.]

- A 602. [Of his port as meke as is a mayde. Chaucer, 'C. T.,' Prologue, l. 69.]
- A 606. [Many hands make light worke. Heywood, p. 114.]
- A 611. [The middel were of mesure is euer guldene. 'Ancren Riwele,' p. 286.]  
[And Cf. Skeat's 'Early English Proverbs,' pp. 10-11.]
- A 614. [Manye smale maken a greet. Chaucer, 'C. T.,' II., 362.]  
[Many small make a great. Heywood, p. 65.]
- A 616. [They speken—but they bentè never his bowe. Chaucer, 'T. C.,' II., 861.]  
[Many a man speaketh of Robin Hood  
That never shot in his bow. Heywood, p. 130.]
- A 618. [Much water goeth by the mill that the miller knoweth not of. Heywood, p. 128.]  
It cannot be but some water will pass by the mill that the miller sees not. 'Calendar of State Papers,' Dom. Series, 28 Apr. 1595.]
- A 625. ["Homo proponit," quod a poete and Plato he hyght  
And "Deus disponit" quod he . . . 'Piers Plowman,' XI., 36, 37.]  
[The lot is cast into the lappe: but the whole disposition thereof is of the Lord. Prov. xvi. 33. Cf. also Prov. xvi. 9.]
- A 630. [Might overcomth right. Heywood, p. 119.]
- A 636. Thou shalt not mosel the oxe that treadeth out the corne. Deut. xxv. 4.
- MS. 1035. [Cf. Henryson, Vol. II., p. 60, l. 793.]
- MS. 1052. [Cf. Wedding is destiny. Heywood, p. 15.]
- A 648. [Thus maketh vertu of necessité. Chaucer, 'T. C.,' IV., 1586.]  
[To maken vertu of necessitee. Chaucer, 'C. T.,' A 3042.]  
[I made vertu of necessitee. Chaucer, 'C. T.,' F 593.]
- A 649. [Nede ne hath no lawe. 'Piers Plowman,' XX., l. 10.]  
[Neede hath no law. Heywood, p. 43.]  
For neid may haif na Law. Henryson, Vol. II., p. 54, l. 723.
- A 650. [The nere the cherche, the fyrther fro Gode. 'Handlyng Synne,' l. 9243.]  
[The neer to the Church, the further from God. Heywood, p. 35.]
- A 658. [Nothing is impossible to a willing hart. Heywood, p. 18.]
- MS. 1092. [None is good, save one, even God. Luke xviii. 19.]
- MS. 1095. [No man can serve two masters. Matt. vi. 24.]
- A 667. [Over-greet homlinesse engendreth dispréysinge  
Chaucer, 'C. T.,' B 2876.]



- A 668. [Cf. Even reckoning maketh long frendes. Heywood, p. 112.]
- MS. 1098. [No peny no Pater noster. Heywood, p. 163.]
- A 670. [Fer from eghe fer from herte. Hendyng, St. 27.  
Out of sight out of mind. Heywood, p. 12.]
- A 672. [Of unboht hude men kerveth brod thong. Hendyng, St. 28.  
Cut large thongs of other mens leather. Heywood, p. 114.]
- A 674. [For of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. Matt. xii. 34.]
- A 684. [Draweth no monkes more unto your in. Chaucer, 'C. T.,' B 1632.]
- A 693. [Ower prude schale aualle. 'Owl and Nightingale,' l. 1685.]  
[For eftyr prid oft folowis schame. 'The Thewis off Gud Women,' E.E.T.S., 43, p. 104, l. 52.]  
[Pryde will have a fall. Heywood, p. 46.]
- A 694. [Povertie partith fellowship. Heywood, p. 84.]  
[If thou be povre, thy brother hateth thee  
And alle thy frendes fleen fro thee. Chaucer, 'C. T.,' B 120-1.]  
[And if thy fortune change, that thou were povre, farewell freendshipe and felaweshipe. Chaucer, 'C. T.,' B 2749.]
- A 701. [Plentie is no daintie. Heywood, p. 107.]
- MS. 1148. [Nether cast ye your pearles before swine. Matt. vii. 6.]
- A 708. When the coppe is follest, thenne ber hire feyrest. Hendyng, St. 16.
- A 723. [Ther God will helpen nouht ne dereth. 'Havelok the Dane,' l. 648.]
- A 733. Misgovernit yowth makis gowsty age. Dunbar, Vol. II., p. 309, l. 29.
- A 737. Rome was not built in one day. Heywood, p. 64.
- A 741. [Such lips such lettice. Heywood, p. 139.]  
Sic lippes, sic lattouce. 'Legend of the Bischope of St Androis Wyfe' (*circa* 1595) in Scottish Poems of the XVIth Century, Edin., 1801, p. 322.
- A 743. [Sooth pley quaad pley. Chaucer, 'C. T.,' A 4357.]  
[Sooth bourd is no bourd. Heywood, p. 150.]
- A 744. Seldom lygs the dewyll dede by the gate. 'Towneley Plays,' p. 123, l. 229.  
"Heir lyes the Deuill," quod he, "deid in ane dyke."  
Henryson, Vol. II., p. 152, l. 2055.
- A 747. [Soft fire maketh sweet malt. Heywood, p. 6.]

- A 751. [Cf. Hwych so the mon soweth al swuch he schal mowe. 'Prov. of Alfred,' A 82.]  
[Cf. Galatians vi. 7.]
- A 752. [That that rathest rypeth roteth most saunest. 'Piers Plowman,' C. XIII., 223.]  
[Soone ripe soone rotten. Heywood, p. 47.]
- A 754. [Cf. Selfe doe, selfe have. Heywood, p. 33.]
- A 758. Dahet habbe that ilkē best  
That fuleth his owē nest. 'Owl and Nightingale,' ll. 99-100.  
[It is a foule bird that fyleth his owne nest. Heywood, p. 123.]
- A 759. [To aske my fellow whether I be a theefe. Heywood, p. 126.]
- A 760. [Soone gotten soone spent. Heywood, p. 131.]
- A 762. [I holde a mouses herte not worth a leek  
That hath but oon hole for to stertē to. Chaucer, 'C. T.,' D 572-3.]
- A 763. [For ye devoure widdowes houses, even under a colour of long prayers. Matt. xxiii. 14.]
- MS. 1246. [The pot so long to the water goth  
Till at last it commeth home broken. Heywood, p. 142.]
- A 776. Airly sporne late speid. 'Golagros and Gawaine' (? by Huchown, C. 1360.), l. 879.  
"Mauvais haste n'est preus." 'Renart le Nouvel,' by Jacquemars Gieleeé, at the close of the 13th cent., referred to by Amours in 'Scottish Alliterative Poems,' p. 278.  
For lidder speid cumis of airlie spurne. Wm. Stewart's 'Buik of the Croniclis of Scotland' (a metrical version of Boece, C. 1531), Vol. II., p. 150.
- A 777. [Ay fleeth the tyme it nil no man abyde. Chaucer, 'C. T.,' E 119.]  
[The tide tarieth no man. Heywood, p. 11.]
- A 784. [Tread a woorme on the tayle, and it must turne agayne. Heywood, p. 111.]
- A 786. [The crow thinketh her owne birds fairest in the wood. Heywood, p. 106.]
- A 790. [Who is worse shod than a shoemaker's wife. Heywood, p. 70.]
- A 795. [Take time when time cometh lest time steale away. Heywood, p. 11.]
- A 799. [Ful oft in game a sooth I have herd seye. Chaucer, 'C. T.,' B 3154.]
- A 800. [Where there be no receivers there be no thieves. Heywood, p. 84.]

- A 801. [“þat proverb is nocht trew ;  
For fair thingis oft tymes ar fowll fakin.” Henryson,  
Vol. II., p. 278, ll. 57-58.]
- A 806. [Cf. How can the foale amble if the horse and mare trot.  
Heywood, p. 59.]
- A 810. [Cf. That feeld hath eyen and the wode hath eres.  
Chaucer, ‘C. T.,’ A 1522.]
- A 816. [There is no foole to the old foole. Heywood, p. 96.]
- A 820. [Cf. The weaker hath the woorse. Heywood, p. 39.]
- A 823. [Moe maydes but Malkin. Heywood, p. 56.]
- A 825. [Two heads are better than one. Heywood, p. 38.]
- A 827. [Three may keepe counsayle if two be away. Heywood,  
p. 112.]
- A 828. [He is fre of hors that ner nade none. Hendyng, St. 29.]
- A 829. [The moe the merrier the fewer the better fare. Hey-  
wood, p. 137.]
- A 830. [Who so bold as blinde Bayard is. Heywood, p. 33.]
- A 831. [There be more waies to the wood than one. Heywood,  
p. 159.]
- A 856. [Moe thinges belong then foure bare legges in a bed.  
Heywood, p. 32.]
- A 857. [The grettest clerkes bee noght the wysest men.  
Chaucer, ‘C. T.,’ A 4054.]  
[The grettest Clerkis ar not the wysest men. Henryson,  
Vol. II., p. 78, l. 1056.]  
[It is treue . . . that the best clerkes ben not the wysest  
men. Caxton’s ‘Reynard the Fox,’ ch. 27.]  
[The greatest Clerkes be not the wisest men. Heywood,  
p. 115.]
- A 858. [Tel thou never thy fo that thy fot aketh. Hendyng, St.  
12.]
- A 860. [Two hungrie meales make the third a glutton. Hey-  
wood, p. 79.]
- MS. 1375. [The blacke ox had not trode on his nor her foote.  
Heywood, p. 28.]
- MS. 1420. [The rolling stone never gatherth mosse. Heywood,  
p. 54.]
- A 704. [At E *nocht* seis, hart *nocht* ʒarnis. ‘Thewis off Gud  
Women,’ E.E.T.S., 43, p. 108, l. 190.]  
[Cf. Fer from eʒe, fer from herte, quoth Hendyng.  
Heywood, p. 12, note.]  
[That the eye seeth not the hart reweth not. Heywood,  
p. 135.]
- MS. 1437. When Adam dalf and Eve span. John Ball’s sermon  
during the Peasants Revolt of 1381.
- A 707. [When the foxe preacheth then beware your geese.  
Heywood, p. 142.]



- A 710. [Cf. When thieves fall out true men come to their good.  
Heywood, p. 158.]
- A 721. [Whyl that iren is hoot, men sholden smyte. Chaucer,  
'C. T.,' B 2225.]  
[When th' iron is hot strike. Heywood, p. 111.]
- A 723. Cf. A 502.
- MS. 1444. [When the steed is stolen shut the stable durre. Hey-  
wood, p. 44.]
- A 870. [Wishes and wolders bee no good housholders. Hey-  
wood, p. 56.]
- A 877. [With empty hand men may no haukes tulle. Chaucer,  
'C. T.,' A 4134.]  
[With emptie hand na man suld Halkis lure. Henryson,  
II., p. 172, l. 2327.]  
[With empty hands men may no haukes allure. Heywood,  
p. 111, n.]
- A 881. [A wonder last but nyne night never in toune. Chaucer,  
'T. C.,' IV., 588.]
- A 893. [A man shall as soon breake his necke as his fast.  
Heywood, p. 71.]
- A 894. [He is not wyse ageyne the streme that stryueth.  
Skelton, 'Garland of Laurel' (1432).]  
[To stryve against the streame. Heywood, p. 117.]
- A 896. } [To seik het water beneth cauld yce,  
A 899. } Surely it is a gret folie ;  
I haif asked grace at a graceless face,  
But there is nane, for my men and me. 'Johnie  
Armstrang,' st. 22 in 'English and Scottish Popular  
Ballads, edited from the collection of Francis James  
Child,' p. 417.]
- A 904. [Cat lufat visch ac he nele his feth wete. 'MS. Trin.  
Coll. Camb. (c. 1250.), C (edit.). Heywood, p. 60,  
note.]  
[For ye be lyk the sweynte cat  
That wolde have fish ; but wostow what ?  
He wolde nothing wete his clowes. Chaucer, 'Hous of  
Fame,' 1783-5.]  
The cat would eate fish and would not wet her feete.  
Heywood, p. 60.]
- A 905. [For though the bestë harpouir upon lyve . . .  
Touche ay o strëng . . .  
It shuldë maken every wight to dulle. Chaucer, 'T. C.,'  
II., ll. 1030-5.]
- MS. 1546. [Cf. Yf he cacche hem myghte for couetese of here  
skynnes. 'Piers Plowman,' B. V. 258.]
- MS. 1646. [Scarborough warning. Heywood, p. 76.]

The above examples are not suggested as in any way exhausting the subject, but merely represent all that the writer is in a position to offer—even with outside assistance, which he gratefully acknowledges.

As already noted, Fergusson's collection contains many proverbs traceable to a Greek or Latin source, but to attempt the task of compiling any general list of these would seem unprofitable, if not hopeless, besides demanding a very thorough knowledge of the classics. The following is a list of the chief authors in the works of whom proverbs in Fergusson's collection are found, often with a difference of form. The numbers are those of the edition of 1641, save where "MS." precedes.

## ALFRED.

11, 192, 270, 533, 602, 751.

## HENDING.

2, 20, 26, 29, 154, 270, 501, 586, 670, 672, 708, 828, 858, 704.

## CHAUCER.

1, 4, 9, 20, 26, 51, 67, 98, 133, 152, 156, 159, 184, 229, 256, MS. 419; 324, 331, 337, 344, 350, MS. 550; 388, 432, 452, 510, 514, 565, 586, MS. 992; 606, 614, 616, 648, 667, 684, 694, 743, 762, 777, 799, 810, 857, 721, 771, 881, 893, 904, 905.

## GOWER.

109, 317.

## HENRYSON.

8, 10, 70, 145, 152, 199, 273, 286, 335, 342, 379, MS. 596; 486, 519, MS. 1035; 649, 744, 801, 857, 877, 901.

## DUNBAR.

8, 123, MS. 191; 459, 733.

## HEYWOOD.

2, 9, 12, 21, 24, 26, 33, 34, 36, 41, 42, 49, 63, 66, 67, 68, 69, 75, 81, 84, 85, 91, 95, 98, 110, 111, 134, 142, 148, MS. 203; 154, 159, 172, 173, 176, 181, 183, 184, 186, 187, 188, 190, 191, 192, 193, 196, 198, MS. 301; 223, 230, 251, 252, 254, 256, 261, 268, 270, 271, 277, MS. 416; MS. 419; MS. 422; 289, 293, 298, 304, 305, 315, 317, 342, 343, 345, 350, 356, 358, 361, 369, 372, 388, 392, 399, 403, 404, 409, 413, 418, MS. 605; 428, 434, 445, 446, 452, 470, MS. 769; 476, 479, 480, 487, 497, 507, 508, 510, 514, 516, 517, 519, 534, 537, MS. 908; MS. 909; 565, 571, 574, 575, 586, 593, 598, MS. 988; 614, 616, 618, 630, MS. 1052; 649, 650, 658, 668, MS. 1098; 670, 672, 693, 694, 701, 737, 741, 743, 747, 752, 754, 758, 759, 760, MS. 1246; 777, 784, 786, 790, 795, 800, 806, 816, 820, 823, 825, 827, 829, 830, 831, 856, 857, 860, MS. 1375; MS. 1420; 704, 707, 710, 721, MS. 1444; 870, 877, 894, 904.

## THE BIBLE.

MS. 154; 229, MS. 391; 310, 340, 469, MS. 722; 502, 510, MS. 974; MS. 992; 625, 636, MS. 1092; MS. 1095; 674, MS. 1148; 751, 763.

In tracing many of the above, the late Professor Skeat's 'Early English Proverbs' (Oxford, 1910) has been of great service; the quotations from Hending are taken therefrom.

The following are the editions used:—

ALFRED. *The Proverbs of Alfred*. Re-edited by W. W. Skeat. 8vo. Oxford, 1907.

CHAUCER. *The Complete Works of Geoffrey Chaucer*. Edited by W. W. Skeat. 8vo. Oxford, 1894.

GOWER. *English Works of John Gower*. Edited by G. C. Macaulay. 2 vols. E.E.T.S., Extra Series, 81-82. 8vo. London, 1900-1901.

HENRYSON }  
DUNBAR } Those of the Scottish Text Society.

HEYWOOD. *The Proverbs of John Heywood*. Edited by Julian Sharman. London, 1874.

THE BIBLE. *The Bible and Holy Scriptures, Printed in Edinburgh Be Alexander Arbuthnot*, 1579.

The following are the Collections of Proverbs by later writers who may have drawn upon Fergusson (see note (3), p. 4):—

RAY. *Proverbial Sayings, or a Collection of the best English proverbs*, by John Ray.

ALLAN RAMSAY. *Scots proverbs*, by Allan Ramsay, &c. 16mo. n.p. 1800.

KELLY. *A Complete collection of Scottish proverbs*, by James Kelly. 8vo. London, 1721.

HENDERSON. *Scottish proverbs*, collected and arranged by Andrew Henderson. 12mo. Edinburgh, 1832.

HISLOP. *The proverbs of Scotland*, collected and arranged, with notes, by Alexander Hislop. 8vo. Glasgow, 1862.

The following proverbs occur in Fergusson's other works, as given on p. xi. of Introduction:—

From *Ane Answer to ane Epistle*.

“Nor to answer a foole according to his folie.” (Prov. xxvi. 4.)

“Reboke the wise and he will love thee.” (Prov. ix. 8.)

From *Ane Sermon*.

“Thay had it be kynd and coft it not.” (Cf. MS. 585.)

“We sal find thair schooe (as we use to say) meit aneuch for our fute.”

“The woundis of a lufer mair faithfull then the kisset of ane enemie thocht thay be plesat. (Cf. Prov. xxvii. 6.)

Certain proverbs in the MS. occur more than once, sometimes slightly altered. Cf. :—

177 and 371; 375 and 852; 688 and 902; 909, 939, and 992; 1061 and 1082; 977, 1036, and 1091; 286 and 1237; 1368 and 1392; 1267 and 1426; 1412 and 1646.

J. D. W.

#### IV.

Comparing **A** (1641) with **F** (1692) and **F** with **H** (1706), we find that **A** 241, 278, 344, 411, 748, are not in **F**, while **A** 567 and 584 are combined in **F** 588; and **F** has additional to **A**,

**F** 151, 152, 214, 215, 233, 247, 302, 336, 352, 357, 494, 604, 622, 724, 725, 750, 763, 794, 795, 817, 892, 893, 920, 923, 941, 944, 945,

*i.e.*, **A** has 6 numbers not in **F**,

and **F** has 27 which are not in **A**, all of these at or near the end of their respective initial letters, thus reconciling the difference between the totals—viz., 911 in **A**, 932 in **F**.

It is also to be noted that the following proverbs in **A** are expanded in **F**, or are supplemented by a Latin version :—

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>A</b> 97; <b>F</b> 97   | adds "and it were a thorn."                   |
| <b>A</b> 113; <b>F</b> 113 | "but over the water."                         |
| <b>A</b> 178; <b>F</b> 180 | "fear lest he bite ye."                       |
| <b>A</b> 286; <b>F</b> 291 | "Manus manum fricat."                         |
| <b>A</b> 298; <b>F</b> 305 | "Optimum condimentum fames."                  |
| <b>A</b> 306; <b>F</b> 313 | "Vt quimus quando ut voluimus,<br>non licet." |



- A 316; F 323 adds "Verbum sapientia sat est."  
 A 372; F 391 "though never so seemly."  
 A 414; F 434 "Perfecte frontis."  
 A 646; F 668 "Sorbere et flare."  
 A 605, "Meat and cloaths makes the man," reads in  
 F 627, "Meat makes, and cloath shapes, but  
 manners makes a man."  
 A 628, "Mony kinsfolk, but few friends," reads in  
 F 650, "Many ants, many eams, many kin and  
 few friends."

With regard to "Proverbiall Speeches," the headings  
 in A—

"Of weasters and divers,"

"Of rash persons";

appear respectively in F as—

"Of masters and divers,"

"Of rich persons";

both of these latter evidently in error.

The title-page of H (1706) reverts to "ss" in Fergusson,  
 and bears the following imprint:—

"Edinburgh, Printed & Sold at the foot of the  
 Horse-wynd; where are to be had several Sorts of  
 Pamphlets and Ballads for Chapmen, anno 1706."

The preface occupies only one page, and the texts of  
 F and H are practically alike, except that H omits one  
 proverb (F 893), thus containing a total of 931 as against  
 the 932 in F. H has its own eccentricities of numeration,  
 bearing evidence of great carelessness in the printing, and  
 with many single italic letters interspersed. There are

several slight variations in spelling, but the only marked differences are—

F 302, "Go to the devil for his dame sake."

H 302, "Go to the devil for Gods sake."

F 889, "The Devil and the Dean begins with a letter :  
when the Devil hes the Dean, the Kirk will be  
the better."

H 889, "The Devil and the Drunkard begins with  
a letter :  
when the Devil hes the Drunkard the Countrey  
will be the better."

ERSKINE BEVERIDGE.

ST LEONARD'S HILL,  
DUNFERMLINE.

---

Here follows a complete reprint of the first edition (A, Edin., 1641) of Fergusson, with its title-page in facsimile, together with the augmented collection now first printed from the early seventeenth-century MS.





# SCOTTISH PROVERBS:

GATHERED TOGETHER

BY

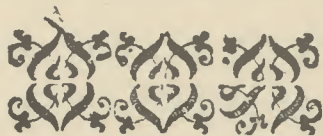
DAVID FERGUSSON

sometime Minister at

DUNFERMLINE:

And put *ordine Alphabetico* when

he departed this life, ANNO 1598.



EDINBURGH,

Printed by ROBERT BRYSON, and are to be  
sold at his Shop at the signe of *Jonah* 1643.

The Printer to the merrie,  
 judicious and discreet  
 Reader.

---

IT is well known, that everie Nation hath the own Proverbs, and proverbiall speeches, yea everie Shire or part of a Nation hath some proverbiall speeches, which others hath not: so that a man can hardlie gather together all such speeches, yet some are more inclined to such kinde of speeches then others. Therefore manie in this Realme that hath heard of David Fergusson sometime Minister at Dunfermline, and of his quick answers and speeches, both to great persons, and others inferiours, and hath heard of his Proverbs which hee gathered together in his time, and now are put downe according to the order of the Alphabet: and manie of all ranks of persons being verie desirous to have the saids Proverbs, I have thought good to put them to the presse, for thy better satisfaction. And because many will say, that there are many Proverbs which I have not set down, I have left a blanke at the end of every Letter, that thou may supplie that want,

as everie man thinks good: So shall I bee blamelesse that could print no more then I received the copie of, and thou contented that may set down what Proverbs are inlacking in thy conceit. I know there may be some that will say and marvell that a Minister should have taken pains to gather such Proverbs together: but they that knew his forme of powerfull preaching the Word, and his ordinar talking, ever almost using proverbiall speeches, will not finde fault with this that hee hath done. And whereas there are some old Scottish words not in use now, bear with that, because if ye alter those words, the Proverb will have no grace: And so recommending these proverbs to thy good use, I bid thee farewell.

---

---

EDITION 1641]

## SCOTTISH Proverbs.

### A

- A**LL things hath a beginning (God excepted)  
 A good beginning makes a good ending.  
 A sloathfull man is a beggers brother.  
 A vaunter and a liar is both one thing.  
 All is not tint <sup>1</sup> that is in perrell.  
 All is not in hand that helps  
 A toome <sup>2</sup> purse makes a bleat <sup>3</sup> merchant.  
 As long runs the fox as he feet hath.  
 A hastie man never wanted woe.  
 10] A wight <sup>4</sup> man wanted never a weapon.  
 A fooles bolt is soon shot.  
 A given horse should not be lookt in the teeth.  
 A good asker should have a good naysay.  
 A dear ship stands long in the haven.  
 An oleit <sup>5</sup> mother makes a sweir <sup>6</sup> daughter.  
 16] A racklesse hussie makes monie thieves.

---

<sup>1</sup> [lost.]      <sup>2</sup> [empty.]      <sup>3</sup> [timid, backward.]      <sup>4</sup> strong, bold.  
<sup>5</sup> active, willing.      <sup>6</sup> lazy, unwilling.

[*Note*: (1) In the original print of A the proverbs are not numbered. (2) The numbers below refer to proverbs in the edition, unless they are prefixed by "MS."; the asterisk denotes the occurrence of the proverb in an earlier Scots or English writer, for which see Introduction, pp. xxxiv ff. (3) R=Ray, AR=Allan Ramsay, K=Kelly, He=Henderson, H=Hislop; see Introd., pp. xxxvi. (4) Where contractions in the MS. have been expanded, the necessary letters have been printed in italics. (5) Where the MS. is defective, the necessary letters have been added within square brackets.

[MANUSCRIPT

Ane Collectioun of Scots  
 proverbs collectet in the  
 order of the Alphabet.

## A

- All things hes ane begining except G[od]  
 Ane good begining maks ane good ending  
 Ane sloothful man, is ane beggers brothe[r]  
 A vaunter, and a lier, is both one thing  
 All is not tint that is in perrill  
 All is not in hand that helpes.  
 Ane toome purse makis ane bl[eat merchant]  
 Als long runes the fox as he foote hes  
 Ane hastie man wanted never wae  
 10] Ane wicht [man want]ed never a wapone  
 Ane foolis [bolt is s]oone shot  
 Ane give[n horse sould] not be looked in the teethe  
 Ane go[od asker sould] haue a good na-sayer  
 Ane dear ship standis longer into the heaven  
 Ane oleit mother makis a sueir dochter.  
 16] Ane rackles hussie makis monie theifis

- 
- |                |                 |         |               |
|----------------|-----------------|---------|---------------|
| *1.            | *2. R AR K He H | 3. K He | *4. K He H    |
| 5. AR K He H   | 6. K            | 7. K He | 8. AR K He H  |
| *9. R K He H   | *10. AR K He H  |         | *11. R K He H |
| *12 AR K He H  | 13. Cf. K He    |         | 14. K He H    |
| 15. AR K He H. |                 |         |               |

## EDITION 1641]

- 17] A lyer should have a good memorie.  
 A black shoe makes a blythe heart.  
 A hungrie man sees far.
- 20] A sillie <sup>1</sup> bairne is eith <sup>2</sup> to lear.  
 A half-pennie cat may look to the King.  
 A greedie man God hates.  
 A proud heart in a poore bræst, hes meikle dollour to dree <sup>3</sup>  
 A skade <sup>4</sup> mans head is soon broken  
 A skabbit sheep flees <sup>5</sup> all the flock.  
 A burnt bairne, fire dreads.  
 Auld men are twise bairnes.  
 A tratler <sup>6</sup> is worse then a thief.  
 A borrowed len <sup>7</sup> should come laughing hame.
- 30] A blythe heart makes a blomeand visage.  
 A year a nurish, seven years a da. <sup>8</sup>  
 An unhappie <sup>9</sup> mans cairt is eith to tumble.  
 An old hound bytes sair.  
 A fair bryde is soon buskt, <sup>10</sup> and a short horse soone  
 wispt. <sup>11</sup>  
 As good had as draw.  
 A man that is warned, is half armed.  
 An ill win pennie will cast down a pound.  
 All the corne in the countrey, is not shorne by kempers. <sup>12</sup>  
 Ane begger is wae that another be the gate <sup>13</sup> gae.
- 40] A travelled man hath leave to lie.  
 Ane ill word meets another, and it were at the bridge of  
*London.*
- 42] A hungrie louse bytes sair.

---

<sup>1</sup> [sickly.]    <sup>2</sup> [easy.]    <sup>3</sup> [endure.]    <sup>4</sup> [Cf. scald = scurvy.]    <sup>5</sup> F 25  
 reads "fyles."    <sup>6</sup> [gossip, chatterer.]    <sup>7</sup> [loan.]    <sup>8</sup> [daw, slut.]  
<sup>9</sup> [unlucky].    <sup>10</sup> [attired.]    <sup>11</sup> [rubbed down.]    <sup>12</sup> reapers.    <sup>13</sup> along  
 the road.



[MANUSCRIPT

- 17] Ane lier sould haue ane good memorie  
 Ane black shoe makis ane blyth heart  
 Ane hungrie man sies far
- 20] A sillie bairne is eith to learne  
 Ane half-pennie cat may look to the king and so may the  
 cat that cost nothing  
 Ane gridie man God heatis  
 Ane proüd heart and a poore breast hes mikle dolour to drie  
 Ane swalled manes head is soone broken  
 Ane scabbed sheip fylis all the flock  
 Auld men ar tuyse bairnes  
 A teal-teller is wors nor a theife  
 A lend soüld come laüghing home againe  
 Ane blyth h[ear]t ma]kis ane bloomand visag
- 30] Ane year [a nur]ishe seven yearis a da  
 Ane onha[ppie manis cai]rt is eith to tumbell  
 Ane old hund bytis sore.  
 Ane fair bryd is soone büsked, and ane short horse soone  
 wisked  
 Als good hold as draw.  
 A man that is warned is halfe armed  
 Ane evill wone pennie wil cast doune a pound  
 All the corne in the cuntrie is not shorne be kempe[rs]  
 Ane begger is woe that one other be the gait g[o]  
 Ane travilled man hes leaue to lie
- 40] Ane evill word meitis ane other and it war at the bridg  
 of Lune
- 41] Ane hüngrie löuse bytis sore.

23. K He H

\*24. He H

\*26. H

27. AR K He H

28. R AR

\*29. AR K He H

30. AR K He H

31. K He H

32. K

\*33. AR K He H

\*34. AR K He H

35. Cf. AR K H

\*36. K He H

37. K H

38. AR K He H

39. K He H

40. K He H

\*41.

\*42. K He, cf. H.

## EDITION 1641]

- 43] A gentle <sup>1</sup> horse would not be over sair spurred.  
 A friends dinner is soon dight.<sup>2</sup>  
 An ill hooke <sup>3</sup> wald have a good claver.<sup>4</sup>  
 A good fellow tint never, but at an ill fellows hand.  
 At open doores, dogs comes in.  
 A word before, is worth two behinde.  
 A still sow eats all the draff.<sup>5</sup>
- 50] A dumme man holds all.  
 All failes that fooles thinks.  
 A woole seller kens a woole buyer.  
 All fellows, Jock and the Laird.  
 As the sow fils, the draffe soures.  
 A full <sup>6</sup> heart lied never.  
 As good merchant tynes as wins.  
 All the speid is in the spurres.  
 As sair greets the bairne that is dung <sup>7</sup> afternoon, as he  
     that is dung before noon.  
 An ill life, an ill end.
- 60] Anes wood,<sup>8</sup> never wise.<sup>9</sup>  
 Anes payit never cravit.  
 A good ruser,<sup>10</sup> was never a good rider.  
 All the keys of the countrey hangs not at ane belt.  
 A dum man wan never land.  
 As soone comes the lambeskin to the market, as the old  
     sheeps.  
 As many heads, as many wits.  
 A blinde man should not judge of colours.
- 68] As the old cocke crawes, the young cock leares <sup>11</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> well bred.      <sup>2</sup> [prepared.]      <sup>3</sup> youk = the itch; but in F 45 "An ill  
 cook would have a good cleaver." "Youk" and "claver," however, seem  
 the more probable readings.      <sup>4</sup> [(?) claver = scratcher.]      <sup>5</sup> [hogwash.]  
<sup>6</sup> F 55 reads "leill."      <sup>7</sup> [beaten.]      <sup>8</sup> mad.      <sup>9</sup> F 60 reads "ay the  
 worse."      <sup>10</sup> boaster.      <sup>11</sup> [learns.]

[MANUSCRIPT

- 42] Ane gentill horse sould not be over sore spured  
 Ane freindis denner is soone dicht  
 Ane ill yook wold haue a good claüer  
 Ane good follow tint never but all ane ill fellouis hand  
 At open doores dogis cümes in  
 Ane word befor is wirth tuo behind  
 Ane still sow eatis all the draff  
 Ane dümb man holdis all.
- 50] All failes that fooleis thinkes  
 Ane woll-seller knaües a wol-buyer  
 All folloues Jock and the laird  
 As the sow filles the draff soures  
 Ane ful heart lied never  
 Als good merchand tynes as wines  
 All the speid is in the spurres  
 Als sore greitis the bairne that is düng efter-noone as he  
     that is düng befor-noone  
 Ane ill lyffe ane ill end  
 Ane good ruser was never a good rider
- 60] All the keyes of the countrie hingis not at one belte  
 Ane dümb man wan never land  
 Als soone cümes the lambis skine to the mercat as the old  
     sheipis  
 Als mony headis als mony wittes  
 Ane blind man sould not judge of cüllouris.
- 65] As the old cok croües the yoüng cok leiris

---

\*42. K He H    43. AR KH    44. K He H    45. K He H [He  
 and H read "cook"]    46. K He    47. AR K He H    48. KH  
 \*49. AR K He H    \*50. H    \*51. He H    52. K He    53. KH  
 54. AR K He H    55. K He H    56. K He H    57. He    58. K    59. K  
 60. He H    61. He H    62. K He H    \*63. KH    64. KH    \*65. K.

## EDITION 1641]

- 69] A skabbed horse is good enough for a skald squir  
 70] A mirk <sup>1</sup> mirrou is a mans minde.  
 As meikle upwith, as meikle down with.  
 An ill shearer <sup>2</sup> gat never a good hook.  
 A tarrowing <sup>3</sup> bairn was never fat.  
 A good cow may have an ill calf.  
 A cock is crouse <sup>4</sup> in his own midding.  
 A new bissome soupes clean.  
 As sair fights wranes as cranes.  
 A yeeld <sup>5</sup> sow was never good to gryses. <sup>6</sup>  
 As the carle <sup>7</sup> riches he wretches, <sup>8</sup>  
 80] A foole when he hes spoken hes all done.  
 An old seck craves meikle clouting.  
 An old seck is ay skailing. <sup>9</sup>  
 A fair fire makes a roome <sup>10</sup> flet <sup>11</sup>  
 An old knave is na bairne.  
 A good yeaman makes a good woman.  
 A man hath no more good than he hath good of.  
 A foole may give a wise man a counsel.  
 A man may speir <sup>12</sup> the gate to Rome.  
 As long lives the merrie man as the wretch for all the craft  
 hee can.  
 90] All wald have all, all wald forgive.  
 Ane may lead a horse to the water, but foure and twentie  
 cannot gar him drink.  
 A bleat cat makes a proud mouse.  
 An ill willy kow should have short hornes.  
 94] A good peice steil <sup>13</sup> is worth a pennie.

---

<sup>1</sup> [dark.]                    <sup>2</sup> reaper.                    <sup>3</sup> [delaying, reluctant.]                    <sup>4</sup> [bold.]  
<sup>5</sup> [barren.]                    <sup>6</sup> [young sucking pigs.]                    <sup>7</sup> [churl.]                    <sup>8</sup> grows niggardly.  
<sup>9</sup> [spilling, letting out.]                    <sup>10</sup> [ample.]                    <sup>11</sup> [inner part of a house.]  
<sup>12</sup> [enquire.]                    <sup>13</sup> [steel point of a pick.]

[MANUSCRIPT

66] Ane scabbed horse is good enuche for a scalled Squyre

A mirk mirroure is ane other manis [mynd]

Als mikil upwith als mikil doune withe

Ane evill sheirer got never a good hooke

70] Ane tarrowing bairne was never fatte

Ane good cow may haue ane evill calfe

Ane cok is crous in his awne midding

Ane new bissime soupes cleane

Als sor fechtis wrannes as crannes

Ane yeld sow was never good to gryses

As the cairle riches he wrecheis

Ane fool quhen he hes spoken hes all done

Ane old sack creaves mikil cloutting

Ane old sack is ay skelling

80] A fair fyre makis a rumie flette

Ane old knave is no bairne

Ane good yeaman makis a good woman

A man hes na men gude, nor he hes good of

A fool may give a wyse man a counsell

A man may speare the geat to Rome

Also long lives the mirrie man

as the wreche for all the craft he can

Ane may lead ane horse to the water,

bot four and tuentie cannot gar him drink

Ane bleat cat makis a proud mouse

Ane evil-willie cow sould haue short hornes

90] A good peic steill is worth a pennie

70. K He H      72. AR K He      73. AR K He H      74. AR K He H

\*75. AR K He H      76. AR K He      77. K He H      78. AR K He H

79. AR K He H      80. K      \*81. K He H      82. AR K He H

\*84. K H      \*85. K H      \*86. K He H      87. AR K He H

89. Cf. AR K, cf. He H.

## EDITION 1641]

- 95] A shored tree stands lang.  
 A gloved cat was never a good hunter.  
 A gangand fit is ay getting.<sup>1</sup>  
 All is not gold that glitters.  
 A swallow makes not summer or spring time.
- 100] A man may spit on his hand and do full ill.  
 An ill servant will never be a good maister.  
 An hyred horse tyred never.  
 All the winning is in the first buying.  
 Anuch is a feast (of bread and cheise.)  
 A horse may snapper <sup>2</sup> on foure feet.  
 All thing wytes <sup>3</sup> that well not faires.  
 All things thrives but thrice.  
 Absence is a shroe.<sup>4</sup>  
 Auld sinne new shame.
- 110] A man cannot thrive except his wife let him.  
 A bairne mon creep or he gang.<sup>5</sup>  
 As long as ye serve the tod,<sup>6</sup> ye man bear up his tail.  
 All overs <sup>7</sup> are ill.<sup>8</sup>  
 A man may woe where he will, but hee will wed where  
 his hap is.  
 A mean <sup>9</sup> pot plaid never evin.  
 Among 24 fooles not ane wise man.  
 Ane mans meat, is another mans poyson.  
 A foole will not give his bable <sup>10</sup> for the tower of Lun,<sup>11</sup>  
 A foule foot makes a full wombe.
- 120] A man is a lyon in his own cause.

---

<sup>1</sup> F 97 adds "and it were a thorn."      <sup>2</sup> stumble.      <sup>3</sup> is blamed.  
<sup>4</sup> [shrew.]      <sup>5</sup> [walks.]      <sup>6</sup> [fox.]      <sup>7</sup> [excesses.]      <sup>8</sup> F 113 adds  
 "but over the water."  
<sup>10</sup> [bauble.]      <sup>11</sup> [London.]



[MANUSCRIPT

- 91] A shored tree standis lang  
 A gluifed cat was never a good hunter  
 Ane gangand fute is ay getting albeit it wer bot ane  
     broken toe  
 All is not gold that glitteres  
 Ane suallow makeis not spring tyme  
 Ane may spitte in his hand and do ful ill  
 Ane ill servant wil never be a good *maister*.  
 Ane hyred horse tired never  
 All the wining is in the first buying
- 100] Aneuche is a feast of bread and chise  
 Ane horse may snapper on four feit  
 All thingis wytis that weill not fairis  
 All thingis thryves but thrys  
 Absence is a shro  
 Auld sine new sheame  
 A man cannot thryfe except his wyffe let him  
 A bairne most creip er he gang  
 Als long as ye serve the tod ye most bear up his teal  
 All overes is ill except over the water
- 110] A man may owe *quher* he will but he must wed wher his  
     hape is  
 A mean pot played never even  
 Among four and tuentie fooles ther is not a wyse man  
 Ane manes meat is ane other manis poysone  
 A fool will not give his babill for the toure of Lune  
 A fowl fute makis a full womb
- 116] A man is a lyon in his awne cause

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\*95. AR K H                      96. AR K He H                      97. AR K He H  
 \*98. AR K He H                99. K H                      100. Cf. AR K He H                101. K H  
 104. R                      105. K He H                      107. K H                      \*109. AR K  
 \*110. AR K He, cf. R                \*111. AR K He H                      112. AR K He H  
 114. K He H                      115. K He, cf. H                      MS. 109 K He H.

## EDITION 1641]

- 121] A heartie hand to give a hungrie meltith.<sup>1</sup>  
 A cumbersome cur in companie, is hated for his miss-  
 cariage  
 A poore man is fain of little.  
 An answer in a word.  
 A beltlesse bairn cannot lie.  
 A Zule feast may be quat <sup>2</sup> at Pasche.<sup>3</sup>  
 A good dog never barket but a bone.  
 A full seck will take a clout on the side  
 An ill hound comes halting home.
- 130] All things helps (quod the Wran) when she pished in the  
 sea.  
 All crakes,<sup>4</sup> all beares.  
 A houndlesse man comes to the best hunting.  
 All things hes an end, and a pudding hes twa.  
 All is well that ends well.  
 As good hads the stirrep, as he that loupes on,  
 A begun work is half ended.  
 A Scottish man is wise behinde the hand.  
 A new tout <sup>5</sup> in an old horne.  
 As broken a ship hes come to land.
- 140] As the foole thinkes, ay the bell clinks.  
 A man may see his friend need, but he will not see him  
 bleed  
 A friend is not known but in need.  
 A friend in court, is better nor a pennie in the purse.
- 144] All things is good unseyit

---

<sup>1</sup> [meal.]	<sup>2</sup> repaid.	<sup>3</sup> Easter.	<sup>4</sup> [(?) cracks.]	<sup>5</sup> [blast.]
117. AR He H		119. K H		120. Cf. AR K He H
121. K He H	122. K He H	123. He	125. K H	126. K H
128. K H	130. K	131. K H		*133. AR K He H

[MANUSCRIPT

- 117] A heartlie hand to give a hungrie melteth  
 Ane cumbersome curr in companie is heated for his  
 mischivousnes  
 A poore man is faine of litill albet not of nothing
- 120] Ane ansuere in a word  
 Ane beltles bairne cannot lie  
 Ane Yul feaste may be quat at Pash.  
 Ane good dog never barked without ane bone  
 Ane ful sack will tak ane clout one the syd  
 Ane new tout in ane old horne  
 Ane evil hound come halting home  
 All thingis helpis (quod) the wraune quhen sho pissed in  
 the sea  
 All crakeis all beareis  
 Ane hundlesse man cumes to the best hunting
- 130] All thingis hes ane end but a pudding hes tuo  
 All is weill that endis weill  
 Als good holdes the stirupe as he that loupis on  
 Airlie maister long knave  
 Airlie crookis the tree the good kammock sould be  
 After long mint <sup>1</sup> never Dint  
 After word cumes weird  
 After delay cumes ther a lette <sup>2</sup>  
 As ye loue send to the cookes  
 Ane reckles youth makes ane goustlie <sup>3</sup> age
- 140] Ane mouse and a millar ar two pock-pyckeres ane louse  
 and a lier ar tuo back-byteres, a smith and a sow  
 mak eild things new.

\*134. R AR K He

135. AR K He H

136. AR K He H

137. AR K He H

138. Cf. K He

139. K He H

140. AR K He H

MS. 136, cf. K; MS. 137 K; MS. 138 K.

<sup>1</sup> [aim, attempt.]<sup>2</sup> hindrance.<sup>3</sup> dismal.

## EDITION 1641]

- 145] A good goose indeed, but she has an ill gansell.<sup>1</sup>  
 All are not maidens that wears bair hair.  
 A mache <sup>2</sup> and a horse shoe are both alike.  
 Airlie crooks the tree, that good cammok <sup>3</sup> should be.  
 An ounce of mothers wit is worth a pound of clergie.<sup>4</sup>
- 150] An inch of a nage <sup>5</sup> is worth the span of an aver.<sup>6</sup>

## MANUSCRIPT]

- 141] Ane wilful man should be verie wise  
 Ane ill payer maks a sore craver  
 Ane tuird wil spill ane potfull of bruiss <sup>7</sup>  
 Ane druken cunt had never ane good dore bar.  
 Ane sor craver was never ane good payer  
 Ane peice will till to <sup>8</sup> ane other  
 Ane word in Tym is worth tuo syne  
 All the cloths on your back was once clews <sup>9</sup>  
 A bannok is ane good beast yow may eat the gutis of  
 it on good fryday.
- 150] A fyre is ane good flour in winter  
 A good wyf and a good lyf Concordia
- 152] A ill wyf ane ill lyf Discordia

<sup>1</sup> "OF. ganse aillie, garlic sauce served with goose" (Henryson's Poems, S.T.S., vol. i. p. 9). <sup>2</sup> Jamieson, vol. iii. p. 244, "Mauch, mach, mauk" = a maggot; quoting this very proverb but as enigmatical. Ibid., p. 208, "maik, make" = a match, mate, or equal. Kelly, p. 34, has instead "A mare's shoe and a horse's shoe are both alike." <sup>3</sup> A shinty stick.  
<sup>4</sup> [learning.] <sup>5</sup> [nag.] <sup>6</sup> an old horse. <sup>7</sup> [broth.]  
<sup>8</sup> "to" added later. <sup>9</sup> [ball of thread or yarn.]

[MANUSCRIPT

- 153] All thingis ar good in May cockelis cuntis & curdis  
& whey.  
Ane gentill ansueir pacifies wrath  
At Yule and Pash and hie tymes  
A cook wncrabad a sholer <sup>1</sup> wncscabed <sup>2</sup> ane tailyeor  
wnnyce <sup>3</sup> these ar thrie fairlyes <sup>4</sup>  
Ane good measor <sup>5</sup> is ane good soul freind.  
A lifrent tak <sup>6</sup> should be advysed  
Ane open confessione is good for the soul
- 160] All the verity wold not be told  
Ane stiff nego is ane good poynt of law  
A leall hairt lyed never.  
A tuilzeing <sup>7</sup> tyk comes ay tyrd home  
All the knaverie in the world is be sea and land and  
fresh water riveris  
A begun thing is half ended  
A bairnes mother bursted never except of sorrow  
A good teal may be spilt in the telling  
A dame <sup>8</sup> that is long of gathering is soon rune  
A good face a good grace
- 170] Als good love coms as goes  
All is fish that coms in the net  
A poor man gets a poor mariag  
A sword holds ane uther in the scaberd  
A tear eyed mayden was ay ters <sup>9</sup> griedy  
A speaking castle and ane hearing maiden ar easy wone
- 176] A kyndly aver wil never be a good horse

<sup>1</sup> and <sup>2</sup> Cf. the "scholar vncrabbit" of the Edin. Univ. MS.  
fastidious, inexact.] <sup>4</sup> wonders. <sup>5</sup> [standard.]  
life.] <sup>7</sup> [quarrelling.] <sup>8</sup> [dam, water confined by.]

<sup>3</sup> [un-  
<sup>6</sup> [lease for  
<sup>9</sup> [thrice.]

141. KH \*142. H 145. KH 147. K  
149. ARK, cf. He H 150. K He H.

\*148. He H

MS. 141. KH MS. 142, cf. He MS. 148. KH  
MS. 155. K MS. \*159. K MS. 160. ARK  
163. KH 167. Cf. K 171. He H 172. He

MS. \*154  
162. H  
\*175.

## MANUSCRIPT]

- 177] A dish upsetting is a thried <sup>1</sup> out letting  
 Auld shipis is ay lecking  
 Ane fair wed <sup>2</sup> naver shamed the maister
- 180] Ane eating wed is not good  
 Ane druken man gaitis ay ane drunken penny  
 Away wncouth lad I wil not do it *with* yow  
 A deams a <sup>3</sup> doghter did never weil  
 A carlings <sup>4</sup> pet thrav never  
 A bastardis bastard is a fed lamb to the devill  
 A haggeis and ane horne spoone  
 A sheip heid and ane pair of tongs  
 A widdie <sup>5</sup> and a windie day  
 A flier wold hav ane follower
- 190] Ane ell of blak is worth tuo of whyt  
 Ane yong saint is ane old devill  
 Ane yong devil ane old feind  
 Ane ill lad may be ane good man  
 Ane ill lad a good hanget man  
 A turd to pyk your teith *with*hall.  
 A whum wham to a pair of wakeris <sup>6</sup> sheiris  
 A melteth <sup>7</sup> of meat is the best gift ever a man gave  
 A whim wham for a goos brydel <sup>8</sup>  
 A whoor is worth the bidding and ane honest woman  
 w[?orth] the laying over
- 200] Ane peit <sup>9</sup> and nyne horse shoone for a breakfast And  
 your luk be good <sup>10</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> [third.]      <sup>2</sup> wadset [pledge].      <sup>3</sup> for "ae," one, only.      <sup>4</sup> [old woman.]  
<sup>5</sup> gallows.      <sup>6</sup> [fuller's.]      <sup>7</sup> meal.      <sup>8</sup> Cf. Cotgrave, *bridoie, a goose bridler (a nickname for a lawyer)*; from Rabelais, iii. 29 *seq.* Cf. also Hatzfeld - Darmesteter, *Dictionnaire général, oison bridé.*  
<sup>9</sup> peat.      <sup>10</sup> Possibly the last five words is a separate proverb.



[MANUSCRIPT

- 201] Albeit my father wer nokie now,  
 and my mother nothing dow  
 And myself good be  
*quhat* hes thow to say to me  
 Ane ill disposition breidis ill suspition  
 mala mens malus animus.  
 A graunting<sup>1</sup> horse and graining<sup>2</sup> wyf bydis long in a  
 manis aught<sup>3</sup>  
 As I cam by the milne of Wobetydyow cald castis<sup>4</sup> on  
 thes chaftis<sup>5</sup> bad command thəm to yow  
 A maid that loues too soone wil repent too laite  
 Ane pond of cair payes not ane unce of debt  
 A freind to reveal is a medicine to releiv.  
 A man wold hav thought al wold split againe  
 A womanis heart and her tonge ar not ay relatives  
 210] A faint heart wil never win a fair lady  
 Al his scheep ar clipt & the wool sold.  
 Al his corne is on the floore  
 A foul slut under ane blak hat seimes som*quhat*  
 A raiking<sup>6</sup> roke<sup>7</sup> spinis not weil  
 215] Ane Bed stone<sup>8</sup> wil weir two Einneris<sup>9</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> [grunting.]    <sup>2</sup> [complaining.]    <sup>3</sup> [possession.]    <sup>4</sup> "To cast the cauld of a thing, to get free from the consequences of any evil or misfortune"; "cauld-casten-to," *adj.* lifeless, dull, insipid; "cauld be my cast" = cold be my fate (Jamieson, vol. i. pp. 355, 386).    <sup>5</sup> jaw-bones.    <sup>6</sup> [wandering, quick.]    <sup>7</sup> [distaff.]    <sup>8</sup> nether-millstone.    <sup>9</sup> (?) enner = inferior [here for the upper millstone].

MS. \*203. Cf. K He H

206. AR K He H

210. Cf. K.

EDITION 1641]

## B

- 151] **B**etter sit idle nor work for nought.  
 Better learn by your neighbors skaith nor by your  
 own.  
 Better half egge nor toome doupe.<sup>1</sup>  
 Better apple given nor eaten.  
 Better a dog fan <sup>2</sup> nor bark on you.  
 Bodin <sup>3</sup> geir <sup>4</sup> stinkes.  
 Bourd <sup>5</sup> neither with me, nor with my honour.  
 Buy when I bid you.  
 Better late thrive then never.
- 160] Better hand louse nor bound to an ill baikine.<sup>6</sup>  
 Better lang little nor soon right nought :  
 Better give nor take.  
 Better bide the the cookes nor the mediciners.  
 Better saucht <sup>7</sup> with little aucht, nor care with many kow.  
 Bring a kow to the hall, and she will to the byre again.  
 Bear wealth, povertie will bear it self.  
 Better goodseal <sup>8</sup> nor good eall.<sup>9</sup>  
 Better woove over midding nor over mosse.  
 Blaw the winde never so fast it will lowne <sup>10</sup> at the last.
- 170] Bind fast, finde fast.  
 Better auld debts nor auld saires.
- 172] Better a fowle in hand nor two flying.

---

<sup>1</sup> [posterior extremity.]      <sup>2</sup> [fawn.]      <sup>3</sup> (?) borrowed, although  
 Jamieson, vol. i. p. 237, gives equivalent as proffered.      <sup>4</sup> [goods.]  
<sup>5</sup> jest.      <sup>6</sup> This proverb is quoted by Jamieson, vol. i. p. 99,  
 with its last word as "bakie" = a stake; but see also "baiken" = a burden.  
<sup>7</sup> [agreement.]      <sup>8</sup> [good luck.]      <sup>9</sup> F. 169 reads: "Better good sale  
 nor good ale.      <sup>10</sup> lower.

[MANUSCRIPT

## B

- 216] Better sit Idl nor work for noght  
 Brunt bairnes fyre dreadis  
 Better learne be your neighbours skaith nor be your  
 aw[in]  
 Better half egg nor toome doop
- 220] Better apl geven nor eaten  
 Better a dog fan nor bark on yow  
 Boden gear stinks  
 Bourd nather *with* me nor my honour  
 Buy *quhen* I bid yow  
 Better lait thryve nor never  
 Better hand louse nor bund to ane ill baikie  
 Better long littill nor soon right noght  
 Better giv nor tak.  
 Better byd ye cooks nor the medicineris
- 230] Better saught *with* littill aught nor cair *with* many cow.  
 Bring a cow to the hall & sho wil rün to the byre again  
 Better a freind in court nor penny in pürse  
 Bear wealth  
 Better good sail nor good aill  
 Better ow over the midding nor over the moor  
 Blow the wind never so fast it will lowien at the last  
 Bind fast find fast  
 Better old debtis nor old sores
- 239] Better ane foul in hand, nor tuo fleing

---

151. H.	152. He H	*153. AR K He H	154. K H
155. AR K He	156. AR K He H		157. R K He H
*159. AR K He H	160. H	161. K He H	*162. K H
163. AR K He H	*164. K He H	166. K He H	167. K He H
168. AR K He H	169. K H	171. AR K He H	*172.
MS. *217. AR K He.			

## EDITION 1641]

- 173] Better spaire at the breird <sup>1</sup> nor at the bottome.  
 Binde the seck or it be full.  
 Better be well loved nor ill won geir.  
 Better finger off nor ay warkin.<sup>2</sup>  
 Better rew sit, nor rew flit.  
 Bourd not with bawtie.<sup>3</sup>  
 Better say, Here it is, nor here it was.
- 180] Better playes a full wombe, nor a new coat.  
 Better be happie nor wise.  
 Better happie to court, nor good service.  
 Better a wit coft,<sup>4</sup> nor twa for nought.  
 Better bow nor break.  
 Better two seils,<sup>5</sup> nor ane sorrow.  
 Better bairnes greit nor bearded men.<sup>6</sup>  
 Betwixt twa stooles, the arse falls down.  
 Better na ring nor the ring of a rashe.  
 Better hold out nor put out.
- 190] Better sit still, nor rise and get a fall.  
 Better leave nor want.  
 Better unborne nor untaught.  
 Better be envyed nor pittied.  
 Better a little fire that warmes, nor a meikle that burnes.  
 Be the same thing that thou wald be cald,  
 Black will be no other hew.  
 Beautie but bountie availes nought.
- 198] Beware of had I wist.

---

<sup>1</sup> [brim.]    <sup>2</sup> aching.    <sup>3</sup> a watch dog. F 180 adds: "fear lest he bite ye."  
<sup>4</sup> [bought.]    <sup>5</sup> happinesses; but F 187 has "skaiths" instead of "seils."  
<sup>6</sup> Said by the Tutor of Glamis to King James VI. after the Ruthven Raid, 1582.

[MANUSCRIPT

- 240] Better spair at the breird nor at the bottom  
 Bind the sack or it be full  
 Better be weill loved nor hav evill wone geir  
 Better wnwon nor ill waired  
 Better finger aff nor ay warking  
 Better rew sit nor rew flitt  
 Bourd not *with* bawtie  
 Bawtie wil byt yow  
 Better say heir it is nor heir it was  
 Better playes a fow womb nor a new coat
- 250] Better be happie nor wyse  
 Better happie to court nor good service  
 Better ane wit coft nor tūo for noight  
 Better bow nor break.  
 Better twa seilis nor ane sorrow  
 Better bairnes greit nor bairded men  
 Betuix tuo stūilis the airs falis doune  
 Better no ring nor the ring of a rush  
 Better hold out nor put out  
 Better sit still nor rise & gait a fall
- 260] Better lend nor want.  
 Better wnborne nor wntaucht  
 Better be envied nor pitied  
 Better a littil fyr *that* warmes nor ane meikl *that* burnes  
 Be the same thing thow wold be called  
 Black wil be no other hew  
 Bewtie but bountie availis not
- 267] Bewar of had I wist

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179. K He H            180. K He H            \*181. H            182. K, cf. He  
 \*183. He H            \*184. K He H            185. AR            \*186. K He H            \*187. K  
 \*188. K H            189. K            \*190. K He            \*191. K            \*192. R K He H  
 \*193. AR K H            194. K H            195. He H            \*196. AR K H  
 197. K He H            \*198. R K He.

## EDITION 1641]

- 199] Better be alone, nor in ill companie.  
 200] Better a thigging <sup>1</sup> mother, nor a ryding father.  
     Before I wein and now I wat.  
     Bonie silver is soon spendit.  
     Better never begun nor never endit.  
     Byting and scarting is Scots folks wooing.  
     Breads house skaild never.  
     Bairns mother burst never.<sup>2</sup>  
     Bannoks is better nor na kin bread.  
     Better a laying hen nor a lyin crown <sup>3</sup>  
     Better be dead as out of the fashion.  
 210] Better buy as borrow.  
 211] Better have a mouse in the pot as no flesh.
- 

## MANUSCRIPT]

- 268] Better be alone nor in ill companie  
     Better ane thigging mother nor ane ryding father  
 270] Before I wein & now I wot  
     Bonnie silver is soon spendid  
     Better never begun nor never ended  
     Break my head & syn put on my how <sup>4</sup>  
     Better in clout nor holl out  
     Bannokis is better nor na kind bread  
 276] Better ane eg broth <sup>5</sup> nor ane fold water
- 

<sup>1</sup> begging.      <sup>2</sup> This appears in MS. 166 as "A bairnes mother bursted never except of sorrow."      <sup>3</sup> [head.]      <sup>4</sup> [nightcap.]      <sup>5</sup> "eg broth" seems to represent "Friar's chicken," viz., chicken-broth with eggs dropped into it; Jamieson, vol. ii. p. 310, quoting 'Guy Mannering' and 'Tales of my Landlord.'



[MANUSCRIPT

- 277] Bread and cheise is good to eat *quhen* men can gait no  
other meat  
Better misleird <sup>1</sup> for once nor cummersome  
Better be tuo hours befor tyme nor thrie behind it
- 280] Bairns forgetis & old men dies  
Better waist <sup>2</sup> hous nor ill neighbouris  
Better hav a meer to your mother nor be motherles  
Bourd not *with* the gallouse  
Bourd not *with* my bannok  
Better hold be ane Inch nor draw be ane spane  
Byting & scarting is Scotis mens owing  
Bod <sup>3</sup> luck & hav luck  
Byt about is good bartering  
Better hot dirt nor cold
- 290] Better water rag nor dirt rag  
Beggars can bear no wealth.  
Byt in thir by words sup in the sauce all the dogs in  
thes town dryt in your hauce <sup>4</sup>  
Better a three footed stool nor fall in the fyre  
Brav browes <sup>5</sup> Bartie <sup>6</sup>  
Benedicite Bennethesty  
Better weil spairred nor evil waired  
Better ane misheiff nor ane Inconvenience  
Bow woves is no banning <sup>7</sup>  
Burgess bedtyme is sutoris <sup>8</sup> suppertyme
- 300] Beggaris forget *that* ever they caried fardelis <sup>9</sup> on footbak  
301] Blind folkis eat many flies

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204. AR K He    205. K He H    206. K He    207. K H    208. K H  
209. AR He H    210. AR K He H    211. K He H.  
MS. 272. He    273. He H    274. AR K He H    275. He  
278. AR    \*301.

<sup>1</sup> [misdirected.]    <sup>2</sup> [desolate, deserted.]    <sup>3</sup> [command.]    <sup>4</sup> [throat.]  
<sup>5</sup> [brews.]    <sup>6</sup> [the devil.]    <sup>7</sup> [prohibition.]    <sup>8</sup> [shoemakers.]    <sup>9</sup> packs.

EDITION 1641]

## C

- 212] **C**ourt to the towne, and whoore to the window  
 Cadgers <sup>1</sup> speaks of leadsaddles.<sup>2</sup>  
 Changing of works is lighting of hearts.  
 Charge your friend or you need.  
 Cats eats that hussies spares.  
 Cast not forth the old water while the new come in.  
 Crabbit was, and cause had.  
 Comparisons are odious.
- 220] Come not to the counsel uncalled.  
 Condition makes, and condition breaks.  
 Cut <sup>3</sup> duelles in every town.  
 Cold cooles the love that kindles over hot.  
 Cease your snowballes casting.  
 Come it aire, come it late, in May comes the cowquake.<sup>4</sup>  
 Courtesie is cumbersome to them that knowes it not.
- 227] Calke <sup>5</sup> is na sheares.

## MANUSCRIPT]

- 302] Court to the toun & whore to the window  
 Cadgers speak of laid-saddles  
 Changing of warks is lightning of hairtis  
 Chairg your freind or yow hav neid  
 Catis eatis *quhilk* hussies spairs  
 Cast not out the old water till the new com in
- 308] Crabed was & causs had

<sup>1</sup> [pedlars.]    <sup>2</sup> [packsaddles.]    <sup>3</sup> [bob-tail.]    <sup>4</sup> [cowquaker, popular name of quaking-grass.]    <sup>5</sup> [Chalk : a tailor's proverb.]

[MANUSCRIPT

- 309] Comparisons ar odious  
 310] Com not to the counsell wncalled  
 Condition maks & condition breaks law  
 Cut duelis in ilk toune  
 Cold coolis the lov *quhilk* kendlis over hote  
 Ceass your snawballis casting  
 Come it air com it lait in May coms the cowquake  
 Courtesie is commersome to *them* that knawes it not  
 Counsell is no command  
 Compt pay & go  
 Compt ay goes befor payment  
 320] Calk is no shears  
 Calk or ye clip  
 Confes & be hanged  
 Child wnwyce gaid upon the yce, child wilie gaid bye  
 Cair & sorow maks ane soon auld like  
 Can doe is eith borne about  
 Com kisse me behind my hand is in the dough  
 Cankered <sup>1</sup> folks is ay kynd  
 Cankered kae <sup>2</sup> *that* wirried the cat he did never a good  
 turne bot that  
 Chop on the coll <sup>3</sup> Kirkcaldie men  
 330] Chop on the coll and gar it burne cleir  
 lay a cod on the stool he wil be heir  
 Cukolds hes ever thrist in *thair* mouth  
 Choise is a gridie mans pairt  
 Cary nò more saill nor yow hav wind too  
 334] Claukcus *quod* the old king *quhen* the yong king slew  
 a clouke <sup>4</sup>

---

has "and cause hadna. "]      220. K He      221. K He H      222. K  
 \*223. He H      225. K H      227. K He H      231. He.  
 MS. 307. K      313. K      315. He      322. AR      326. K He H.  
<sup>1</sup> [depraved, corrupt.]      <sup>2</sup> [jackdaw.]      <sup>3</sup> [coal.]      <sup>4</sup> [silly man,  
 simpleton.]

EDITION 1641]

## D

- 228] **D**O in hill as ye wald do in hall.  
Do as ye wald be done to.
- 230] Do weill and have weill.  
Dame deim <sup>1</sup> warilie.  
Dead <sup>2</sup> and marriage makes tearm-day.  
Draff is good enough for swine.  
Do the likliest, and God will do the best.  
Drive out the inch as thou hast done the span.  
Dead men bytes not.  
Daffing <sup>3</sup> dow nothing.  
Dogs will red <sup>4</sup> swine.  
Dirt parts companie.
- 240] Drink and drouth comes sindle <sup>5</sup> together.  
Daft talk dow not.<sup>6</sup>  
Do well and doubt na man, and do weill and doubt all men.  
Dead at the one dore, and hership <sup>7</sup> at the other.
- 244] Dummie cannot lie.

## MANUSCRIPT]

- 335] Do in hill as ye wold do in hall  
Do as ye wold be don to  
Do weill & hav weil
- 338] Dame deim warlye

<sup>1</sup> judge.      <sup>2</sup> [death.]      <sup>3</sup> [jesting.]      <sup>4</sup> [clear away.]      seldom.  
<sup>6</sup> not in F.      <sup>7</sup> [ravaging.]

228. K He H	*229. He	*230. R K He H	231. K He H
232. K He H	233. AR K H	237. H	238. AR K
240. AR He H	241. He	242. K H	239. K
244. AR K H.			243. K He H

[MANUSCRIPT

- 339] Dead and mariag makis terme day  
 340] Draff is good enough for suyne  
 Do ye the likliest let God do the best  
 Dryv out the Inch as ye hav the spane  
 Dead men bytis not  
 Daffing dow nothing but in deimings <sup>1</sup>  
 Dogs wil red swyne  
 Dirt pairtis companie  
 Drink & drought comes seldom together  
 Daft talk dow noght  
 Do weill & dout no man  
 350] Do weil and doubt all man  
 Deall small and serv all  
 Devill be in his coffer if his best cloak be ind  
 Delay is dangerous  
 Drink but bread makis all the hous adoe  
 Dead & away maried & away  
 Dog flesh is good aneugh for hemlok kail  
 Drink les & buy ane  
 Dinging is out of play  
 Dirten ars dreadis ay  
 360] Ding not the dog for the bitches fart  
 Death at the on dore and heirship at the other  
 Dumbie wil not lie  
 Damming & laving <sup>2</sup> is sicker fishing  
 Dippie dadle that wish the dish and forget the ladle  
 365] Drink but bread maks all the toune asteir

<sup>1</sup> [surmise.]<sup>2</sup> A poaching method of catching fish by damming and diverting the course of a burn, and then laving or throwing out the water. Kelly, p. 90, has "loving," and thus wholly misses the sense of this proverb.MS. 348. He  
363. H.

351. AR K He H

\*353. AR He H

362. H

## MANUSCRIPT]

- 366] Dame al your kin is casten out *with* yow but God nor my  
 blissing light on yow  
 Dirt bodds luck  
 Dochter & ever yow marie any mary ane long hained <sup>1</sup>  
 magister  
 Double angelis if yow fall
- 370] Do the right do the wrong chuse thou a campion strong
- 371] Dish upsetting is no threid outletting

## EDITION 1641]

## E

- 245] **E** Arlie maister, lang knave  
 Eaten meat is good to pay.  
 Eeild <sup>2</sup> wald have honour.  
 Evening ortes <sup>3</sup> is good morning fodder.  
 Every land hes the lauch,<sup>4</sup> and everie corne hes the caffé.
- 250] Every man wishes the water to his own mylne.  
 Everie man can rule an ill wife but he that hes her.  
 Eat measurelie and defye the mediciners.  
 Everie man for himself (quoth the Merteine)  
 Everie man flames <sup>5</sup> the fat sowes arse.  
 Experience may teach a fool.  
 Every man wates best where his own shoe bindes him.  
 Efter lang mint, never dint.  
 Efter word comes weird.<sup>6</sup>
- 259] Efter delay comes a lette.

<sup>1</sup> [preserved.]    <sup>2</sup> age.    <sup>3</sup> leavings; F 254 has "oats."    <sup>4</sup> law; but F 255 reads "his laugh" for "the lauch."    <sup>5</sup> bastes; F 260 has "flames." MS. 1200 commences with "smeir."    <sup>6</sup> fate.



[MANUSCRIPT

## E

- 372] Eatin meat is good to pay  
 Eild should be honoured  
 Eving orts is good morning fother  
 Everie land hes the laugh and every corne hes the chaff  
 Everie man wishes the water to his awin mill  
 Everie man can guyd ane ill wyf bot he *that* hes hir  
 Eat measurablie & defye the medicineris  
 Everie man for himself *quod Schir* Marteine
- 380] Experienc may teach a fool.  
 Everie man knawes best *quhair* his awin sho bindis him  
 Eating and clawing wantis bot ane beginning  
 Eat your list & leav the lave  
 Except *Schir* Jhon Thornton in all play.  
 Evening rid & morning gray itis appearanc of a fair  
 day  
 Even as yow lov me lend me a plack.<sup>1</sup>  
 Evil newes ar oft tymes trewest  
 Eas slayes the fool.  
 Easie gear is good gear.
- 390] Even so and over at the ferrie if ye droun this tym ye  
 shall tyne my kyndnes  
 Every mote is a beam in his ey.
- 392] Every storme hath his calme

---

249. AR K H      250. K, cf. He H      \*251. R K      \*252. AR K He H  
 253. K      \*254. AR K      255. AR K      \*256. H.  
 MS. 367 AR H      373. H      377. AR He H      382. AR He  
 385. AR      \*391.

<sup>1</sup> coin—4d. Scots, 1/3d. English

EDITION 1641]

## F

- 260] **F**Ar fowles hes fair feathears.  
 Fair heghts <sup>1</sup> makes fooles fain.  
 Fooles are fain of flitting.  
 Falshood made never a fair hinder end.  
 Freedome is a faire thing.  
 For tint thing care not.  
 Foole haste is no speed.  
 Fooles sets far trystes.  
 For love of the nourish, monie kisses the bairne.  
 Follie is a bonnie dog.
- 270] Faire words brake never bane, foule words breaks many  
 ane  
 Foule water slokens <sup>2</sup> fire.  
 Far sought, and dear bought, is good for Ladies.  
 For fault of wise men, fooles sits on binks.<sup>3</sup>  
 Fooles makes feasts, and wise men eats them.  
 Fooles are fain of right nought.  
 Forbid a thing, and that we will do.<sup>4</sup>  
 Follow love and it will flee thee, flee love and it will  
 follow thee.  
 Feggess after peace.<sup>5</sup>
- 279] Fooles should have no chappin stick<sup>s</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> hecht = a promise; but F 267 reads "heights."<sup>2</sup> [extinguishes.]<sup>3</sup> benches.<sup>4</sup> F 282 reads "Forbid a fool a thing, and that he will do."<sup>5</sup> Not in F; MS. 411 has "Pash," Easter (cf. Düringsfeld, ii. 123, "ce sont des figues après Pâques").

260. AR K He H	*261. K He	262. K He H	263. H
*264. K H	265. He H	266. AR K He H	267. K He H

[MANUSCRIPT

## F

- 393] Far foules hes fair feathers  
 Fair haichts maks fools fain  
 Fools ar fain of flitting  
 Frost & falshood maid never ane fair hinderend  
 Freedom is a fair thing  
 For tint thing cair not  
 Fool haist is na speed
- 400] Fooles setis far trysts  
 For lov of the nurice mony kisses the bairne  
 Follie is a bonie dog  
 Fair words brak never bone foul words breaks many  
 one.  
 Foul water slokens fyre  
 Far sought & deir coft is good for ladies  
 For fault of wyse men fools sits on books <sup>1</sup>  
 Fools maks feasts & wise men eats them  
 Fools ar fain of right noght  
 Forbid a thing & that we wil do
- 410] Follow lov and it wil flie the, flie lov & it wil follow  
 the.  
 Fegges after Pash
- 412] Fools should hav no chapping stiks

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\*268. AR He    \*270. AR K He H    \*271. AR K He H    272. K H  
 \*273. AR He H    274. AR K He H    275. K He H    276. K H  
 \*277.    279. AR K He H.

MS. 396. K He H.

<sup>1</sup> Evidently an anglicisation of "buiks," a misreading of "binks."

## EDITION 1641]

- 280] Friendship stands not in one side.  
 Few words sufficeth to a wise man.  
 Fire is good for the farcie.<sup>1</sup>  
 Fidlers dogs and flies comes to feasts uncalled.
- 284] Fill fow and had fow makes a stark man.

## MANUSCRIPT]

- 413] Freindship stands not upon on side  
 Few words suffices to a wise man  
 Firsted <sup>2</sup> geir is not forgiven  
 Faultles lifles  
 Farts in your teith  
 Februar fill dyk *with* a blak or a whyt I shall fill it or I  
 go and it war *with* bare strae
- 419] Fish not befor the net

## EDITION 1641]

## G

- 285] **G** Race is best for the man.  
 Giff gaff <sup>3</sup> makes good friends.  
 Good wine needs not a wispe.<sup>4</sup>  
 Good cheir and good cheap garres <sup>5</sup> many haunt the house.
- 289] God sends men cauld as they have clothes to <sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> [glanders.]      <sup>2</sup> [fristed = where respite is granted, where a creditor is given time for payment.]      <sup>3</sup> [mutual help.]      <sup>4</sup> no bush.      <sup>5</sup> [causes.]  
<sup>6</sup> F 294, "God sends men cloath as they have cold to."

280. K      283. AR K He H      284. K He H      285. AR  
 \*286. K He H      287. He H      288. K He      \*289. K He H.

[MANUSCRIPT]

- 420] Feid me this yeir Is feid yow the nixt  
 Fuffie <sup>1</sup> is the first word of owing <sup>2</sup>  
 Fyr & hards <sup>3</sup> is not good together  
 Fairnes is a faiding floure  
 For somthing the pyet <sup>4</sup> peiped  
 For chanc of wear no man should murning mak  
 Farts in my tydings that angers no man  
 Fourtie s. & 40 shifts <sup>5</sup> is worth 4 lib. in the yeir  
 Flesh but bread maks maids ill hewed  
 Fob <sup>6</sup> fools in *thair* folly } greivs } God and his glory  
   } robs }
- 430] Fair words oblishes <sup>7</sup> no man  
 Fuffe let the wind blow  
 From the pest] flie soone and farr and be long in comming  
                   home again <sup>8</sup>  
 Fart in a widdie good fatheris sonne  
 Faint heart wan never fair lady
- 435] Faultis in affection ar but slight follies

[MANUSCRIPT]

## G

- 436] Grace is best for the man  
 Giff gaff maks good freinds  
 Good wine neids not a wisp  
 Good chear & good cheap gars mony haunt the hous
- 440] God sends men cold as thay hav cloths to

<sup>1</sup> [huffy, touchy.]                    <sup>2</sup> [wooing.]                    <sup>3</sup> [tow.]                    <sup>4</sup> [magpie.]  
<sup>5</sup> [of work.]                    <sup>6</sup> [cheat.]                    <sup>7</sup> [obliges.]                    <sup>8</sup> [First three words  
 of this proverb are written in the margin in a later hand.]

MS. 413. KH                    \*416. KH                    \*418.                    \*419.                    \*422.  
 434. ARH                    438. K                    439. H.

## EDITION 1641]

- 290] Gods help is neirer nor the fair evin.  
 Give never the wolfe the wedder to keep.  
 Good will should be tane in part of paiment.  
 God sends never the mouth but the meat with it  
 Girne <sup>1</sup> when ye knit, and lauch when ye louse.  
 Go to the Devil and bishop you.  
 Go shoe the geese.
- 297] God sends meat, and the devil sends cookes.
- 

## MANUSCRIPT]

- 441] Gods help is nearer nor the fair even  
 Give never the wolf the wedder to keip  
 Good wil should be taken in pairt of payment  
 God sent never the mouth but the meat *with* it  
 Girne *quhen* ye knit & laugh *quhen* ye louse again  
 Go to the devil and Bishop yow  
 Go sho the geiss  
 Go learne your gooddame to get Bairnes  
 Go belt a bitch about the Cross
- 450] Go clip <sup>2</sup> gait
- 451] Go & whinner <sup>3</sup> your good-dame
- 

<sup>1</sup> [be peevisish.]	<sup>2</sup> [shortened.]	<sup>3</sup> box the ears of.	
290. K He H	291. AR K H	292. H	*293. K He H
294. K He H	297. K H.		
MS. 443. K	455. K	*463. K, cf. He H.	-



[MANUSCRIPT

- 452] Gaines slokens paines  
 Good aill is wyne eveinis <sup>1</sup>  
 Good aill maks good saill  
 Gaunting <sup>2</sup> is wil wanting  
 God send us better handsell <sup>3</sup> nor fart at the masking <sup>4</sup>  
 Gar ane devill ding ane other  
 God let my honestie never ly on your tongue rootis  
 God keip us from gyr Carlings <sup>5</sup> & all long nebbed  
 things
- 460] Go to your bed your bellie rumbles & ilk ane toord  
 over other tumbles  
 Go to your bed god nor yow be dryt it  
 God help us all to heaven for ill can we climb  
 God let never the well go dry that ilk body trowes <sup>6</sup>  
 water be in  
 God send you a wise goodman <sup>7</sup> els yow wil fill the cuntry  
 ful of fools  
 Giv it a pavie <sup>8</sup> fley it <sup>9</sup> & lild <sup>10</sup>  
 God mak al weil as Maister Wm Kellie sayes to his  
 sones spurs  
 Giv good respect to al fear nather grit nor small  
 Go near it  
 God let sorrow never go so near *your* heart
- 470] Grand wind grand treason.<sup>11</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> equal.      <sup>2</sup> [yawning, gaping.]      <sup>3</sup> [luck.]      <sup>4</sup> [mashing (mixing  
 malt with warm water).]      <sup>5</sup> witches.      <sup>6</sup> [believes.]      <sup>7</sup> [husband.]  
<sup>8</sup> [shake.]      <sup>9</sup> [warm.]      <sup>10</sup> drink it off quickly [lill = hang out the  
 tongue].      <sup>11</sup> [This proverb is in a later hand.]

EDITION 1641]

## H

- 298] **H** Unger is good kitchine meat.<sup>1</sup>  
 He that is far from his geir, is neir his skaith.
- 300] Had I fish, was never good with garlick.  
 He mon have leave to speak that cannot had his tongue.  
 He that lippins <sup>2</sup> to bon <sup>3</sup> plowes, his land will ly ley.<sup>4</sup>  
 He rides sicker that fell never.  
 He that wil not hear motherhead, shal hear stepmother-  
 head  
 He that crabbes <sup>5</sup> without cause, should mease <sup>6</sup> without  
 mends <sup>7</sup>  
 He that may not as he would, mon do as he may.  
 He that spares to speak, spares to speed.  
**H**e is weil easit <sup>8</sup> that hes ought of his own, when others  
 goes to the meat.  
 He that is welcome, faires weil.
- 310] He that does ill hates the light.  
 He that speakes the thing he should not, hears the things  
 hee would not.  
 He that is evil deemd, is half hanged.  
 Help thy self, and God will help thee.  
 He that spends his geir on a whoore, hes both shame and  
 skaith.  
 He that forsakes missour, missour forsakes him.  
 Half a tale is enough to a wise man.  
 He that hewes over hie, the spail <sup>9</sup> will fall into his eye.
- 318] He that eats while he last, will be the war while he die.

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<sup>1</sup> [relish.]    <sup>2</sup> [trusts.]    <sup>3</sup> [gratuitous.]    <sup>4</sup> [fallow.]    <sup>5</sup> [becomes  
 angry.]    <sup>6</sup> become calm.    <sup>7</sup> [amends.]    <sup>8</sup> [entertained.]    <sup>9</sup> [chip.  
 \*298. K He                    299. K He H                    300. K (garlick = mustard) H  
 301. K                    302. K He H                    303. K H                    \*304. H                    \*305. K He H

[MANUSCRIPT

## H

- 471] Hunger is good kitching  
 He that is far from his gear is near his skaith  
 Had I fish was never good *with* garlik  
 He must hav libertie to speak that cannot hold his  
 tong  
 He that lippens to bone plews his land wil ly ley  
 He ryds siker that fell never  
 He *that* wil not heir mother-heid shall heir stepmother-  
 heid  
 He *that* crabes *without* a caus wil meise *without* a  
 mendse  
 He *that* may not as he wold must do as he may
- 480] He *that* spaires to speak spaires to speed  
 He is weil eased that hes ought of his awin when others  
 go to meit  
 He *that* is welcom faires weil  
 He *that* dois evil hates the light  
 He *that* speaks the thing he should not hears the thing  
 he wold not  
 He that is evill deimed is half hanged  
 Help thyself & God wil help the  
 He that spends his gear upon ane hoore hes both shame  
 & skaith  
 He that forsaiks measur measur forsaiks him  
 Half a tail is aneugh to a wyse man
- 490] He that hewes over hie the spail wil fall in his ey

---

307. K H    308. K He H    309. K He H    \*310.    311. K He H  
 \*312. Cf. AR    \*315. K He    316. H    \*317. AR K He H

EDITION 1641]

- 319] He is a weak horse that may not bear the saidle.  
 320] He that borrows and bigs,<sup>1</sup> makes feasts and thigs,<sup>2</sup>  
       drinkes and is not dry, these three are not thirftie.  
       He is a proud Tod that will not scrape his own hole.  
       He is wise when he is well, can had him sa.  
       He is poore that God hates.  
       He is wise that is ware in time.  
       He is wis that can make a friend of a foe.  
       Hair and hair, makes the cairles head baire :  
       Hear all parties.  
       He that is redd<sup>3</sup> for windlestrawes,<sup>4</sup> should not sleep in  
       lees.<sup>5</sup>  
       He rises over earlie that is hangit or noone.  
 330] He is not the foole that the foole is, but he that with the  
       foole deals.  
       He that tholes<sup>6</sup> overcomes.  
       He loves me for little, that hates me for nought.  
       He that hes twa huirds,<sup>7</sup> is able to get the third.  
       He is a sairie begger that may not gae by ane mans doore.  
       Hall binkes are sliddrie.  
       He is not the best wright that hewes the maniest speals.  
       He that evil does, never good weines.  
       Hooedome and grace, can never byde in one place.  
       Hee that compts all costes, will never put plough in the  
       eard.  
 340] He that slayes, shall be slain.  
       He that is ill of his harberie,<sup>8</sup> is good of his way kenning.  
       He that will not when he may, shall not when he wald.  
 343] Hanging ganges be hap.

---

<sup>1</sup> [builds.           <sup>2</sup> begs.]           <sup>3</sup> [afraid.]           <sup>4</sup> loose grass or straws.  
 Windlestrawlee is the name of a farm near Granton.           <sup>5</sup> [fields.]  
<sup>6</sup> [endures.]           <sup>7</sup> [hoards.]           <sup>8</sup> lodging.  
 319. K           320. K He H           321. K           322. K H           323. K  
 \*324. K           326. AR K H           328. K He H           329. K H

[MANUSCRIPT

- 491] He is a weak hors that may not bear the saddle  
 He that borrowes & bigges, maks feasts & thiggs,  
 drinks and is not dry thir thrie ar not thrifty  
 He is a proud tod *quho* wil not sraip his awin holl  
 He is wyse that *quhen* he is weil can hold him so  
 He is poor *quhom* God hates  
 He is wise *quho* can mak a freind of a foe  
 He is wise *quho* is war in tyme  
 Hair and hair maks the carle beld  
 Heir all pairties
- 500] He that is feird for winnel stroes should not sleip in leyes  
 He rises over soone *quho* is hanged or noone  
 He is not the fool that the fool is but the fool that *with*  
 the fool deals  
 He that thols overcoms  
 He loves me littil that hates me for nocht  
 He that hes tuo hoords is able to gait the thrid  
 He is ane sillie begger *quho* may not go by one mans  
 dore  
 Hall binks ar slidderie  
 He is not the best wright *quho* hewes moniest spails  
 He that evell does never good weins
- 510] He that counts all costs wil never put pleugh in the  
 earth  
 He that slayes shal be slain  
 He that is ill of his harberie is good of his away going  
 He that wil not *quhen* he may shall not *quhen* he wold
- 514] Hanging goes by hap

330. K He H

\*331. K He H

332. K He H

333. K He H

334. K

\*335. K He H

336. K He H

\*337. R K He H

339. K He H

\*340.

341. K He H

\*342. AR K He H

\*343. K He H.

MS. 496. He

497. He.

EDITION 1641]

- 344] He is a foole that forgets himself.<sup>1</sup>  
 Happie man, happie cavil.<sup>2</sup>  
 He that comes uncald, sits unservd.  
 He that comes first to the hill, may sit where he will,  
 He that shames, shall be shent.<sup>3</sup>  
 He gangs earlie to steal, that cannot say na.
- 350] He should have a long shafted spoon that sups kail with  
 the devil.  
 He sits above that deals aikers.<sup>4</sup>  
 He that ought <sup>5</sup> the cow, goes nearest her tail.  
 He is worth na weill that may not byde na wae,  
 He should have a hail pow, that cals his neighbour  
 nikkienow.<sup>6</sup>  
 He that hes gold may buy land.  
 He that counts but his hoste, counts twise.  
 He that looks not or he loup, will fall or he wit of himself  
 Haste makes waste,  
 Hulie <sup>7</sup> and fair, men rides far journeys :
- 360] He that marries a daw, eats meikle dirt.  
 He that marries or he be wise, will die or he thrive.  
 Hunting, hawking, and paramours, for ane joy, a hundred  
 displeasures.  
 Hald in geir, helps well.  
 He is twise fain, that sits on a staine.  
 He that does his turne in time, sits half idel.  
 He plaints early that plaints on his kail.  
 He is good that faild never.
- 368] Half aunch,<sup>8</sup> is half fill.

---

<sup>1</sup> not in F.      <sup>2</sup> lot.      <sup>3</sup> [disgraced.]      <sup>4</sup> [acres.]      <sup>5</sup> [owned.]  
<sup>6</sup> [H has "nitty now."]      <sup>7</sup> cautiously.      <sup>8</sup> [empty.]

\*344. K He      \*345. K H      346. AR K He H      \*347. He H  
 348. K H      \*350. AR K He H      351. K      352. AR K He H



[MANUSCRIPT

- 515] He is ane fool that forgets himself  
 Happie man happie cavill  
 He that coms wncalled sits wnserved  
 He that coms first to the hill may sit *quhar* he wil  
 He that shames shall be shent
- 520] He goes airlie to steall *quho* cannot say na  
 He should hav ane long shafted spoone that sups cail  
*with* the devill  
 He sits abov *quho* deals aikeris  
 He that ought the kow goes nerest the tail  
 He is worth no weil *quho* is worth no wo  
 He should hav a haill pow cals his neighbour nokie now  
 He that hes gold may by land  
 He that compts befor the host counts twyse  
 He that looks not or he loup wil fall or he wit of  
 himself  
 Haist maks waist
- 530] Hullie & fair men ryds far  
 He that marries a da eats mekl dirt  
 He that maries or he be wyse wil die or he thrive  
 Hunting, hawking, paramours for ane joy ane hunder  
 displeasurs  
 Had in geir helps weil  
 He is tuise fain that sits upon a ston  
 He that dois his turne in tym is half Idle  
 He pleinyes airly *quho* pleins on his kail  
 He is ane good man that fallled never
- 539] Hav is aneugh

353. KH

354. K He H

\*356. KH

357. K He H

\*358. AR He H

359. AR KH

360. K He H

\*361. K He H

363. K He H

364. K He H

365. K He H

366. KH (kail=

parritch)

367. K He H

368. H.

EDITION 1641]

- 369] He is a sairie <sup>1</sup> cook that may not lick his own finger.  
 370] Hunger is hard in a hail maw.  
 He should wear iron shone that bydes his neighbours  
 deed.  
 Hame, is hamelie.<sup>2</sup>  
 He that is hated of his subjects, cannot be counted a  
 king.  
 Hap and a half-pennie, is warlds geir enough.  
 He cals me skabbed, because I will not call him skade.  
 He is blinde that eats his marrow,<sup>3</sup> but far blinder that  
 lets him.  
 Have God, and have all.  
 Honestie is na pride.  
 He that fishes afore the net, lang or he fish get.  
 380] He tint never a cow, that grate for a needle.  
 He that hes na geir to tyne, hes shins to pine.  
 He that takes all his geir fra himself, and gives to his  
 bairns, it were weill ward to take a mell and knock  
 out his harnes.<sup>4</sup>  
 He sits full still that hes a riven breik.<sup>5</sup>  
 He that does bidding, serves na dinging.  
 He that blaws best bears away the horne,  
 He is weill stakit <sup>6</sup> thereben, that will neither borrow nor  
 len  
 Hea will gar a deaf man hear.  
 He is sairest dung when his awn wand dings him.  
 389] He hes wit at will, that with angrie heart can hold him  
 stil.

<sup>1</sup> poor.  
<sup>4</sup> brains.

<sup>2</sup> F 391 adds "though never so seemly."  
<sup>5</sup> [torn trousers.]

<sup>6</sup> [stocked.]

<sup>3</sup> [companion.]

\*369. K He  
 375. H  
 380. K He H

370. K He H  
 376. H  
 381. K

\*372. AR K He H  
 377. H  
 382. K He H

378. H  
 383. K

374. K He H  
 \*379. K He H  
 384. K He H

[MANUSCRIPT

- 540] He is a sarie cook that may not lik his awin fingers  
 Hunger is hard in a haill maw  
 He should hav Iron shoon *quho* byds his neighbors dead  
 Home is Homly  
 He that is hated of his subjects cannot be counted a  
 king  
 Hap & a halfpenny is worlds geir aneugh  
 He is blind that eats his marrow bot far blinder that  
 letis him  
 He is at his wits end  
 His hand is in the creil  
 He needs not a caik of breed at all his kin
- 550] He that rode never fell never  
 He that eats *quhill* he burst wil be the worse *quhill* he<sup>d</sup>die  
 Hav I gear hav I non tyn heart all is gone  
 Hungry men ar angry  
 He is a spurgald <sup>1</sup> sporter  
 He that spears meikle gaits wit of pairte  
 He is steill to the back  
 He trowes to com to heaven *with* whol bones  
 Hully & fair men coms hom again even  
 He hes gotten ane fall at the amrie <sup>2</sup> foot
- 560] He hes the bannok hyve <sup>3</sup>  
 He hes eyn at his belt his stomach in his purs his foot in  
 his hand  
 Haistie folk wes never lastie  
 He looks as his nose war bleeding
- 564] His heed wold serv a cat in a bowel 8 dayes

385. K H

\*388. K He H

MS. 552. AR K He H

556. Cf. K

386. He H

389. K He H

562. H.

553. AR K He H

387. [H has "Hae!" for He]

555. AR K He

<sup>1</sup> [spur galled.]<sup>2</sup> [cupboard.]<sup>3</sup> [corpulence.]

EDITION 1641]

*Proverbial speeches of persons given to such vices or  
vertues as follows.*

*Of greedie persons it is said,*

- 390] **H**E can hide his meat and seek more.  
He will see day light at a little hole.  
He comes for drink, though draff be his erand.

*Of well skilled persons.*

He was born in August.  
He sees an inch before his nose.

*Of wilfull persons.*

He is at his wits end.  
He hears not at that ear.  
He wald fain be fordwart if he wist how.  
He will not give an inch of his will, for a span of his  
thriff.

*Of vousters<sup>1</sup> or new upstarts.*

- His winde shakes no corne.  
400] He thinks himself na payes<sup>2</sup> peir,  
He counts himself worthie meikle myce dirt.  
402] Henrie Cheike never slew a man while he came to him.

---

<sup>1</sup> boasters.

<sup>2</sup> F 421 has "pages."

390. K H

\*392. AR K He H

396. K H

397. K He H

398. K H

\*399. K H

400. K He

401. He, cf. K

402. K H has "Henry Clark."

[MANUSCRIPT

- 565] Hands off is fair play  
 He wil be ane man befor his mother.  
 He loves me as weil as catis dois mustard  
 He that taks mint to the bed wil never gait bairnes  
 He that hes nothing tyns nothing
- 570] He gives him the bit & the buffet *with* it  
 He hes ane defendars pairt  
 He is gon to seek his fathers sword  
 He hes past the prikes  
 He wil temper his fidle *quhill* the feast be done  
 He *quho* serves God serves a good maister  
 He *quho* serves a good maister craves not his fie  
 He hes haddin his dish under many fremd <sup>1</sup> wyfs ladle  
 He hes stramped <sup>2</sup> out many a dubs <sup>3</sup> ey  
 He thrawes rops of the hand
- 580] He wil sie his freind neid *quho* wil not sie him bleed  
 He sits full still *quho* hes a riven breik  
 He hes too lookers anew <sup>4</sup> *quho* mowes <sup>5</sup> his wyf in the  
 mercat  
 He cals salt to Dysart  
 He that looks or he lousps <sup>6</sup> wots *quhar* he lichts  
 He hes it of kynd he coft it not  
 He hes gotten his leav for ane auld servant  
 His glass is run  
 He hes the ball at his foot
- 589] He that hes ane dog of his awin may go to the kirk *with*  
 ane clean breast

<sup>1</sup> [foreignn.]<sup>2</sup> [trampled down.]<sup>3</sup> [pool.]<sup>4</sup> enough.<sup>5</sup> [mocks.]<sup>6</sup> [leaps.]

MS. 565. H

568. H ("Minting gets nae bairns")

572. K H

577. Cf. K

581. He H

583. AR, cf. He H

\*585. K He H

589. K He H.

EDITION 1641]

*Of fleyit*<sup>1</sup> *persons.*

- 403] His heart is in his hose :  
 He is war fleyit nor he is hurt.  
 He looks as the wood were full of theeves.  
 He lookes like the laird of pitie.  
 He looks like a Lochwhaber axe.

*Of false persons.*

- He will get credit of a house full of unbored milstones.  
 He lookes up with the one eye, and down with the other.  
 410] He can lie as weill as a dog can lick a dish.  
<sup>2</sup> He lies never but when the hollen <sup>3</sup> is green.  
 He bydes as fast as a cat bound with a sacer.<sup>4</sup>  
 He wald gar a man trow that the moon is made of green  
 cheis, or the cat took the heron.

*Of misnortured persons.*

- He hes a brasen face.  
 He knowes not the doore be the doore bar.  
 He spits on his own blanket.

*Of unprofitable foolish persons.*

- He harpes ay on ane string.  
 He robs Peter to pay Paul.  
 He rives the kirk to theik <sup>5</sup> the quier <sup>6</sup>  
 420] He wags a wand in the water.  
 421] He that rides or he be ready, wants some of his geir.

---

<sup>1</sup> afraid, cowardly.    <sup>2</sup> not in F.    <sup>3</sup> holly.    <sup>4</sup> [saucer.]    <sup>5</sup> [thatch.]  
<sup>6</sup> [choir.]

\*403. K He H

\*404. K He H

405. H

406. H has "fear"



[MANUSCRIPT

- 590] He trowes al his kin be dead  
 Hir tongue goes lyk a hand bell.  
 Hir tong is maid of the clatter-bone of a goose arse  
 His mothers milk is not out of his nose  
 He wots not *quhair* of the well savours *quhill* it go dry <sup>1</sup>  
 He is good to fetch the devill a preest  
 He is a corbie messinger  
 He that hes of his awin needis not to borrow  
 He is weill bodden <sup>2</sup> ther ben *that* neidis nather borrow nor  
 lend  
 Hang him *that* can not lie
- 600] He *that* wones a pennie tynes nothing  
 He is a good fellow hes ay fyve shillings in his purs  
 Hald your feet for falling  
 How comes the cow doune the lone <sup>3</sup>  
 How stands your pisle now  
 He that dings *with* the sword wil be payd home *with* the  
 scabbard  
 Hang ane theeff for the first fault & scourg him for the  
 nixt  
 Haistie lov is a sudden vengeance  
 He is ane ill gairdner *quho* lackes his awin leeks  
 He feils a string
- 610] Hearing much encreases knowledg  
 He that never did ane thing ill can never do it weill  
 He invitis a new injurie *quho* bear the old patiently
- 613] Have lade & go lad maks ane speidy ladde

407. K He H

412. H

MS. 593. K

613. K, cf. H.

408. K H

\*413. He H

596. K He

\*409.

417. H

598. K

410. K

419. H

\*605.

411. K He H

421. K.

607. K H

<sup>1</sup> [the last four words are deleted.]<sup>2</sup> provided.<sup>3</sup> [lane.]

EDITION 1641]

*Of weillie persons.*

422] He can hald the cat to the sun,  
 He kens his groats <sup>1</sup> among other folks kail.  
 He neiffers <sup>2</sup> for the better.  
 He is not so daft as he lets <sup>3</sup> him.

*Of angrie persons,*

He hes pisht on a nettle.  
 He hes not gotten the first seat of the midding the day.  
 He takes pepper in the nose.

*Of unconstant persons.*

He is like a widder cock.  
 430] He hes changed his tippet, or his cloak on the other  
 shoulder  
 He is like a dog on a cat.  
 His evening song and morning song are not both alike.  
 He is an Aberdeens man, taking his word again.

*Of persons speaking pertinently.*

He hes hit the nail on the head.  
 He hes touched him in the quick.

*Of weasters and divers.<sup>4</sup>*

He hes not a heal nail to claw him with.  
 He he hes not a pennie to buy his dog a leaf  
 438] He is as poore as Job.

---

<sup>1</sup> [grain.]      <sup>2</sup> [exchanges.]      <sup>3</sup> [behaves, appears.]      <sup>4</sup> dyvour = a bankrupt.

423. AR K He H

424. He

425. AR K He H

426. K

[MANUSCRIPT

PROVERBIAL SPEICHES OF PERSONS GIVEN TO SUCH  
VERTUES AND VICES AS AFTER FOLLOVES

*Of skilful persones*

614] He wes borne in August he hes a gust of all things  
He sies ane Inch befor his nose  
He is lyk cook Murgon he can mak nyne measses of a  
codes taill

*Of pertinent speakers*

He hes hit the nail upon the head  
He hes touched him in the quick

*Of good persones*

620]	{	as bears hyd <sup>1</sup> on his face
		as any man taks be the hand
		as ever picked
		as the earth bears
		as ever lived a lyf
He is als good a man	{	as puts his finger vnder a hen taill
		as breaths
		as lives this day
		as sets his croun to the lift <sup>2</sup>
		as belts him in a belt
		as ever sucked breist bone
630]	{	as ever sinful woman buir

\*428.

430. K H

\*432.

433. AR K He

\*434. Ie H

436. H.

<sup>1</sup> [skin.]<sup>2</sup> [sky.]

EDITION 1641]

- 439] He is as bair as the birk at Zule evin.  
 440] He begs at them that borrowit at him.  
 He hes brought his pack to a fit spead.  
 He is on the ground.  
 His hair grows through his hood.  
 He hes cryed himself diver.

*Of proud persons,*

He counts his half pennie good silver.  
 He makes meikle of his painted sheits.  
 He goes away with born head.<sup>1</sup>  
 He spils <sup>2</sup> unspoken to.  
 He hes not that bachell <sup>3</sup> to swear by.

*Of untymous persons,*

- 450] He is as welcome as water in a rivin ship.  
 He is as welcome as snaw in harvest.

*Of rash persons,*

He sets all on sex or sevin.  
 He stumbles at a strea and loupes at a brea.

*Of ignorant persons.*

- He does as the blind man when he casts his staff.  
 He brings a staff to his own head.  
 456] He gars his awn wand ding him.

<sup>1</sup> [bornhead (adv.), headlong.]<sup>2</sup> [squanders (?).]<sup>3</sup> [old shoe.]440. AR K He H  
448. K

441. Cf. H

\*445. K H

\*446.

[MANUSCRIPT

- 631] { as treads the grasse doune  
 as speaks *with* a tongue  
 as bears hands  
 as puts his fute in a blak shoe  
 as ever cold water christned  
 He is als { as sayes yea or na  
 good a man { as ever pissed *with* a pintle  
 As handles suord or knyf  
 as steps  
 640] { as wears sheaps wool  
 as bears hair  
 as casts salt in his teath

*Of meik quyet discreit and humble persones*

He cannot offend a dog  
 He is ane illes <sup>1</sup> bodie  
 He is ane honest Gods man  
 He is ane sillie Gods gook  
 He is lyk ane dow <sup>2</sup> he wants a gall.

*Of wylie persones*

He knowes his groats among other folks caill  
 He can hold the cat to the sunne  
 650] He niffers for the better.  
 He is not so daft as he leits him  
 He hears not on that ear  
 653] He hes mo wyls nor wold droune a shipful of geis

---

449. He H      450. He H      451. He H      \*452.      453. K

\*455. AR K He H.

MS. \*647      649. He      651. He.

<sup>1</sup> ill-less = harmless.      <sup>2</sup> [dove.]

EDITION 1641]

- 457] He breads of the gate that casts all down at evin.  
 He hes good skill of rosted wool, when it stinkes it is  
 enough.

*Of effeminate persons.*

- He is John <sup>1</sup> Thomsones man, couthing <sup>2</sup> carle.  
 460] He wears short hose.

*Of drankards.*

His head is full of bees.  
 He may write to his friends.  
 His hand is in the creill.  
 He is better fed nor nortured.  
 He needs not a cake of bread at all his kin.

*Of hypocrates.*

- He hes meikle prayer, but little devotion.  
 He runs with the hound and holds with the hair.  
 He hes a face to God, and another to the devill.  
 He is a wolfe in a lambs skin.  
 470] He breaks my head, and syn puts on my how.<sup>3</sup>  
 He can say, My jo, and think it not.  
 He sleeps as dogs does, when wives sifts meal.  
 473] He will go to hell for the house profit.

---

<sup>1</sup> "John ought undoubtedly to be Joan" (Jamieson, vol. ii. pp. 702, 703)—  
 a husband ruled by his wife.      <sup>2</sup> cowardly.      <sup>3</sup> [nightcap.]



[MANUSCRIPT

- 654] He wold sell us all in a mercat  
 He can hold meal in his mouth & blow  
 He hes ane ey in his neck.  
 He wold sell the cow & sup the milk

*Of greedy persones*

- He can eat his meat and ask more  
 He wil sie day light at a littl hole  
 660] He coms for draff but drink is his earand  
 He wil go to hell for the houses profit  
 He is lyk the hen sho runs to the heap  
 He can tak the meat of your foot  
 His heart sits in a narrow holl  
 He is eatik.<sup>1</sup>  
 He wald eat ane hors behind the sadell.

*Of wilful persones*

He wil not giv ane Inch of his wil for a span of his thrift

*Of vowsters<sup>2</sup> & new startups*

- His wind shaiks no corne  
 He thinks himself no pages peir  
 670] He thinks himself worth meikl myse dirt  
 He is new com over. he is a new start up a novice  
 672] He hes scarce seen the lyonis

466. He H      \*469.      \*470. K      471. K He H      472. He H  
 473. K H.  
 MS. 656. K He      667. He.  
<sup>1</sup> etick = lean.      <sup>2</sup> braggarts.

## MANUSCRIPT]

*Of fleyd persons*

- 673] His heart is in his hose  
 He is wors fleyd nor he is hurt  
 He looks as the wood wer full of theeves  
 He looks lyk a Murray man melting brass  
 He is so fleyd he wil never ly *quhar* he is slayne  
 He is fleyd for a fart & I hav lettin tuentie  
 He wil stand behind yow till ye be thrise felled.
- 680] He that is afrayd of every bush wil never proue good  
 huntsman  
 He that at every blast putis to the lee wil never be good  
 saylour

*Of fals persones*

- He wil gait credit of ane housful of wnbored milstons  
 He looks up *with* on ey & doun *with* the other  
 He can lie als weill as ane dog can lick ane dish  
 He lyes never bot *quhen* the Holin is grein  
 He playes buck hood <sup>1</sup> in my cood <sup>2</sup>  
 He wil byd als long fast as a cat wil be bound *with* a  
 blood pudding  
 He wil gar a man trow *that* the moon war maid of grein  
 chees  
 He *that* a grip of him hes holds a slidderie eill be the taill
- 690] He can mak a crak <sup>3</sup>  
 His fingers is lyk lyme wands <sup>4</sup>  
 He hes a tong could suck a laverok out of the lift
- 693] He wold gar ane trow *that* spaid shafts bears honey  
 plowmes

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<sup>1</sup> hide-and-seeck.    <sup>2</sup> pillow.    <sup>3</sup> [tell a lie.]    <sup>4</sup> [lime-rods = twigs with  
 bird-lime.]

674. He    676. K He    684. H    685. AR    689. AR K He H

[MANUSCRIPT

*Of misnortered persons*

694] He knowes not the dure be the dure barr.  
 He hes ane brasen face  
 He is better fed nor he is nurtered  
 He is better stoped <sup>1</sup> nor he is pricked.

*Of feckles foolish persons*

He hairpes ay on ane string  
 He robs Peter to pay Paull  
 700] He turre <sup>2</sup> the kirk to theik the queir  
 He wages a wand in the water  
 He spits on his awin blanket  
 He is head of wit  
 His head hes meikl wit about it  
 He spills wnsproken to  
 He hes eaten raw kaes he is ay clavering  
 He wots not what trie grots growes on  
 He is bot ane petie bowy <sup>3</sup> or cow hobby <sup>4</sup>

*Of Angrie persones*

He hes pissed on a nettle  
 710] He taks pepper in his nose  
 He cannot sie his awin teith for anger  
 He is als angry as ane hair

*Of Inconstant persones*

He is lyk ane widder cok in the wind  
 714] He hes changed his cloak upon his other shoulder

692. Cf. He H

696. K H

\*699. AR He

707. K, cf. H

\*710.

714. He.

<sup>1</sup> [stuffed.]<sup>2</sup> [strips.]<sup>3</sup> [petty boy.]<sup>4</sup> [cowherd.]

## MANUSCRIPT]

- 715] He is lyk a dog upon a cat  
 His evening song & morning song ar not both one  
 His head is ful of bees  
 He taks his marks be the moone  
 He is als vain as a fidler
- 720] He is not worth the woll <sup>1</sup> of a dog  
 He is als vain as a staff  
 His on hand waits not *quhat* the other is doing

*Of Waisters & Debtors*

- He hes not ane haill naill to claw him  
 He hes not a penny to buy his dog a loaff  
 He is als poor as Job  
 He is als bair as the birk on Yul even  
 He begges at *them* that borrowed at him  
 He hes broght his pleugh to a foot spaid  
 He hes broght his pak to a pack pin
- 730] He is on the grund  
 His hair growes through his hood  
 He hes cryed himself dyver  
 His purs goes lyk a linget <sup>2</sup> pock  
 His back is at the wall  
 He hes not in goodis & geir so much as fyv schillings  
 and ane plack he dyvoiris went to saen <sup>3</sup> this

*Of Proud persons*

- He counts his halfpenny good silver  
 He maks meikl of his painted sheets
- 738] He goes away *with* borne head

<sup>1</sup> [wool.]<sup>2</sup> [linen.]<sup>3</sup> save.

[MANUSCRIPT

- 739] He spils wnsproken to  
 740] He looks lyk ane hen drinking water  
 He looks not so laich

*Of Wntymous persones*

He is als welcom as water in ane riven ship

*Of rash persones*

He sets all upon sex or seven  
 He wold fain be fordward if he wist how

*Of Ignorant persones*

He does as the blind man *quhen* he casts his staff  
 He brings a staff to his awin head  
 He gars his awin wand ding him  
 He breids of the goat that casts all downe at even &  
 gives good milk all day  
 He is lyk the preest that can not say mess of his awin book

*Of Effeminat persones*

- 750] He is Jhone Thomsons man  
 He is couth him cairle  
 He wears short hose

*Of drunkards*

- He may wryt to his freinds  
 He needs not a drop of all his kine  
 755] He is a bon-companion

## MANUSCRIPT]

- 756] He is a teuch taster.  
 He is weel blinked  
 He is after caps  
 He gives it again better cheip nor he boght it
- 760] He hes put the hemp savour of him  
 He is burseen all day *with* bearing timber to the craig  
 Habet. He hes stollen the Whelp Stourie

*Of Hypocrites*

- He hes much prayer bot littl devotion  
 He runs *with* the hound & holds *with* the hair  
 He hes ane face to God and ane other to the devill  
 He is ane wolf in a lambs skin
- 767] He can say my Jo & think it not

## EDITION 1641]

## I

- 474] I T is a sairie brewing, that is not good in the newing.<sup>1</sup>  
 I It is tint that is done to childe and auld men.  
 Ill weids waxes weill  
 In some mens aught mon the auld horse die.  
 It is a soothe <sup>2</sup> bourd <sup>3</sup> that men sees wakin.  
 In space comes grace.
- 480] It is ill to bring out of the flesh that is bred in the bane.  
 Ill win, ill warit.
- 482] It is a sillie flock where the zowe bears the bell.

<sup>1</sup> when it is fresh.      <sup>2</sup> honest.      <sup>3</sup> dream.  
 474. K      475. AR KH      \*476. KH      477. K      478. KH  
 \*479.      \*480. AR K      481. KH      482. KH.



[MANUSCRIPT

- 768] He sleeps as dogs does *quhen* wyfes sifts meall  
 He stumbles at ane strae and louns over ane brae  
 770] He breaks my head & syn puts on my how  
 He can giv ane good gooss & ane ill gansell *with* it

He let a fart farneyeir<sup>1</sup> and is gon to sie *quhat* savour it  
 hes the yeir

He is not ever seik *quhen* he is ill hewed.

He that does bidding deserves no dinging

He that dies for ane cunt causs burie him in the arse

He is not worth ane swayn that letis his labour for the  
 rain

Humff hamf *quod* the laird of Bamf.

He is the only swallow of *our* sommer.

- 779] He is a neiv

[MANUSCRIPT

## I

- 780] It is ane sarrie brewing that is not good in the newing  
 It is all tint *quhilk* is done to child & auld man  
 Ill weids waxes weel  
 In some manes aught must the auld horse die  
 It is a suith boord that men sies waking  
 In space comes grace  
 It is ill to bring out of the flesh *quhilk* is bred in the bone  
 Ill woon ill waired  
 788] It is a sillie flok *quhar* the ew bears the bell

<sup>1</sup> last year.

EDITION 1641]

- 483] It is a sin to lye on the devil.  
 It is eith till, that the awn self will.  
 It is good mowes <sup>1</sup> that fils the wombe.  
 It is na time to stoup when the head is aff.  
 It is fair in hall, where beards wags all.  
 It will come in an houre that will not come in a year.  
 If thou do na ill, do na ill like.
- 490] If thou steal not my kail, break not my dyke.  
 If ye may spend meikle, put the more to the fire.  
 If I can get his cairt at a walter,<sup>2</sup> I shall lend it a put.<sup>3</sup>  
 If I may not keep goose, I shall keep gesline.  
 It is kindlie <sup>4</sup> that the poke sare of the hearine.  
 It is eith to cry zule on another mans cost.  
 Ilke a man as he loves, let him send to the cooks.  
 It is eith to swimme where the head is holden up.  
 It is well warit they have sorrow that buys with their  
 silver.  
 If ane will not, another will.
- 500] It is ill to take a breik off a bair arse.  
 It is dear bought honey that is lickt off a thorne.  
 If God be with us, wha will be against us.  
 It is weill warit that wasters want geir,  
 It is ill to bring butte the thing that is not there benne.  
 It that lyes not in your gate, breaks not your shinnes.  
 It is na play where ane greits, and another laughs.  
 If a man knew what wald be dear, he wald be but mer-  
 chant for a year.
- 508] It is true that all men sayes.

<sup>1</sup> [morsels of food.]<sup>2</sup> overturn.<sup>3</sup> [push, shove.]<sup>4</sup> [natural.]

483. K He H      486. AR K      \*487. AR K He      488. AR K He H  
 489. K H      490. K      491. K H      492. K      493. AR K He H  
 494. AR K H      495. AR K      \*497. AR K He H      \*499.

[MANUSCRIPT

- 789] It is a sin to lie on the devill  
 790] Its ill to till *quhat* thy awinself wil  
 Its good mowes *that* fils the belly  
 It is no tyme to stoup *quhen* the head is off  
 Its fair in hall *quhair* beardis wags all  
 It wil com in on hour wil not com in a year  
 If thow do no ill do no ill lyk  
 If thow steil no my kaill brik no my dyk  
 If yow may spend much put the mor to the fyre  
 If I can gait his cairt at a waulter I shall lend it a putt  
 If I can not kaip goose I sall kep gaisling  
 800] Its kyndly <sup>1</sup> the pock savour of the herring  
 It is eith to cry Yule on ane other mans cost  
 It is easie swiming *quhair* the head is borne up  
 It is weil wared they hav sorow *quho* buyes it *with* ther  
 silver  
 If on wil not ane other will  
 It is hard to tak a breik off ane bair ars  
 It is dear boght honey *quhilk* is licked off a thorne  
 Iff God be *with* us *quho* wil be against us  
 Its weill waird *that* waisters want  
 Its ill to bring but *that* is not ther benn  
 810] If *that* lyes not in your gait breaks not your toes  
 It is no pastyme *quhair* ane greits & ane other laughs  
 If a man knew *quhat* wold be dear he wold be marchand  
 bot ane year  
 813] It must be trew *quhilk* al men sayes

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500. AR K He H      501. AR K H      \*502.      503. AR K<sup>1</sup>He  
 504. AR K H      506. AR K He H      \*507. K He H      \*508. AR K He H.  
 MS. 809. Cf. H.

<sup>1</sup> [natural.]

## EDITION 1641]

- 509] I have a good bow, but it is in the castle.  
 510] It is hard to fling at the brod,<sup>1</sup> or kick at the prick.  
 Ilk man mend ane, and all will be mendit.  
 It is a sairie collope <sup>2</sup> that is tain off a Capone.  
 Ill bairnes are best heard at home.  
 It is ill to wakin sleeping dogs,  
 Ill hirds makes fat wolffs.  
 It is hard to wife, and thrive in a year.  
 It is good sleeping in a heal skin.  
 It is not tint that is done to friends.  
 It is ill to draw a strea before an auld cat.  
 520] It is a paine both to pay and pray.  
 It is good fishing in drumling <sup>3</sup> waters.  
 It is little of Gods might, to make a poore man a knight.  
 It is good baking beside meal.  
 It is a good goose that drops ay.  
 It is not the habite that makes the monk.  
 It is not good to want and to have.  
 It hes neither arse nor elbow.  
 I shall sit on his skirt.  
 It is a bair moore that he goes over and gets not a cow.  
 530] I shall hold his nose on the grindstone.  
 It goes as meikle in his heart as in his heel.  
 It goes in at the one ear, and out at the other.  
 It is na mair pittie to see a woman greit, nor to see a  
 goose go bair fit.  
 It is weill said, but <sup>4</sup> wha will bell the cat.  
 535] It is short while seen the louse boore the langelt.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> [goad.]      <sup>2</sup> [slice of meat.]      <sup>3</sup> [turbid.]      <sup>4</sup> "bnt" in original.  
<sup>5</sup> hobble.

509. AR K He H      \*510.      512. K He H      513. AR K He H  
 \*514. AR K      515. AR K He H      \*516. K He H      \*517. AR  
 518. AR K He H      \*519. Cf. K H      521. H      522. K H

[MANUSCRIPT

- 814] It is a pet <sup>1</sup> *quhilk* wil not cling  
 It is hard to fling at the brod  
 It is hard to kick at the prick  
 Ilkane mend on & al wil be mended  
 It is a shamed collop is gotten of a capon  
 Ill bairnes ar best hard at home
- 820] It is ill to waken sleiping dogs  
 Ill hirds maks fatt wolfs  
 It is hard to wyve & thryv in on yeir  
 It is good sleeping in a whol skin  
 It is not tint *that* is don to a freind  
 It is ill to draw ane strae befor ane old cat  
 It is pain both to pay & pray  
 It is good fishing in drumly waters  
 It is litle of Gods might to mak a poor man a knight  
 It is good baiking besyd meall
- 830] It is ane good goose *that* drops ay  
 It is not the habit maks the monk. *Cuculus non facit monachum*  
 It is not good to want and have  
 It is nather erse nor elbow  
 I shall sit on his skirt  
 It is a bair moor he goes over & gaits not ane kow  
 I shall hold his nose in the grindstone  
 It goes als much in his hart as his heal  
 It goes in at the on ear and out at the other
- 839] It is short whyl sinc louse boor langelt

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524. AR K            525. AR K H            527. K            529. AR, cf. K H  
 532. K            533. K H            \*534. K He            535. K He.  
 MS. 830. H            831. He.

<sup>1</sup> peat.

## EDITION 1641]

- 536] I have a sliddrie eill by the tail.  
 It is as meit as a sow to bear a saddle.  
 It is as meet as a thief for the widdie.  
 I wald I had as meikle pepper as he compts himself  
 worthy myse dirt.
- 540] It will be an ill web to bleitch.  
 I cannot finde you baith tailes and eares.  
 It is ill to make a blowen horne of a tods tail.  
 If ever ye make a luckie pudding I shall eat the prick.<sup>1</sup>  
 It that God will give, the devil can not reave.  
 In a good time I say it, in a better I leave it.  
 Its a sillie pack that may not pay the custome.  
 I have seen as light green.  
 Its a cold coal to blow at.  
 Its a sair field where all are dung down.
- 550] Its a sair dung bairn that dare not greit.  
 I wat where my awn shoe bindes me.
- 552] If ye wanted me and your meat, ye wald want ane good  
 friend.

## MANUSCRIPT]

- 840] It is als meit for him as ane sow for ane saddle  
 It is als meit for him as ane thief for the widdie  
 I wold I had als much pepper as he counts himself  
 worth of myse dirt
- 843] It wil be ane ill web to bletch

<sup>1</sup> [skewer.]

\*537. Cf. AR      538. AR IHe H      539. He      540. H      541. K  
 542. AR K      543. K He H      544. He H      546. K H      548. K H  
 549. K H      550. AR K H      552. K.



[MANUSCRIPT

- 844] I can not find yow both teals & ears  
 It is hard to mak a blowing horne of a tods tail  
 If ever ye mak a luckie pudding I shall eat the prik  
 It that God wil give the devill cannot reave  
 It is no more pitie to sie a woman greit nor to sie ane  
     goose go barefooted on good Yuil even  
 It dois a woman no more harme to greit nor a goose to  
     go barefooted
- 850] I can not sit in Rome & stryve *with* the pope  
 I hav ane good bow bot it is in the castel  
 Ilk a corne hes the chaff and every land hes the laugh  
 It is ill *quhilk* may not be hard  
 I am even steeling throw the world lyk ane wobster <sup>1</sup>  
 I rather hear my awin cow rout <sup>2</sup> in the lown <sup>3</sup>  
 Iff ye mint <sup>4</sup> Is' lay one  
 It is a loss in a land to sie a fair Candlermes day  
 I lov not tuo handed fish, tuo lugged aill nor tuo knyfed  
     bread  
 It wil ather light on gunnie <sup>5</sup> or the gryses
- 860] It is ane ill faced bairne *quhilk* is goten against the  
     fathers will  
 I can not both rin & spin & pisse & gather spails  
 I wold not hav your fyking <sup>6</sup> for all your eg <sup>7</sup>  
 It wil melt in your mouth lyk ane mears toord  
 If ye brew weil yow wil drink the better  
 If I be not welcom to come I am welcome to go  
 It is ill buying of oats from a goose
- 867] It is good to be good all day & not ill at even

<sup>1</sup> weaver.<sup>2</sup> [bellow.]<sup>3</sup> [quiet.]<sup>4</sup> [intend, aim at.]<sup>5</sup> (?) name for sow.<sup>6</sup> [fidgeting.]<sup>7</sup> [(?) egging, agitation.]

MS. 850. AR K H

860. K H

864. K

866. AR.

## MANUSCRIPT]

- 868] It is good to be good & duell *with* God  
 It wes betuix sex & seven
- 870] I will warrand it & that is better nor steilbow <sup>1</sup>  
 It shal never crow in my crop.  
 I lov not the meat *quhilk* crowes in my womb  
 It is fair befor the wrans door *quhar* no man haunts  
 If *that* had bein ane toord ye had tain abytt of it  
 Jesu cam out of Jhon Allans house & staw <sup>2</sup> all the  
 bairnes away  
 It is the fashion in Rome to go barefoot that wants  
 shoone  
 Ise' gar yow stot <sup>3</sup> lyk a bonnetmaker  
 It is a sillie kin ther is nather hoor nor thief in  
 It is no sham to him to be a thief he is thief faced
- 880] It is no tyme to gather kaill *quhen* the yaird is full of  
 pintalis  
 Ise' gar yow sweat at the shill of the forret <sup>4</sup>  
 Ise' gar yow stand *with* a trembling face  
 Its shame to sie ane auld horse run away *with* the  
 harrowes  
 I cannot liv on the air I am no Salmond  
 I am a gentlman my *guidschirs* *grandschiris* godfather  
 was once a lord of the Seat  
 I gat never a wer foe nor I broght from home
- 887] Its ill stealing besyd a thief

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<sup>1</sup> [quantity of farming stock.]    <sup>2</sup> [stole.]    <sup>3</sup> [rebound.]    <sup>4</sup> [(?) forest.]

[MANUSCRIPT

- 888] I deny it ill & falsly as Caldwell<sup>1</sup> did his Creed  
 It is ill bairne borrowing a cats kitling sho is ay mewting  
 for it
- 890] It runes in a blood  
 It is als tender as Seafealds mutton it is 9 tymes  
 tenderer nor a tuird.  
 It is long since we saw a mot<sup>2</sup> in your cap  
 It is ayther a tod or a fairne busse<sup>3</sup>  
 Ise' play yow a Norland<sup>4</sup>  
 Ise wynd yow a pirne<sup>5</sup>  
 It is good gear *quhilk* lasts ay  
 It is a good feast that lasts ay  
 It is a good goose that drops ay  
 I am fasting alday except of Sin
- 900] I loved all the bairnetyme the worse becaus yowr father  
 wold not marie me  
 I can not both sup & blow  
 I wil cause him trow the moone is made of grein cheiss  
 It is ane weil win pennie is haden from the bellie  
 I shall causs all *yowr* dudis<sup>6</sup> wallop<sup>7</sup>  
 It is but a tale of a turff or mater for a mattok.  
 If yow cannot be trew, learne to be constant  
 It is as true as tryed  
 It is a neir collop is cut of thy owin flesh.
- 909] In loue is no lack

---

<sup>1</sup> [(?) "Fenwick, *vere* Caldwell, John (1628-1679), jesuit, was born in 1628 in the county of Durham, of protestant parents, who disowned him when on arriving at mature age he embraced the Roman catholic faith." Dict. of Nat. Biog., vol. xviii., p. 328.] <sup>2</sup> [mote.] <sup>3</sup> [bush.] <sup>4</sup> [North Country tune.] <sup>5</sup> [plan trouble for you.] <sup>6</sup> [clothes.] <sup>7</sup> [leap, dance.] MS. \*908. \*909. He.

EDITION 1641]

## K

- 553] **K** Ame single, kame sair.  
 Kindnesse comes of will.  
 Kindnesse will creep where it may not gang.  
 Kindnesse cannot be bought for geir.  
 Kail spaires bread.  
 Kamesters <sup>1</sup> are ay creeshie.<sup>2</sup>  
 Knowledge is eith born about.
- 560] Kings are out of play.  
 Kings and Bares oft worries their keepers.  
 Kings hes long ears.  
 Kings caff is worth other mens corne.
- 564] Kindnesse lyes not ay in ane syde of the house.

EDITION 1641]

## L

- 565] **L** Ittle intermetting makes good friends.  
 Long tarrying takes all the thank away.  
 Little <sup>3</sup> good is soon spendit.<sup>4</sup>  
 Lang lean <sup>5</sup> makes hameald <sup>6</sup> cattel.
- 569] Little wit makes meikle travell.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [wool-comber.]    <sup>2</sup> greasy.    <sup>3</sup> Original, "Liitle."    <sup>4</sup> A 567 and A 584 are combined in F 588.    <sup>5</sup> [alone.]    <sup>6</sup> [homely.]    <sup>7</sup> [work.]

553. AR    554. AR He    555. AR K He H    557. AR K He H  
 558. AR K He H    560. K    561. K H    562. He    563. AR K He H

[MANUSCRIPT

## K

- 910] Kaime seldome kaime sore  
 Kindnes comes of wil  
 Kindnes wil creip *quhair* it may not gang  
 Kyndnes may not be boght for gear  
 Kail spaires bread  
 Kings ar out of play  
 Kings & boares offtymys wirries ther keipers  
 Kings hes long ears  
 Kemsters ar creishie  
 Keik <sup>1</sup> in the kailpot & glowr in the amrie
- 920] Kiss my ars & I shal claw your elbow  
 Kisse me the night I wil ryd the morne  
 Kiss me and I wil claw out your eyne  
 Kisse a cairle <sup>2</sup> & clap a cairle & tyne a carle  
     douse <sup>3</sup> a carle and souss <sup>4</sup> a carle and win a carle  
 Kisses & commands ar theifles chear  
 Kind passes nurture  
 Kindnes stands not wpon ane syd or silver spons  
 Keip yow from the devil and the lairds bairnes
- 928] Kittok sat in pepper pock pikel pepper Kittock <sup>5</sup>

[MANUSCRIPT

## L

- 929] Little Intrometting maks good freinds  
 930] Lang tarring taks al the thanks away  
     Little good is soone spended  
 932] Littl wit maks meikle travell

---

\*565. Cf. K    566. He H    567. AR KH    568. H    569. AR KH.  
 MS. 919. K    923. K He, cf. H    927. AR He.

<sup>1</sup> [peep.]    <sup>2</sup> [churl.]    <sup>3</sup> [plunge vigorously into water.]    <sup>4</sup> thrash  
 soundly.    <sup>5</sup> In a later hand.

## EDITION 1641]

- 570] Lear <sup>1</sup> young, lear fair.  
 Like drawes to like, and a skabbed horse to an ald dyke.  
 Laith to the bed, laith out of the bed.  
 Little may an ald horse do, if he may not nye.<sup>2</sup>  
 Let them that are cold blow at the coal.  
 Lang standing, and little offering makes a poore prise.<sup>3</sup>  
 Love hes na lack.  
 Leave the court, or the court leave thee.  
 Light supper makes long life.  
 Lykit geir is half bought.
- 580] Lordships changes manners.  
 Light winning makes a heavie purse.<sup>4</sup>  
 Live and let live,  
 Livelesse, faultlesse.  
 Little said, soon mendit.  
 Laith to the drink, and leath fra it.  
 Lightlie comes, lightly goes.  
 Last in the bed, best heard.  
 Lata <sup>5</sup> is lang and dreich.<sup>6</sup>  
 Little waits an ill hussie what a dinner holds in.
- 590] Laddes will be men.  
 Lauch and lay down again.  
 Likelie lies in the myre, and unliklie goes by it.  
 Let him drink as he hes browin.  
 Like to die, mends not the kirk yard.
- 595] Luck and a bone voyage.

---

<sup>1</sup> [learn.]      <sup>2</sup> [neigh.]      <sup>3</sup> Perhaps for "priest," as in K; although F 596 gives "price." [Cf. Fergusson's complaints *re* the poverty of his stipend (see p. viii of Introd. Notice to Principal Lee's Reprint (Edin. 1860) of 'Ane Answer to Renat Benedict's Epistle,' referred to in Introd., p. xi).]

<sup>4</sup> A 767 duplicates this proverb, but with "small" as the first word.

<sup>5</sup> Laute, lawta=loyalty, fidelity.      <sup>6</sup> [tedious.]



[MANUSCRIPT

- 933] Learne yong learne fair  
 Lik drawes to lyk ane scabbed horse to ane old dyk  
 Loth to the bed loth out of it  
 Littl may ane old horse do if he may not nie  
 Let thəm that ar cold blow at the coll  
 Long standing & little offering maks soone ane poor  
 preist  
 Lov hes no lack
- 940] Leav the court or it leav yow  
 Light supper long lyf gait airy up and dyne  
 Lyked gear is half coft  
 Lordships changes maners  
 Light winning maks a heavy purs  
 Liv and let live  
 Littl said is soon mended  
 Loath to the drink loth fra the drink  
 Lightlie coms lightly goes  
 Last in the bed best hard
- 950] Lata hes long teeth  
 Litl wots ane evil hussie *quhat* a good denner holds in  
 Lads wil be men  
 Laugh & lay doun again  
 Liklie lyes in the myre & wnlikly goes by it  
 Let him drink as he hes brewen  
 Like to die mends not the kirk-yaird
- 957] Luck & a bon voyage

---

573. AR K He H	*574. K H	*575. K He H	576. H
577. K He H	578. AR K He H	579. K H	580. K
581. AR K	582. R AR K He	584. R K H	585. K He H
*586. AR K He H	587. K He H	588. K	589. K 590. H
591. K He H	592. AR K He H	*593. H	594. Cf. AR K H.
MS. 946. He	*948. AR.		

## EDITION 1641]

- 596] Lang or ye cut Falkland wood with a pen knife.  
 Love me little, and love me lang.  
 Let alone makes mony lurdon.<sup>1</sup>  
 Little troubles the eye, but far lesse the soul.
- 600] Little kens the wife that sits by the fire, how the winde  
 blowes cold in hurle burle swyre.<sup>2</sup>
- 

## MANUSCRIPT]

- 958] Lang or ye cut Falkland Wood *with* a pen knyf  
 Lang lend maks hemeld cattell.
- 960] Lov me little & lov me longer  
 Lie as the divel bad yow  
 Lov & dirt ar tuo stark things  
 Little head muckl wit  
 Live not the hie gait for the by rod  
 Littl worse nor ill maryed  
 Let alon your bauch<sup>3</sup> pleyes  
 Let me sie your back.  
 Let him *quho* begat the bairne hold the bairne
- 969] Littl wats the ful sow that lyes in the sty how hungry  
 sho is that goes by.
- 

<sup>1</sup> worthless person.                      <sup>2</sup> [Hurly Burly Swire is the name of a place  
 between Nithsdale and Clydesdale.]                      <sup>3</sup> [sorry.]

596. K He H                      \*597. R AR K He H                      598. K He H                      599. H  
 600. K He H.

[MANUSCRIPT

- 970] Lord sav us from the swyn in Ford<sup>1</sup> for thay hav  
 long teeth.  
 Laugh but your part  
 Light & giv your mear a bait or doken  
 Light & lead  
 Lov covers many Infirmities  
 Littl lov maks meikl stryfe  
 Lang & smal lyk the cats elbow  
 Littl compt littl cair  
 Littl thrift little grace  
 Littil good littil ill
- 980] Leiss me<sup>2</sup> of your laughing face ye look lyk a kisse  
 Liking is cryed down tak a shule<sup>3</sup> and shoot in yow.  
 Leive *with* good men  
 Lick<sup>4</sup> *quhair* yow layed  
 Let alone macks many ane knave  
 Littil evil, dois littil hurt  
 Lett never sorrow go so neir thy hairt  
 Let the wind blow  
 Look or yow leap.  
 Love beg[i]nneth in gold & endeth in beggery.
- 990] Love *without* landis is lyk a fyr *without* fewell.  
 Love is fyre & water sorrow
- 992] Love hath no lack, and lov hath no law.

<sup>1</sup> [Ford, 2 miles S.E. of Coupar-Angus.]<sup>2</sup> [pleased am I.]<sup>3</sup> [shovel.]<sup>4</sup> [strike.]MS. 959. He  
984. AR968. AR He H  
986. H \*988. H974. AR He  
\*992. K He H.

977. AR K H

EDITION 1641]

## M

- 601] **M**ony yrons in the fire part mon coole.  
 Maidens should be meek while they be married.  
 Men may buy gold over dear.  
 Mony purses holds friends together  
 Meat and cloath makes the man <sup>1</sup>  
 Mony hands makes light work.  
 Make not twa mews <sup>2</sup> of an daughter  
 Meat is good, but mense <sup>3</sup> is better.  
 Mony masters, quoth the poddock to the harrow, when  
 everie tind <sup>4</sup> took her a knock,
- 610] Mint or ye strike.  
 Measure, is treasure.  
 Mony men does lack, that yat wald fain have in their pack.  
 Misterfull folk mon not be mensfull.<sup>5</sup>  
 Many smals makes a great.  
 Maisterie mawes the meadows down.  
 Mony speaks of Robin Hood, that never shot in his bow.  
 Mister <sup>6</sup> makes men of craft.  
 Meikle water runs where the millar sleeps  
 Meikle mon a good heart tholl.
- 620] Mony cares for meal that hes bakin bread enough.  
 Meikle spoken, part mon spill.  
 Messengers should neither be headed nor hanged.  
 Men are blinde in their own cause.
- 624] Mony words wald have meikle drink.

---

<sup>1</sup> F 627 reads "Meat makes, and cloath shapes, but manners makes a man."  
<sup>2</sup> maich = son-in-law. <sup>3</sup> [good manners.] <sup>4</sup> a harrow tooth. <sup>5</sup> modest. <sup>6</sup> [necessity, need.]

601. AR K He H \*602. AR K He H 604. H \*606. AR K He H  
 607. K 608. K He H 609. AR K He H 610. K H \*611.

[MANUSCRIPT

## M

- 993] Mony Irons in the fyre pairt must coole  
 Maidens should be meik till they be maried  
 Men may buy gold over dear  
 Mony purses holds freinds long together  
 Meat & cloth maks the man  
 Mony hands maks light work & namly <sup>1</sup> at the meat  
 Meat is good but mens is better
- 1000] Mony maisters *quod* the paddok *quhen* ilk a tynd  
 took hir a touk  
 Mint er ye strike  
 Measur is treasure  
 Mony men dois lack that *quhilk* he wold fain hav in  
 his pack  
 Misterfull folks must not be mensfull  
 Mony smals maks a great  
 Maistrie mawes the midow doune  
 Mony speaks of good Robin that never shot in his bow  
 Mister maks men of craft  
 Much water runs *quhen* the miller sleeps or much water  
 runeth by the mill that the miller knawes not of
- 1010] Meikl must ane good heart tholl  
 Mony caires for meal *quho* hes baiken bread eneugh  
 Meikl spoken pairt must spill  
 Messingers should nather be headed nor hanged  
 Men ar blind in *ther* awin causs
- 1015] Mony words requyrs much drink

612. K He H

617. K H

621. AR K He H

MS. 1009. K H.

613. K He H

\*618. K He

622. K

\*614.

619. K H

624. He H.

\*616. K He H

620. K He H

<sup>1</sup> [particularly.]

EDITION 1641]

- 625] Man propones, but God dispons.  
 Mony man serves a thanklesse master.  
 Mony words fills not the furlot.<sup>1</sup>  
 Mony kinsfolk, but few friends.<sup>2</sup>  
 Men goes over the dyke at the laichest.
- 630] Might, often times overcomes right.  
 Mends<sup>3</sup> is worth misdeeds.  
 Meikle head, little wit.  
 Mustard after meat.  
 Millers takes ay the best multar<sup>4</sup> with their own  
 hand.  
 Monie man speirs the gate he knowes full well.  
 Mussell not the oxens mouth.  
 Meikle hes, wald ay have mair.  
 Monie tynes the halfe marke whinger,<sup>5</sup> for the halfe pennie  
 whange.  
 Make not meikle of little.
- 640] Mony man makes an erand to the hall, to bid the Ladie  
 good-day.  
 Mony brings the raike but few the shovell.  
 Make no balkes<sup>6</sup> of good bear land.  
 March whisquer<sup>7</sup> was never a good fisher.
- 644] Meat and masse never hindred no man.

---

<sup>1</sup> [vessel used for measuring corn.]      <sup>2</sup> F 650 reads "Many ants, many  
 eams, many kin and few friends."      <sup>3</sup> [reparation.]      <sup>4</sup> [toll taken by  
 miller for grinding grain.]      <sup>5</sup> [dagger.]      <sup>6</sup> strips of unploughed land  
 dividing holdings.      <sup>7</sup> a blustering wind.

\*625. K He H      626. AR K He      627. K He H      628. He H  
 629. AR K H      \*630. K      631. Cf. He      632. K H



[MANUSCRIPT

- 1016] Men propones bot God dispons  
 Mony men serves ane thankles maister  
 Mony words fils not the sack  
 Mor belongs to a bed nor four bair limmes
- 1020] Mony kinsfolk, bot few freindis  
 Men goes over the dyck at the laighest  
 Might overgangs right  
 Mends is worth misdeid  
 Meikle head littil wit  
 Mustard after meat  
 Millers gat never ane better mowtar nor they took them-  
 selfs  
 Mony man spears the gait he kens ful weill  
 Mussill not the ox mouth  
 Meikl wold hav more
- 1030] Mony tynes the half merk whinger for the halfpennie  
 thong  
 Mak not meikl of little  
 Mony maks ane earand to the hall to bid the Lady good-  
 day  
 Mony brings the raik bot few the shuill  
 Mak not tuo mews <sup>1</sup> of on doghter  
 Mony ar father war few father better  
 Meikle catle meikl cair  
 Meikldom <sup>2</sup> is no vertue  
 Malt spairs meall
- 1039] Met and measur maks men wise

---

633. K He	634. K He H	635. AR He	*636.	637. K H
638. K He H	639. K	640. He	642. K He H	643. H
644. He H.				
MS. 1019. K	1025. AR	1032. H	1034. He	1036. Cf. K
1037. K.				

<sup>1</sup> [male connection by marriage.]<sup>2</sup> [magnitude.]

## MANUSCRIPT]

- 1040] Men may meit bot montaines may not  
 My shoon is good for colheughes <sup>1</sup> they can draw water  
 Myce wants kned <sup>2</sup> water.  
 My nose runes lyk a sope wyfes arse.  
 My heill wil be welcom if my forfoot wil not  
 My cunt had ye not sein if in my bour ye had no bein  
 My eyes is gathering straes  
 Mell not *with* them *quhom* God hes marked  
 Many wants a feist for fault of calling  
 Mony spils a feast for fault of good chear
- 1050] My goodschiris grandschiris godfather wore ane hat &  
 ye shall call me mistres for that  
 Mak not a midwyf of me  
 Mariag is maid in heaven  
 Mony kisses the mouth wold byt of the nose  
 Mony speaks of my grit drinking bot few of my sore  
 thrist
- 1055] Mony goodnights is loth away

## EDITION 1641]

## N

- 645] **N**ature passes norture.  
 Na man can baith sup and blaw at once.  
 Nothing enters in a close hand.  
 Need makes vertue.
- 649] Need hes na law.

<sup>1</sup> coal pits.<sup>2</sup> musty.

645. K H

646. AR K He

647. K

648. K He

\*649. K H.

[MANUSCRIPT

- 1056] Mony welcoms wold hav many thanks  
 Many fair face hes a foul taill  
 Many greitis the yeir at the thing thay leuch fernyeir.  
 Mony fair words but few of them trew
- 1060] Many wold eat of the haggeis wold not hav the bag  
 cawen <sup>1</sup> in ther teith  
 My coat is near me but my sark is nearer  
 Muck bods luck dame dryt ye ther ben  
 Mony gathers stroes & tyns winlings <sup>2</sup>  
 Mel *with* ane whoore & gait a theiff & ther starts up  
 ane hanged man  
 Mend the magnificat  
 My wild seed is sawin  
 Much whyt in the ey much fyr in the taill  
 Many one for ther awin gaitis ther back weel thrawen  
 Many frost many thow maks many ane rotten yew
- 1070] Many mailyeis <sup>3</sup> makis ane Habergeon
- 1071] Many litles makis a meikle

[MANUSCRIPT

## N

- 1072] Nature passes nurture  
 No man can both blaw and sup at once  
 Nathing enters in a closs hand  
 Neid maks vertue
- 1076] Necessity hes no law

<sup>1</sup> [cast.]<sup>2</sup> windlen, a bundle of straw or hay.<sup>3</sup> scales.

\*MS. 1052.

1054. K He H

1055. H

1071. H.

## EDITION 1641]

- 650] Neirest the Kirk, farrest fra God.  
 Neirest the King, neirest the widdie.  
 New lords, new laws.  
 Na man may puind <sup>1</sup> for unkindnesse.  
 Neirest the heart, neirest the mouth.  
 Never rade,<sup>2</sup> never fell.  
 Need gars naked men run, and sorrow gars websters  
 spin.  
 Neir is the kirtle, but neirer is the sark.  
 Nothing is difficile to a well willit man.  
 Na man makes his awn hap.
- 660] Na plie <sup>3</sup> is best.  
 Nothing comes sooner to light, then that which is long hid.  
 Na man can play the fool sa weill as the wise man.  
 Na pennie, na pardon.
- 664] Na man can seek his marrow <sup>4</sup> in the kirne,<sup>5</sup> sa weill as  
 hee that hes been in it himself.

## EDITION 1641]

## O

- 665] **O** Ver fast, over louse.  
 Of anuch men leaves.  
 Over great familiaritie genders despite.
- 668] Oft compting makes good friends.

---

<sup>1</sup> [distrain.]    <sup>2</sup> [rode.]    <sup>3</sup> [lawsuit.]    <sup>4</sup> [partner.]    <sup>5</sup> [harvest-home.]

\*650. AR K He  
 \*658. Cf. AR K H

651. H  
 659. K He H

656. AR K  
 660. K H

657. He H  
 661. K H

[MANUSCRIPT

- 1077] Nearest the kirk farthest from God  
 Nearest the king nearest the widdie  
 New lords new lawes
- 1080] Nearest the heart nearest the mouth  
 Neid gares naked men rŭn  
 Neir is my coat but nearer is my sark.  
 Nothing is difficle to a willing mynd.  
 No man can mak his awin fortune  
 Na pley is best  
 Nothing comes sooner to light then that whilkis long hid  
 No man can pley the fool so weil as ane wyse man |  
 Na penny no pardone  
 Na man can seek his marrow so weil in the kirne as he  
 that hes bein in it himself
- 1090] Now I am better to speak to nor I wes  
 No cattell no cair no pennie no wair  
 Non is good bot God.  
 Not the gift but the giver  
 No man can thryve heir for throng  
 No man can serv tuo maisters  
 Nevie nevie nak *quhilk* hand wil yow tak.  
 No knave to the learned knave
- 1098] No penny no paternoster <sup>1</sup>

[MANUSCRIPT

O

- 1099] Over fast over loose  
 Of enough men leaves  
 Over grit homlynes engenders despyt
- 1102] Oft compting maks good freinds

662. AR K He H	663. He	664. K He H	666. K	*667.
*668. Cf. AR K.				
MS. 1078. AR	MS. 1080. K	1081. H	*1092.	*1095.
*1098. KH	1101. K.			

<sup>1</sup> In a later hand.

## EDITION 1641]

- 669] Over narrow compting culzies <sup>1</sup> na kindnesse.  
 670] Out of sight, out of langer.<sup>2</sup>  
 Of twa ills choose the least.  
 Of other mens lether, men takes large whanges.  
 Over jollie dow not.  
 Of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks  
 Of all war, peace is the finall end.  
 Of ill debtours men takes eattes,<sup>3</sup>  
 Of need make vertue.  
 Of the earth mon the dyke be biggit.  
 Of ane ill, comes many.
- 680] Over hote over cold.  
 Over heigh, over laich.
- 682] Over meikle of ane thing, is good for nathing.

## MANUSCRIPT]

- 1103] Over narow compting coolies na kyndnes  
 Of tuo evels choose the least.  
 Out of sight out of languor
- 1106] Of other mens lether men takes long thongües

## EDITION 1641]

## P

- 683] P Ennie wise, pound foole.  
 Priests and doves makes foule houses.  
 Pride and sweirnesse <sup>4</sup> wald have meikle uphald.
- 686] Put your hand na farder nor your sleive may reeke.

<sup>1</sup> gains.<sup>2</sup> desire.<sup>3</sup> oaths.<sup>4</sup> [unwillingness.]

669. K He H    \*670. K, cf. He H    671. He H    \*672. AR K He H  
 \*674.    676. K He H    \*677.    679. He H    680. H    681. H



[MANUSCRIPT

- 1107] Over jollie dow not  
 Of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks  
 Of evel debtors men taks oats [*sic*]
- 1110] Of neid mak vertüe  
 Of the earth must the dyk be bigged  
 Of ane ill coms many  
 Over hot over cold  
 Over heich over laich  
 Once wood <sup>1</sup> never wise  
 Once wood ay the worse  
 Once payed never craved  
 Over meikle of one thing is good for nothing  
 Oxen knawes not ther awin strench
- 1120] Once about the old kill <sup>2</sup> or the glaid <sup>3</sup> com againe  
 Over holy over curst  
 Old moon mist dies never of thrist  
 Of al the meat in the world drink goes best downe  
 Old springs gives no pryce  
 Off al tame creatüres a flatterer is the worst  
 Old things must not be cast away
- 1127] Often hath it bein sein that Eva's old kirtl hath maid  
 old Adam a pair of new breeches.

[MANUSCRIPT

## P

- 1128] Pennie wyse pund fool.  
 Preists & dowes maks foül houses
- 1130] Pryd & plew irones wold hav müch uphold.
- 1131] Put your hand no further nor your sleev may reach.

682. K He H  
 686. AR K He H.

MS. 1116. K  
 [mad.]

683. AR K He H

1117. K  
<sup>2</sup> [kiln.]

1118. AR.  
<sup>3</sup> [hawk.]

\*684.

685. K H

EDITION 1641]

- 687] Poor men are fain of little thing.  
 Play with your peirs.  
 Pith is good in all playes.
- 690] Put twa half pennies in a purse, and they will draw  
 together  
 Painters and poets have leave to lie.  
 Possession is worth an ill chartour.  
 Pryde will have a fall.  
 Povertie parts good company, and is an enemie to vertue.  
 Put not your hand betwixt the rind and the tree.  
 Poore men they say hes na souls.  
 Patience perforce.  
 Provision in season, makes a rich meason.<sup>1</sup>  
 Put that in the next few,
- 700] Peter in, and Paul out.  
 Plentie is na daintie :
- 702] Puddings and paramours wald be hotelie handlit.

---

*Q vide W.*

---

## R

- 730] **R**Eason band the man.  
 Ruse<sup>2</sup> the foord as ye finde it.  
 Ruse the fair day at evin.
- 733] Racklesse youth, makes a goustie<sup>3</sup> age.

<sup>1</sup> [house.]<sup>2</sup> Praise.<sup>3</sup> miserable.687. K H  
692. K H689. K He H  
\*693. He H690. K H  
\*694. AR He H691. AR K He H  
695. Cf. H

[MANUSCRIPT

- 1132] Play *with* your peirs  
 Pith is good in al play  
 Put two pennyes in a purs thay wil ay draw together  
 Painters & poets hes leiv to lie  
 Possession is worth ane evel chartor  
 Pryd wil hav ane fall.  
 Povertie pairtes good companie and is ane enemie to  
 vertew  
 Put not your hand betuix the rynd & the trie
- 1140] Patience perforce  
 Provision in season makes a rich meason  
 Put that in the nixt few  
 Peter in & Paul out  
 Plentie is daintie  
 Peac ends al warre  
 Payment & day coms seldome together  
 Pish your pairt of it  
 Pearles should not be cast befor swyne  
 Promise vnder blankets dow nothing
- 1150] Prayer wil break hard weird  
 Puddings & paramours wold be hotly handled  
 Puddings & haggeses is a whoores banket <sup>1</sup>
- 1153] Put not all your offering in on stock

Q *vide* W.

## R

- 1154] Reason band the man but the meikl devil could not  
 bind the wyfe  
 Ruis the foord as ye find it
- 1156] Ruisse the fair day at even

698. K He H

732. K He H

MS. 1143. H

<sup>1</sup> [feast.]

\*701. K

733. AR K He H.

\*1144. He H

702. AR K He H

\*1148.

1155. H.

731. K

## EDITION 1641]

- 734] Ryme spares na man.  
 Reavers should not be rewers.  
 Rule youth weill, and eild will rule the sell.
- 737] Rome was not biggit on the first day.

## MANUSCRIPT]

- 1157] Rythme spaires no man  
 Reavers should not be Rewars  
 Rewl yowth weel & eild wil rewl the self
- 1160] Rome was not built upon the first day

## EDITION 1641]

## S

- 738] **S**Ike man, sike master.  
 Seldome rides, tynes the spurres.
- 740] Shod in the cradle, bairfoot in the stubble,  
 Sike lippes, sike latace.<sup>1</sup>  
 Sike a man as thou wald be, draw thee to sik companie.  
 Soothe bourd is na bourd.  
 Seldome lyes the devil dead by the dyke side  
 Saying goes good cheap.  
 Spit on the stane, it will be wet at the last.  
 Soft fire makes sweet malt.  
 Sorrows gars websters spin.  
 Sturt <sup>2</sup> payes na debt.
- 750] Sillie bairns are eith to lear.

<sup>1</sup> lettuce.<sup>2</sup> anger.735. K He H  
739. K He H736. K He H  
740. K H      \*741. K\*737. K He H  
742. K H738. K  
\*743. K He H

[MANUSCRIPT

- 1161] Right compt hinders no payment  
 Rew & thyme growes both in one gardein  
 Racabimus quoth the laird of Braco *quhen* he brak ane  
 bear caik on his brythel day  
 Rost upon runges <sup>1</sup>  
 Ryse up in the morning kep a glaik <sup>2</sup> or the leav ryse  
 Ryse up in the morning & piss in the riddle warme  
 water beines <sup>3</sup> loomes <sup>4</sup>  
 Rags in honestie may compair *with* rags  
 Rickard & Robert and al fernyears.  
 Riches ar but lent
- 1170] Ryde fair

[MANUSCRIPT

## S

- 1171] Such man such maister.  
 Seldom ryders tynes ther spüres  
 Schodd in the creddle barfooted in the stible  
 Such ane man as thow wold be draw the too such com-  
 panie  
 Suith bourd is no bourd  
 Seldome lyes the divel dead by ane dycksyd  
 Saying goes good cheap  
 Such lips such lettüs  
 Spit on the stone it wil be weit at the last.
- 1180] Soft fyr maks sweit malt  
 Sorrow gars wobsters spin
- 1182] Sturt payes no debt

\*744. K      745. K      746. K H      \*747.      749. K II  
 MS. 1170. AR K He H.

<sup>1</sup> [cross bars.]<sup>2</sup> [trick.]<sup>3</sup> [warms.]<sup>4</sup> implements.

## EDITION 1641]

- 751] Saw thin, and maw thin.  
 Soon rype, soon rotten.  
 Send and fetch.  
 Self deed, self fa.  
 Shame shall fall them that shame thinks, to do them-  
 selves a good turn.  
 Sike father, sike son, &c.  
 Seill comes not while sorrow be gone.  
 Shees a foule bird that fyles her own nest.  
 Speir at Jock thief my marrow, if I be a leal man.
- 760] Soon gotten, soon spendit.  
 Sike priest, sike offering.  
 Shee is a sairie mouse that has but ane hole.  
 Surfeit slayes mae nor the sword.  
 Seik your sauce where you get your ail.  
 Sokand <sup>1</sup> seall is best.  
 Sike answer as a man gives, sike will he get.  
 Small winning makes a heavie purse.  
 Shame is past the shedd of your haire.  
 Send him to the sea and he will not get water.
- 770] Saine <sup>2</sup> you weill fra the devill and the Lairds bairns.  
 She that takes gifts her self, she sels, and shee that gives,  
 does not ells.  
 Shroe <sup>3</sup> the ghaist that the house is the war of.  
 Shew me the man, and I shall shew you the law.  
 Swear by your burnt shines.
- 775] Sairie be your meil poke, and ay your neive <sup>4</sup> in the nook  
 of it.

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<sup>1</sup> Slackening. Dr Charles Mackay, in his 'Dictionary of Lowland Scotch,' p. 204, gives this proverb as "Sokand seil is best," with Dean Ramsay's explanation, "The plough and happiness is the best lot," and his own amendment, "Labouring happiness, or the happiness that results from labour, is the best." It may be noted, however, that "sok=plough" does not



[MANUSCRIPT

- 1183] Saw thinne and maw thinne  
 Soone ryp soone rotten  
 Shame fall them who thinks shaimie to do themselves ane  
 good turne  
 Seill comes not till sorrow be gone  
 Sho is a foul burd *quho* fylis hir awin nest.  
 Speir at Jock theeff my marrow if I be ane leall man.  
 Soone gotten soone spende
- 1190] Such preist such offering  
 She is but ane sarie mous *quho* hes but on holl  
 Surfet slayes mo nor the sword  
 Seek your sauce wher ye gait your aill  
 Soking saill is good saill  
 Such ansueir as a man gives such wil he gait  
 Shame is past the shed of your hair  
 Send him to the sea & he wil not gait water  
 Saine yow weil frome the devil & the lairdes bairnes  
 Self deid self foe
- 1200] Smeir the fat sowes ars  
 Sho taks gifts, hirsself sho sels and sho that gives does  
 not els  
 Send and fetch  
 Scho is better nor sho is bonnie  
 Selling maks telling  
 Set ane stoüt hart to ane stay <sup>5</sup> brae  
 Schame fall them (quoth the webster hes maist of the  
 web
- 1207] Speir <sup>6</sup> & spair no

---

elsewhere seem to occur as a verb. F 789 has "soking sale." <sup>2</sup> keep.  
<sup>3</sup> [curse.] <sup>4</sup> [fist.] <sup>5</sup> [steep.] <sup>6</sup> [enquire.]  
 \*751. K He H      \*752. K He H      753. K      \*754.      755. K He H  
 756. H      757. K H      \*758. AR K He H      \*759. K He H      \*760. H  
 762. K H      763. K H      768. AR K He H      769. K H      770. K H  
 771. K He H      773. K H      775. He H.

## MANUSCRIPT]

- 1208] Sup *with* your heid the horner <sup>1</sup> is dead  
 Scheits to the swyne & clewes to the midding
- 1210] Sit doñe upon your knees & giv your debtors to the  
 devill  
 Schoot a theef out at the bak dore  
 Say weil is good büt do weil is better  
 Scorne & skaith comes commonly together  
 Spit & giv it over  
 Sorrow be in that house he is beguyld in  
 Sorrow be in that house *quhair* maydens bears maist  
 book  
 Shame fall the cuple *quod* the crow to hir feet  
 Scots vessel holds not heap  
 Spair sail & tak in a head
- 1220] Silk *schir* Reverence  
 Sutars super tymes is burges bed tyme  
 Spinning wold hav no rinning  
 Sighing wil not mak it  
 Sick folkes ar ay cankered  
 Stand chanlers <sup>2</sup> if ye fall ye wil clatter  
 Schame fall Jhon Arnots tyk he was hanged for  
 flatterie  
 Skitters <sup>3</sup> begins to scoup <sup>4</sup>
- 1228] Scho hes mair nor hir Paternoster

<sup>1</sup> [maker of horn spoons.]<sup>2</sup> [candlesticks.]<sup>3</sup> [thin excrement.]<sup>4</sup> [caper, skip.]

MS. 1208. K

1212. KH

1213. KH

1216. He

[MANUSCRIPT

- 1229] Salt beiff is suir <sup>1</sup> geir  
 1230] Stiking goes not be strenth  
 Sillie be your meal pock & ay be yow licking  
 Slow hoūnds maks a speedy hair  
 Send a fool to the mercat & a fool coms home againe  
 Schyting <sup>2</sup> & shynning <sup>3</sup> is good March weather  
 Straik doune your breist  
 Scho is a sarie whore that is not worth the asking  
 Scarting & byting is Scots men owing  
 Seldom sick sore sick.  
 Suppose yow war a talyor of velvet begaried <sup>4</sup> with  
 gold.  
 1240] Somthing or other must be the avers death.  
 Som say I & som say no but few the truth as yit do  
 know.  
 Sho may go to the merkat of cotteris sho wil sel for  
 ane shamlach <sup>5</sup> kow (of ane old whore  
 Soone pakis <sup>6</sup> the trie that wil prove a thorne  
 Sho hes a quiver for every woodmanis arrow  
 Sinnes ũnseen ar half pardoned  
 1246] So long went the pot to the wel that at last it cam  
 broken home

1217. K H  
 \*1246. K.

1230. K

1233. He H

1236. Cf. K

1237. H

<sup>1</sup> [sure.]<sup>2</sup> skyte = a sudden shower.<sup>3</sup> sunshine.<sup>4</sup> streaked,<sup>5</sup> A cow that has not calved for two years.<sup>6</sup> departs.

EDITION 1641]

## T

- 776] **T**He mair haste, the war speid.  
 Tyde bydes na man.  
 Twa daughters and a back door, are three stark theeves.  
 There was never a cake but it had a make.<sup>1</sup>
- 780] There came never a large fart forth of a Wrans arse.  
 Toome bagges rattles.  
 The thing that is fristed,<sup>2</sup> is not forgiven.  
 Take part of the pelf, when the pack is a dealing.  
 Tread on a worme, and she will steir her tail.  
 They are lightlie herrite <sup>3</sup> that hes their awn.  
 The Crow thinks her awn bird fairest.  
 There is little to the rake to get after the bissome.  
 They buy good cheap that brings nathing hame.  
 Thraw <sup>4</sup> the wand while it is green.
- 790] The Sowters <sup>5</sup> wife is worst shod.  
 The worst warld that ever was, some man wan.  
 They will know by a half pennie if a priest will take  
 offering.  
 Tyme tryes the truth.  
 The weeds overgaes the corne.  
 Take tyme while time is, for time will away.  
 The piper wants meikle that wants the nether chafts.  
 They are welcome that brings.  
 The langer we live, the mae farlies <sup>6</sup> we see.  
 There are many soothe words spoken in bourding.
- 800] There is na thief without a resetter.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> an equal.  
<sup>5</sup> [cobbler's.]  
 goods.]

<sup>2</sup> [sold on credit.]  
<sup>6</sup> [wonders.]

<sup>3</sup> [harried.]  
<sup>7</sup> [receiver of stolen

<sup>4</sup> [twist.]

776. He

\*777. ARKH

778. KH

779. KHe

780. K

[MANUSCRIPT

## T

- 1247] Tyde byds no man  
 Tua doghters & ane backdore is thrie stark theeves  
 Thair was never ane kaik but it had a maik
- 1250] The mair haist the war speed  
 Ther cam never a larg fart out of a wranes ars  
 Toome bags rattles  
 Tak pairt of the pelf *quhen* the pack is in dealing  
 Tramp on a worme & sho wil steir hir taill  
 Thay ar lightlie herried hes ther awin  
 The crow thinks hir awin bird whytest  
 Thair is littil to the raik to gait after the bissome  
 Thay buy good cheip who brings nothing home  
 Thay tint never ane cow *quho* grat for ane needle
- 1260] Thraw the wand *quhill* it is greenin betuix three &  
 threttein  
 The sowters wyfe is worst shoed  
 The worst world *that* ever was som man wan  
 Thay wil know be ane halfpenny if ane preist wil tak  
 offering  
 Tyme tryes the treuth  
 The weids overgangs the corne  
 Tak tyme *quhen* tym is for tym wil away  
 The pyper wants meikl that wants the nether chafts  
 Thay ar ay welcom *that* brings  
 The longer we liv the mo fairlyes we sie
- 1270] Thair ar many sooth words spoken in bourding  
 1271] Thair is not a thief *without* a resett

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782. KH    783. KHe    \*784. Cf. K    785. KHeH    \*786. H  
 787. ARKHeH    788. KH    \*790. ARKHeH    791. KHeH  
 792. K    \*795. K    796. KHeH    798. ARKHeH    799. KHeH  
 \*800.

## EDITION 1641]

- 801] There is many fair thing full false.  
 There came never ill of a good advisement.  
 There is na man sa deaf, as he that will not hear.  
 There was never a fair word in flyting.  
 The mouth that lyes, slayes the soul.  
 Trot mother, trot father, how can the foal amble.  
 They were never fain that fidgit.  
 Twa wolfs may worrie ane sheep.  
 Twa fooles in ane house is over many.
- 810] The day hes eyne, the night hes ears.  
 The tree fals not at the first straike.  
 The mair ye tramp in a turde, it growes the breader.  
 There is none without a fault.  
 The devil is a busie bishop in his awn diocie.  
 There is no friend to a friend in mister.  
 There is na foole to an auld fool.  
 Touch a good horse in the back, and he will fling.  
 There is remeid for all things but stark deid.  
 There is na medicine for fear.
- 820] The weakest goes to the wals.  
 That which hussies spares, cats eats.  
 Thow wilt get na mair of the cat but the skin,  
 There mae madines<sup>1</sup> nor makine.<sup>2</sup>  
 They laugh ay that winnes,  
 Twa wits is better nor ane.  
 They put<sup>3</sup> at the cairt that is ay gangand.  
 Three may keep counsel if twa be away.  
 They are good willie<sup>4</sup> of their horse that hes nane.
- 829] The mae the merrier, the fewer the better chear.

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<sup>1</sup> [maidens.]      <sup>2</sup> [Maud or Matilda.]      <sup>3</sup> [push.]      <sup>4</sup> [generous.]

\*801.      802. K H      803. H      804. K He H      \*806. K H  
 807. K He      \*810. K He H      811. He      812. K      814. K H



[MANUSCRIPT

- 1272] Thair ar many fair things full fals  
 Thair cam never evel of ane good advisment  
 Thair is no man so deaff as he *that* wil not hear  
 Thair war never ane fair word in flyting  
 Thair is lairds as ther is lyce pairt grit pairt  
 small.  
 The mouth *that* lies slayes the saul  
 Trot father Trot mother how can the foll hamble  
 Thay war never fain *that* fided
- 1280] Tua wolfs may wirrie on sheep  
 Tua fools in ane house is overmanie  
 The day hes eyn the night hes ears  
 The trie fals not at the first strok  
 The more ye stramp on a tuird it is the broader  
 Thair is none *without* a fault  
 Thair is no freend to ane freend in mister  
 Thair is no fool to ane auld fool  
 Touch ane gauld horse in the back & he wil  
 fling  
 Thair is no remeid for all things but stark deed
- 1290] Thair is no remeed for fear  
 The waikest goes to the walls  
 Thair is mo maidens nor Makine  
 Thay laugh *quho* wins  
 Tuo wits ar better nor ane  
 Thay put at the cairt is ay gangand  
 Three may keip counsel if tuo be away  
 Thay ar good willie of *thair* horse *quho* hes none
- 1298] The moe the mirrier the fewer the better cheer

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815. AR KH      \*816.      817. K He      818. K He H      819. K He H  
 \*820. AR K He H      821. K      \*823. He H      824. K      \*825. K He H  
 826. K      \*827. R AR K He H      \*829. AR K He H.  
 MS. 1288. AR H.

EDITION 1641]

- 830] The blinde horse is hardiest.<sup>1</sup>  
 There mae wayes to the wood nor ane  
 There is meikle between word and deed.  
 They that speirs meikle, wil get wot of part.  
 The lesse play the better.  
 The mair cost, the mair honour.  
 There is nothing more precious nor time.  
 True love kyths <sup>2</sup> in time of need.  
 There are many fair words in the marriage making, but  
     few in the tochergood <sup>3</sup> paying.  
 The higher up, the greater fall.
- 840] The mother of mischief is na mair nor a midge wing.  
 Tarrowing bairns were never fat.  
 There little sap in dry peis hooles.<sup>4</sup>  
 This bolt came never out of your bag.  
 Thy tongue is na slander.  
 Take him up there with his 5 eggs, and 4 of them rotten.  
 The next time ye daunce, wit whom ye take by the hand.  
 The goose pan is above the rost.  
 Thy thumb is under my belt.  
 There is a dog in the well.
- 850] The malt is above the beir.  
 Touch me not on the sair heel.  
 The shots overgaes the ald swine.  
 Take a man by his word, and a cow by her horne.  
 There meikle hid meat in a goose eye.  
 They had never an ill day that had a good evening.  
 There belongs mair to a bed nor foure bair legs.
- 857] The greatest clarks are not the wisest men.

<sup>1</sup> [rashest.]<sup>2</sup> [shows itself.]<sup>3</sup> [property given as dower.]<sup>4</sup> pease-pods.

*830.	*831. K He H	832. He	835. K	837. K <sup>1</sup> H
838. AR K He H	839. K H	840. K	843. K	845. <sup>2</sup> H

[MANUSCRIPT

- 1299] The blind horse is hardiest
- 1300] Thair is mo wayes to the wood nor one  
 The kings chaff is worth other mens corne  
 Thair is much betuix word & dead  
 Thay *that* speirs meikl gaits wit of pairt  
 The les pley the better  
 The more cost the mor honour  
 Thair is nothing mor precious nor tyme  
 Trew lov kyths in tyme of need  
 Thair ar many fair words in the meriag making but few  
 in the tocher good paying  
 The higher up the gritter fall
- 1310] The mother of mischeef is no mor nor a midges wing  
 Ther is littl sop in dry peas hools  
 That bolt cam never out of your bag  
 Thy tongue is no slaunder  
 Tak him up *thair with* his four eggs & fyve of them  
 rotten  
 The nixt tyme ye dance wit *quham* ye tak be the hand  
 The goos pan is abov the rost.  
 Thy thomb is wnder my belt  
 Thair is a dog in the well.  
 The malt is abov the meall.
- 1320] Touch me not vpon the sore heall  
 Ther is a holl in the house  
 Tak up the laird of Aldie now.  
 The shots overgangs the old swyne  
 Tak a man be his word & a cow be the horne
- 1325] That is trew quoth the tod dame *quhair* sits your hens

846. K He H

849. K

851. K

853. AR K He H

854. He

\*856. He H

\*857. K He H.

MS. 1319. K He H.

## EDITION 1641]

- 858] Thou should not tell thy foe when thy fit slides  
The grace of God is geir enough.
- 860] Twa hungrie meltits makes the third a glutton  
This world will not last ay.  
The Devil and the Dean begins with a letter, when the  
Devil hes the Dean, the kirk will be the better.  
They are as wise that speir not.
- 864] There is nothing so crouse as a new washen louce.

## MANUSCRIPT]

- 1326] Tuo wil bring in the thrid  
They grie lyk tyks & swyne  
This is a French convoy  
Ther is no corne but chaff nor gold but dross
- 1330] Tell the veritie & shaime the devill  
The Crookes of Forth is worth ane earldom in the north  
The beginning of a feast & the end of ane play is best  
That *quhilk* is good for the caill is ill for the petts <sup>1</sup>  
That *quhilk* is good for the head is ill for the craig <sup>2</sup> &  
shoulders  
That is better nor a whin ston vpon the chafts  
That is better said nor banned  
Thay ar away *quho* coms never again  
Tak welcom for good cheer  
That hes nather tap taill nor main <sup>3</sup>
- 1340] The fashion of Falkirk ye bar the dor *with* your heals

<sup>1</sup> [peats.]<sup>2</sup> [throat.]<sup>3</sup> [principal part.]858. AR He H  
MS. 1329. H

859. H

1337. Cf. K H

\*860. K H

864. AR K He H.

1341. AR K, cf. He H

[MANUSCRIPT

- 1341] The best daughter is hinmest  
 The bastard <sup>1</sup> ourgangs the bow kail <sup>2</sup>  
 Tish tash puddings is no flesh  
 That *quhilk* wil not be ane good shoe let it go doun in  
 the heels  
 The pock savours of the herring  
 The thing *that* ye wait of is bursten in the pot  
 Ther is a heat in our kitching the cook is wirried on a  
 wilk  
 Thair is a pet in the creill  
 Thair is nothing betuix a bursten body and a hungered
- 1350] That nest is flowen  
 That *quhilk* coms *with* the wind goes *with* the water.  
 That is no article of my beleef  
 The cripl leeds the blind  
 That is bot a shour bink.<sup>3</sup>  
 This wind wil hav weit  
 The hen crowes befor the cok.  
 The cok is crouce in *thair* awin midding  
 Tak ane hair of the dog *quhilk* bait yow yisternight  
 That is a good cuff <sup>4</sup> *whilk* brings home tuo
- 1360] That is ane good bourd *quhilk* all men laughs at  
 That is a sore feeld *quhair* all goes to  
 The thing that is don is not to do  
 The thing that we first learn we best can  
 Thay that wil not pay *quhen* they hav wil never *quhen*  
 thay want
- 1365] The water wil never reave <sup>5</sup> the widdie

1351. K

\*1358. AR K He H

1362. H

1365. He H.

<sup>1</sup> weeds.  
shower.]<sup>2</sup> cabbage.<sup>4</sup> [blow.]<sup>3</sup> [bench or outhouse for protection against a<sup>5</sup> rob.

## MANUSCRIPT]

- 1366] The kirk is greedie  
 The earth is hūngrie  
 Ther is tymes to gley<sup>1</sup> & tymes to look even  
 Thay that goes to the well against ther will ather pig<sup>2</sup>  
 must brik or the water spill
- 1370] Thay war never ful that clew<sup>3</sup> ther womb  
 The words coms out of my mouth lyk wimblshafts<sup>4</sup>  
 Tak to yow is no stealing  
 Thair is caill in cuts womb  
 Tak the scheaff fra the mear  
 The blak ox hes not tramped on his foot  
 Ther was never such a sillie Jockie but he gat als sillie  
 a Jennie  
 Thay that begins *with* needl & spoone taks horned  
 neat or they hav done  
 The nearer the fyr the heater  
 The nearer the even the moe beggars
- 1380] Thank gart<sup>5</sup> the cock die  
 Trie or ye trust  
 The worst world that ever wes the maltman wil gait  
 his seck again  
 Thay wil say dar behind the dore  
 Twyn to yow  
 That is a reason *with* a rag about the foot of it  
 The awfulest beast is a bearded king  
 The devil rignes<sup>6</sup> in his coble horne that cannot count  
 his awin kinch<sup>7</sup>
- 1388] The day wil com that wil pay for all

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<sup>1</sup> [squint.]      <sup>2</sup> [pitcher.]      <sup>3</sup> [clawed.]      <sup>4</sup> handles of boring tools.  
<sup>5</sup> [caused.]      <sup>6</sup> reigns.      <sup>7</sup> kinsch has been variously explained as kine  
(or cattle), and kindred. In "The Cherrie and the Slae," st. 79, occur these  
two lines—

"The man may ablens tyne a stot  
That cannot count his kinsch."



## [MANUSCRIPT

- 1389] Tua dogs stryves for on bone in coms the thrid & taks it  
 . from them both.
- 1390] The hen is away that layd the grit egg  
 Ther is a tym of yeir *quhen* blind folk sies no weil  
 Ther is tyms to gley and tyms to look even  
 Thay ar all mother that meat gives  
 The mothers end is sueit  
 The grasse growes grein betuix us  
 That is as *quho* wold stryk butter in a Flemings  
 mouth  
 That is the hairs laughter *quhilk* sho leught *quhair* sho  
 hang at the saddle bow  
 That *quhilk* wil not wash wil not wring  
 The thing that wil not be at ane tym wil be at ane  
 other
- 1400] Thay that gaits forgets  
 Tak tym in tym for tym wil away  
 Tak ye no mor cair nor your head war in the fyr  
 Ther was never a grit glut but after cam a grit gysing <sup>1</sup>  
 Ther is good steel in my needl ey  
 Thay say tuo wil not think on thing  
 Thay that eats the kings geass wil wirrie on the feathers  
 Ther is meekl hid meat in a goos ey  
 Thair was never a grit loss *without* som small vantag  
 The cow that is loudest in the lou gives not ay most milk
- 1410] The devil maid soutars shipmen that can nather steir  
 nor row
- 1411] Trittl tratil <sup>2</sup> trow low

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<sup>1</sup> [merrymaking].      <sup>2</sup> "Trittell trattel, pshaw, expressive of contempt,"  
 Jamieson, vol. iv. p. 617, quoting "Lyndsay, S.P.R., ii. 88."  
 MS. 1366. K He H      1368. K He H      1373. K He      \*1375. K H  
 1376. AR He H      1377. K      1379. H.      1389. K  
 1390. K, cf. H      1394. Cf. K      1400. K      1404. K      1407. K  
 1410. H.

## MANUSCRIPT]

- 1412] That is Scarrsbrugh warning <sup>1</sup>  
 Tua knaves needs not a broker  
 The whyt devil is worse nor the black  
 Ther was never a slut but sho had a slit  
 Tuo wyves in on house & tuo catis about ane mouse  
 wil never agrie  
 Ther is nothing ill spoken but that is evil taken  
 Tak up the laird of Aldie and half ane cuppil of gentil-  
 men *with* him  
 The laird of Lunkartie his hows
- 1420] The rowlling stone gathereth littil mosse  
 They agrie lyk harp <sup>2</sup> & harrow.
- Of the cullouris of men. that is {  
 To a Red man read thy Reade.  
 With a Broune man break thy bread  
 At a pale man draw thy knyf  
 From a blak man keip thy wyfe  
 The Red is wise, the Broun trusty  
 The pale envyous, & the black lusty
- 1423] The nigher kinne the farrer inne—a proverb of the  
 jelous Italianis *quho* ar even jealous of *ther* neirest  
 friendis <sup>3</sup> *with* *ther* wifes

## EDITION 1641]

## Q

- 703] **Q**uhair the Deer is slain, some bloud will lye.  
 Quhen the eye sees it saw not, the heart will  
 think it thought not.
- 705] Quhen wine is in, wit is out.

<sup>1</sup> This (as also No. 1646) may be explained from the taking of Scarborough by surprise in 1557—see Ray, edn. of 1670, p. 255. <sup>2</sup> an appliance for sifting grain. <sup>3</sup> [kinsmen.]

[MANUSCRIPT

- 1424] { Fair & foolish, litil & loud  
 Of the { Long & lusty, black & proud.  
 culloris { Fat & merry, lean & sad  
 of { Pale & pettish, Red & bad  
 women. { High cullour (in a woman) choler showes ;  
 { And shee's unholsome that lyk sorrell growes.  
 { Nought ar the peeuish, proud, malitious,  
 { But worst of all the Red shrill, jealous.
- They hav honey at ther mouth & a razer at ther girdles  
 The pyper wantis much that wantis the nether chaftis.  
 They haue ther labor for ther travel  
 They haue ther toyl for ther heat, ther painis for ther  
 sueat.
- The old goose can spy the gosling wink
- 1430] The evil that the ey sees not the hairt rues not.  
 Thow sittes far besyd the cushion:  
 Thow art in a wrong box  
 The grittest spring tyd hath the grittest eb.

*An Italian proverb or facetious satire*

- 1434] The Dukes & Erles of Germany, the Dons of Spain,  
 the Monseuris of France, the Bischops of Italy,  
 the Nobility of Hungary, the Lairdis of Scotland  
 the Knightis of Naples & the Squyr brethren of  
 England mak a poor company.

[MANUSCRIPT

## W

- 1435] When the sheip sleips the woll creips  
 What wyt had the kid *quhat* the auld goat did
- 1437] When Adam delved & Eva span *quhair* was all thir  
 gentils then

---

\*704. K, cf. He      705. K He H.  
 MS. 1415. KH      1417. AR KH      \*1420. K He      1421. K  
 1422. He      1424 (part). KH      1437. He.

## EDITION 1641]

- 706] Quhen the steed is stowne, steik the stable doore.  
 Quhen the Tod preaches, beware of the hens.  
 Quhen the cup is fullest, bear it evinest.  
 Quhat better is the house that the da rises in the  
 morning.
- 710] Quhen theeves reckons, leall men comes to their geir.  
 Quhen I am dead, make me caddell.<sup>1</sup>  
 Quhiles the hawk hes, and whiles he hunger hes.  
 Quhen the craw flees, her tail follows.  
 Quhen the play is best, it is best to leave.  
 Quha may woee but cost.  
 Quhiles thou, whiles I, so goes the bailleri.<sup>2</sup>  
 Quhen a man is full of lust, his womb is full of  
 leesings.<sup>3</sup>  
 Quha may hold that will away.  
 Quhen taylours are true, there little good to shew.
- 720] Quhen thy neighbours house is on fire, take tent to thy  
 awn.  
 Quhen the iron is hot, it is time to strike.  
 Quhen the bellie is full, the bones wald have rest.  
 Quhom God will help, na man can hinder.  
 Quhen all men speaks, na man hears.  
 Quhen the good man is fra hame, the boardcleaths  
 tint.  
 Quhair stands your great horse.  
 Quhair the pig breaks, let the shells ly.  
 Quhen friends meets, hearts warmes.
- 729] Quhen the well is full, it will run over.

<sup>1</sup> [disturbance.]<sup>2</sup> [office of a bailiff.]<sup>3</sup> [lees of wine.]

\*707. K He H      \*708. K      709. K He      \*710. K      711. K  
 713. He      \*714. K      715. K      717. K      718. K      720. II

[MANUSCRIPT

- 1438] Whair ther is gentils ther is offallings  
Whairfor serves dirt if it stink not
- 1440] Whair meikl is spoken pairt must spill  
Whair the deir is slain pairt of the blood wil ly  
When the ey sies it saw not the heart wil think it  
thought not  
When wyn is in wit is out.  
When the steid is stollen steik the stabl dore  
When the tod preiches bewar of the hens  
When the cup is fullest bear it eveniest  
What better is the house that the da ryses in the  
morning  
When theeves rekons leel men coms to ther geir  
When I am dead mak no caddell.
- 1450] Whyls the haulk hes & whyls he hunger hes  
When the crow flies hir tail follows  
When the play is best it is best to leave  
Wha may ow but cost  
Whyls thow whyls I so gois the balyerie.  
When ones prik stands his womb is ful of leisings  
Wha may hold that wil away  
When tailyeors ar trew ther is littil good to shew  
When thy neighbours hous is in fyr tak tent to thy  
awin  
When the Iron is hot it is tym to stryk
- 1460] When the bellie is full the bones wold hav rest  
Whom God wil help no man can hinder
- 1462] When al men speaks no man hears

---

\*721. He      722 H      \*723. K      724. K He H      725. K He  
728. AR K He H      729. K      865. K He.

MS. 1440. Cf. He      1443. AR      \*1444.      1445. R AR      1447. H  
1452. H      1454. He H      1458. K      1460. KH.

EDITION 1641]

## W

- 865] **W**Rang hes nea warrand.  
 Will hes that weill is.  
 Well done, soon done.  
 Weapons bodes peace.  
 Wiles helps weak folk.
- 870] Wishers, and walders are poore householders,  
 Words are but wind, but dunts are the devil.  
 Wark bears witnesse wha weill does.  
 Wealth gars wit waver.  
 Weill bydes, weill betydes,  
 Wrang compt, is na paiment.  
 Wrang hears, wrang answer gives.  
 With emptie hand, na man should hawkes allure.  
 Weill wats the mouse, the cats out of the house.  
 We ill <sup>1</sup> worth aw, that gars the plough draw.
- 880] We hounds slew the hair, quoth the messoun.<sup>2</sup>  
 Wonder lasts but nine nights in a town,  
 Women and bairns keeps counsel of that they know not.  
 Wont beguilt the Ladie.  
 Waken not sleeping dogs.  
 We have a crow to pluck.  
 Well good mother daughter.  
 Wood in wilderness, and strength in a fool.  
 Wit in a poore mans head, mosse in a mountain availes  
 nothing.  
 VVeils him and wooes him that hes a bishop in his kin.
- 890] Vse makes perfectnesse.  
 Unskild mediciners, and horsemarshels, slayes both man  
 and beast.
- 892] VVhatrax <sup>3</sup> of the feed, when the friendship dow nought.

<sup>1</sup> Sc. Good luck to all. Cf. MS. 1480.  
 matters it.<sup>2</sup> [lap-dog.]<sup>3</sup> What



[MANUSCRIPT

- 1463] When the goodman is from home the boordcloth is tint  
 Wher stands your grit horse  
 Wher the pigs breaks let the shels<sup>1</sup> ly  
 Wil hes that weil hes  
 Wrang hes no warrand  
 Weil don soon done  
 Weapons bods peace
- 1470] Wyls helps weak folk  
 Wishers & wolders ar poor housholders  
 Words is but wind but dunts is the devill  
 Wark bears witnes *quho* so best does  
 Wealth gars wit waver  
 Weil byds weil betyds  
 Wrong compt is no payment  
 Wrong hearing maks wrong rehearsing  
*With* emptie hand no man should haulks alluir  
 Weil waits the mous the cat is out of the hous
- 1480] Weill worth aw it gars the pleugh draw  
 We hounds slew the hair quoth the messone  
 Wonder lasts but nyne nights in ane toune  
 Work for noght maks folk dead sueir  
 Women & bairnes can keip counsell weil of that  
*quhilk* thay knaw not  
 Wint [*sic*] beguyled the Lady  
 Waken not sleeping dogs  
 We hav ane crow to pluk  
 Wow good mother doghter  
 Wood in a wildernes & strenth in a fool
- 1490] Wit in a poor mans head & mess in a montain  
 avails nothing

873. AR K He H

880. K He H

890. AR H.

MS. 1479. AR

<sup>1</sup> potsherd.

875. K He H

\*881. 882. K

1483. AR K

\*877. K He H

887-8. K H

1485. Cf. K H.

878. K

889. K He H

## MANUSCRIPT]

- 1491] Wse maks perfytnes  
 Wnskilful mediciners & horse marshels<sup>1</sup> slayes both  
 man & beast  
 Weils him & wo is him that hes a Bishop in his kin  
 Who wil bell the cat  
 We may poind for debt but no for wnkyndnes  
 Whordom & grace can never byd in ane place  
 Wher ther is elling<sup>2</sup> ther is telling  
 Websters and tailyeors *quhen* thay run they rest  
 Wobsters taks bot *quhat* is broght to them
- 1500] Weil worth even brings all men home  
 Word is gon to the worlds end that Peters wyf wil  
 never mend  
 What ye leav leiv of the ill cail  
 Womb yow & giv the hous a good word  
 Wnspoken dois no ill  
 Willie Willie Wastel I am in my castell all the dogs in  
 the town dar not ding me doune  
 Willie Buists horse bait  
 Wedding is wilfulnes & tyning of mens gear  
 We may not speak a word in mowse<sup>3</sup> but it is taken in  
 earnest quoth the Tod  
 Why should not letters Intertein<sup>4</sup> love
- 1510] Wnkend wnknowin  
 Wash them *quho* eats them  
 Wher gat we yow and the dore steeked
- 1513] Wow dey, minnie wold mird<sup>5</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> farrier.  
<sup>5</sup> meddle.

<sup>2</sup> eldning=jealousy.

<sup>3</sup> jest.

<sup>4</sup> maintain.

[MANUSCRIPT

- 1514] Wealth in the widdowes house *quhen* thay bar the dor  
*with* the tailyeors  
 Wealth in the widowes house *quhen* all the vessels ar  
 full  
 Walla wa <sup>1</sup> fa the holl of your ars it is ane eventur <sup>2</sup>  
 if ever yow sie it  
 Wallie fa <sup>3</sup> yow if yow fart not *quod* Fairlie to his fair  
 wyf  
 What is this my fidle sayes  
 Wash the pot or ye put in the bear  
 1520] Who may do as ye may do to mow & gait no bairnes  
 Weil *said* quoth Jhon Gellie) if ye want malt ye wil  
 gait again  
 Weill remembred Marion  
 We ar all chapmen *quod* the good wyf *quhen* sho gat  
 a turd on hir back.  
 Wo is the womb hes ane wilful maister.  
 Weill wits the mous the cat is out of the house  
 Wand a W. weil, sho wil neid no spurs  
 Who wryts to him that dois not wryt again he is ane  
 fool or need doth him constrain  
 Who dryves ane asse & leads ane whore hes toyl &  
 sorrow for evermore  
 Wher the flee drownes sho dies  
 1530] When beggeris hes baikin thæn the fyr is best  
 Verdjuyce & oatmeal good for a parrot  
 Want breakis amity  
 1533] What the heart thinketh the tounge claiketh.

---

<sup>1</sup> alas.            <sup>2</sup> chance.            <sup>3</sup> May good fortune befall.  
 \*1494. H            1495. K He H            1496. K.

EDITION 1641]

## Y

- 893] **Y**E will break your neck and your fast alike in his house  
 Ye strive against the stream  
 Youth never casts for perrill.  
 Ye seek hot water under cold yce.  
 Ye drive a snail to Rome.  
 Ye ride a bootlesse erand.  
 Ye seek grace at a gracelesse face.
- 900] Ye learn your father to get bairns.  
 Ye may not sit in Rome and strive with the Pope.  
 Youth and age will never agree.  
 Ye may puind for debt, but not for unkindnesse.  
 Ye breid of the cat, ye wald fain eat fish, but yee have na  
 will to weet your feet,  
 We [*sic*] breid of the gouk, ye have not a ryme but ane.  
 Ye should be a king of your word.  
 Ye will get war bods <sup>1</sup> or Belten.<sup>2</sup>  
 Ye may drink of the burn, but not byte of the brae.  
 Ye wald do little for God an the devil were dead.
- 910] Ye have a readie mouth for a ripe cherrie.  
 911] Ye breed of the millers dog, ye lick your mouth or the  
 pok be open.

---

 FINIS.
 

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MANUSCRIPT]

## Y vel Z

- 1534] Ye wil break your neck & fast alyk in his house  
 Ye stryve against the stream
- 1536] Youth cast for no perrills

---

<sup>1</sup> [offers.]      <sup>2</sup> [May 1.]  
 \*893.      \*894.      895. K He      \*896. K H      898. K      \*899. K He H  
 902. K      \*904. AR H      \*905. K He H      907. AR K He H  
 908. K      909. K H      910. Cf. He K      911. K H.

[MANUSCRIPT

- 1537] Ye seik hot water vnder cold Ice  
 Ye dryv a snail to Rome  
 Ye ryde ane bootles earand
- 1540] Ye seek grace at ane gracles face  
 Youth and eild wil never aggrie  
 Ye breid of the cat sho wald fain fish eat but hes not  
 will hir feet to weet  
 Ye call me scabbitt becaus I wil not call yow scald  
 Ye hav not that bacchill to swear by  
 Ye hav good skill of rosted wool *quhen* it stinks it is  
 enough  
 Ye wil gait no more of the cat but the skin  
 Ye trow beggars hes no lyce & then thay ar swarming  
 full  
 Ye wold causs tuo paps fecht vpon ane breist bone  
 Ye breid of netl caill ye wold fain hav meekl service
- 1550] Ye have gotten ane hunters bait  
 Ye sit over bein ye breid of few of the lairds tenents  
 Ye breid of the gowk <sup>1</sup> sho hes not a raim <sup>2</sup> but ane  
 Ye ar sib <sup>3</sup> to a pudding ye ar com of a blood  
 Ye ar sib to my auld shoone ye grow ay war and  
 war  
 Ye crav your debts but *quhen* ye ar full  
 Ye breid of ill weather yow com vnsent for  
 Ye breid of ane galled meir  
 Ye breid of bourtrie <sup>4</sup> ye ar all heart  
 Ye look lyk the toyt <sup>5</sup> of o tyred yad <sup>6</sup>
- 1560] Ye scad your lips in other folks kaill  
 1561] Your kynd heart wil be your dead

---

<sup>1</sup> [cuckoo.]      <sup>2</sup> [cry.]      <sup>3</sup> [kin.]      <sup>4</sup> [elder tree.]      <sup>5</sup> tottering.  
<sup>6</sup> old mare.

\*MS. 1546. He H      1549. He      1556. K      1560. Cf. He H.

## MANUSCRIPT]

- 1562] Ye ar sib to Cramond oysters & puitter vessel ye ar ay  
clattering  
Ye ar snak<sup>1</sup> in the head yow ar good to kep<sup>2</sup> midges  
& flies  
Ye ar a good bairne if yoür heid wer in a pot & yoür  
feet in a pan yow wold be ane good bairne then  
Ye ar lyk ane old maden ye look aloft  
Ye may deny your creid if yow pleass  
Ye ar lyk a goos ye ar ay claikng  
Ye ar als busie as the beggars in the noontyde  
Ye ar sib to tinklars
- 1570] Ye ar to proud a hen for such a poor cok.  
Ye ar all gon to sleiff & that is hingand be a tak  
Ye ar al tint for fault of a pig to piss in  
Ye ar als gimp<sup>3</sup> as Pet Keins wyfes petticoat it wold  
not com on till the sark was off  
Ye ar no goos I knew be yoür ey.  
Ye wil not sell your hen upon ane rainy day  
Ye ar a dog befor all mens dor  
Ye tak the teall<sup>4</sup> or it com to yow  
Your scorne skaiths not  
Ye ar punded ye hav bein in the peass
- 1580] Ye ar as vain as the back of my hand  
Ye ar as vain as the back of my sark it cannot go to  
the dore except I be with it  
Ye ar als vain as a staff  
Ye mak long harvest of littl corne  
Ye run long on littill grund
- 1585] Ye breid of a clew ye ar ay rowing

---

<sup>1</sup> quick.      <sup>2</sup> [catch.]      <sup>3</sup> tight, short.      <sup>4</sup> [blame.]

MS. 1575. He      1576. H      1583. K.



[MANUSCRIPT

- 1586] Ye eat all & dryts all & harles the barrow at your  
ars  
Ye breid of the tinklars tyk ye hav not wil to be out of  
good companie  
Ye have eaten a peic of Kittie Fleichours bannok  
Ye ar my Lord Boyds man
- 1590] Ye look lyk a sow slacking a poynt  
Ye ar lyk a mouss vnder a firlet  
Ye breid of a tyks taill ye grow ay backward  
Ye ar als wanton as a bit of a reap  
Ye ar as wanton as a May calf  
Ye skip lyk a new clippit dinmont <sup>1</sup>  
Ye breid of the four and tuentie order of knaves ye tell  
your earand or ye gang  
Ye wold hav your ey full or your ers wer full  
Ye ar all bell mettall.  
Ye ar steil to the bak
- 1600] Ye ar as soupl as a gluif  
Ye trow I am a dyce maker  
Ye hav a ill youk I wold yow war in a freinds houss to  
look yow  
Ye ar ill beholden to your freinds yow stink abov the  
earth  
Ye wil not wit *quhair* of the water savours *quhill* the well  
go dry  
Ye are fool faced I wold ye war daft  
Ye ar fleyed for the day yow saw never  
Ye look lyk the farr end of a fidle
- 1608] Ye hav over foul feet to com so farr ben

<sup>1</sup> a wedder in the second year.MS. 1588. K            1592. Cf. K He            1596. K            1604 AR  
1606. KH            1607. K, cf. H            1608. AR K He.

## MANUSCRIPT]

- 1609] Ye ar all dirt and I wil be stain about yow  
 1610] Ye wil to the pape again  
     Ye wil to the water pitcher again  
     Ye ar better about the houss nor a blind catt  
     Ye may spain <sup>1</sup> hir soon sho wil suck tuye  
     Ye neid no lyon heraulds to sound your prais  
     Ye ar nather borne to draw pleuch nor harrow bot to  
         mow *quhair* ye may hav your marrow  
     Ye ar all cunts bennisone  
     Ye saw never grein cheiss but your eyn reild  
     Ye ar ane gleyed gunner  
     Your head hes worne tuo bouks <sup>2</sup>  
 1620] Ye wil be ane tong to ane trie bell  
     Ye hav mo craks nor corne staks  
     Ye wold mak meikl of a tuo pennie loaff if yow had it  
     Ye ar stout throw kynd ye brak your finger clawing  
         your arse  
     Ye ar stout throw kynd your goodschir drew a sword  
         to a plaitful of pottag  
     Ye ar ane man of ane gruellie <sup>3</sup> spreit  
     Ye ar my bird for als blak as ye ar  
     Ye weir the King of France his armes ye hav ane holl  
         in ilkane elbow  
     Ye hav lyen in your skabert as many good sword dois  
     Ye ar als dowed <sup>4</sup> as ane haddok  
 1631] Ye ar als stiff { as cuddie his leg  
                           { as he *quho* died in the fornicht  
                           { as a staff or a trie

<sup>1</sup> [wean.]<sup>2</sup> [bodies.]<sup>3</sup> disagreeable.<sup>4</sup> rigorous, good.

[MANUSCRIPT

- 1633] Ye will follow him long or 5s. fall from him  
 Ye wil be short whyl fool of fyve shillings  
 Ye ar als cold { as a key  
                           as lead  
                           as yce  
 Ye ar a lick the widdie or pin <sup>1</sup>  
 Ye ar as sharp as a shell
- 1640] Ye ar sharp & wise ye breid of small drink  
 Ye ar sib to a singet catt ye ar better nor ye ar likly  
 Ye looked to me as Wat did to the worme  
 Ye cannot sleip and the cat out of the houss  
 Ye should not call me to the rost and ding me with the  
     speet  
 Ye ar ane good goos if yow had a nest  
 Ye giv me Skairsbrugh warning  
 Ye ar long & small lyk a cates elbow  
 Ye wil not trow ane scalled man till ye sie his harnes  
 Yow ar ane sueit nüt the devill crak yow
- 1650] Yow ar weary the day *with* bearing tries to the craig  
     *i.e. with* drinking.  
 Yow may pray for the old King  
 Ye wold wyle the devil from ane blait body  
 Yow hav bein gotten in the forenighit you ar so rash  
 Yow ar bot ane gowk for al your clergy  
 Yow stryv against the stream
- 1656] Ye ar lyk the deer ye feid against the wind.

---

<sup>1</sup> 'Ane stark Gallows, a widdy and a pin,' in Kennedy's 'Answer to Dunbar,' Ramsay's Evergreen 1724 edn., vol. ii. p. 69.

MS. 1633. K He 1641. K II \*1646. 1649. He.

MANUSCRIPT]

## AGAINST SWEARING

In older tymes an ancient custome was  
 To suear in waighty materis by the masse  
 But *quhen* the messe went down (as old men not  
 They suear then by the Crose of this sam grote  
 And *quhen* the Crose was lykwyse held in scorne  
 Then by ther faith the common oth was sworne  
 Last having sworne away al faith & troth  
 Only God damn *them* is ther Common oth  
 Thus custom keip decorum by gradation  
 That losing masse, Crosse, faith, they find damnatio(n.)

A lawer having speared at ane dyvine *quhar* Lazarus soull  
 was *quhill* his body was four dayes in the grave the divyn  
 desyred him first to ansueir him if Lazarus & his son did  
 fall into stryf whose should the land be *quhen* he cam back  
 to lyf

One having saluted B. Boner once B. of London<sup>1</sup> thus  
 Good morrow Bishop quondam he replied  
 Adeu knave semper

## OF DRINKING

1660] But tell me is't not a most foolish trik  
 to drink to otheris health till thow be sick

## ERAT QUIDAM HOMO

(Ther was a certain man)

1661] Ther was (not certane when a certain preacher  
 That never learned & yit becam a teacher  
 Who having read in Latin thus a text

---

<sup>1</sup> Edmund Bonner, deprived in 1549 and again in 1559.

[MANUSCRIPT

Of erat quidam homo, much perplext  
 He seemed the sam with study great to scan  
 In English thus ther was a certain man  
 But now (*quoth* he) good peopl not yow this  
 He saith ther was, he doth not say ther is  
 For in thes dayes of *ouris* it is most certain  
 Of promise, oath, word, deed no man is certain  
 Yit by my text yow sie it com to passe  
 That surly once a certain man ther was  
     But yit I think in al yowr Bible no man  
     Can find this text—ther was a certain woman

To ane certain lord wishing that al cuckoldis wer in Thames  
 on quikly replied I hop *your* L. hav learned to swime

To on deploring the stait of the church & saying the  
 learned men and pilleris of the church wer decayed on  
 replied      no

    Godis feeld hath harroweris stil his church hath  
     pilleris mening the material kirk.

Abstinet æger, egens, cupidus, gula, simia, virtus.

## A RUL FOR PLAY

Lay down *your* staik at play lay down *your* passion  
 A griedy gamster hath stil som mishap  
 To chaff at play proceedis of foolish fashion  
 No man throwes stil the dyce in fortunes lap.

Of ane lady that consented to a pedler for som ellis of  
 lawn & *quho* after returning & in hir husbandis presence  
 requyring his money sho gives him back his cloth bot  
 folds in ane tobacco pyp *within* it kindled *which* brunt the  
 pack

MANUSCRIPT]

1667]

IN SIMONIACOS

Nec populo infenso, nec ruptis legibus ullis,  
 Lalus noster habet pingue sacerdotium.  
 Vnde sed hoc venit, venit tibi personet eccho  
 Eccho, mi sodes, dicito an emit emit <sup>1</sup>  
 Ilia ducentem, fractumque senilibus annis  
 illi patronus vendit avarus equum,  
 Aurea pro vetulo dat bis centena caballo  
 Cui nec Turca pater nec patria Italia est  
 Ergo sacerdotium regina pecunia donat  
 Magno equitat pretio, prædicat exiguo

Poor Lalus got a benefice of late  
 Without assent of peopl church or state  
 Yea but ask Eccho how he did com by it  
 Com Buy it? No *with* oths he wil deny it  
 He nothing gav direct or Indirectly  
 Fie, Lalus, now yow tell us a direct lie  
 Did not *your* patron for ane hundred pound  
 Sel yow a horse was neyther yong nor sound  
 No Turk, no Courser Barbary nor Jennit?  
 Simony? no but I see money in it  
 Wel if it wer but so the case is clear  
 The benefic was cheap the horse was dear.

## OF A DRUKEN SMITH

I heard that Smug the smith for ale & spyce  
 Sold al his toolis & yit he kept his vice

To ane glutton *quho* sayd he had lost his Stomack ane  
 replied

God forbid ane poor man find it it wil vndo him

---

<sup>1</sup> The second "emit" apparently added later to complete pentameter.



[MANUSCRIPT

1670]

## IN CORNUTUM

A Thais? No Diana thow didst wed:  
For sche hath given to the Acteonis heed

A husband swear by the Candl that he dreamed on told him his wyf was not honest Scho swear by the Bread on the Tabl he did lie, then sayd he that I may beleev yow eat the Bread No saith sho since yow sware first eat first the Candle

Ane gentelman desyring another in the morning to go seek ane hare answered Let them seek ane that lost ane for I lost none

Ane fellow for perjury condemned to lose his earis *quhen* the jaylor cam to cut them of he could not find them therfor sayd he wold complain to the lordis the other ansueired

Why so said he? ther order me doth bind  
To lose myne ears not yow myn ears to find

On Bragging that in his youth he wold leap schoot etc. so farr another replyed yow say weil yow Wold do so if yow had bein able but wil not say Could

A poor man coming to ane lawer to be advysed of ane action having gotten advyse sayd to him that he had no money but if he pleased he should giv him ane hare *quho* saying he wold accept of it the other ansueered then *schir* yow must run faster then I for sho did overrun me already.

A Judge asking ane pleasant lawer after the pleyes had been ended & the day not neeir spent if he wold hav ane motion the other ansueered yea that ther may be ane call of clyentis as ther is often of serjantis.

## MANUSCRIPT]

A ferryman beeing in ane bot *with* two ladyes *quhat*rof on loved him but he loved the other *quho* hated him a storme arysing a voyce cryees that he wold drown on of the ladyes to sav his lyf in *which* perplexity he drowned hir that loved him to win favour of the other

## A SCOTTISH VERSICLE

Rob, Wil and Davy

Keip weil thar paternoster and the ave

And if thow wil the better speid

Gang no furthe *then* thy Creed

Say weil & do non ill

And keip thyself in safty still

Ane Comparison of ane book *with* cheeiss  
 Old Haywood <sup>1</sup> wrytis & proves in som degrees  
 That one <sup>2</sup> may weil compare <sup>2</sup> a book *with* chees  
 At every merket some buy cheese to feed on  
 At every mart som men buy books to read <sup>2</sup> on  
 Al sortis eat <sup>2</sup> cheiss but how? ther is the question  
 The poor for food, the rich for good digestion  
 All sortis read books but why? wil yow discerne?  
 The fool to laugh the wyser sort to learne  
 The sight, taste,<sup>2</sup> scent <sup>2</sup> of chees to som is hateful <sup>2</sup>  
 The sight, tast, scent <sup>2</sup> of Books to som vngratfull  
 No chees ther was that ever pleased al feederis  
 No book ther is that ever lykt al readeris.

On dying having thrie sones advysed *them* to tak thes 3 profession the 1 to be ane lawer becaus he wes sure ther should ever be stryf the 2 to be ane Chanon becaus *quhen* others shood weep he wold sing the 3 to be ane phisitian becaus the earth did smother al ther faultis

<sup>1</sup> John Heywood, court jester and dramatist, *d.* 1565. A volume of Proverbs and Epigrams collected by him was published, London, 1576.

<sup>2</sup> Altered, in a later hand, from "on," "compar," "chees," "reed," "eit," "tast," "sent," "hatful."

[MANUSCRIPT

To ane old suter ane yong maid answeired Good *schir*  
Yow shal not thatch my new hous *with* old straw

Ane aged gentilman dying his fool cam to him desyring that he wold remember him in his legacy the other gav him his staffe & bidis keip it till he should meet *with* ane fool gritter nor himself. Death approching the fool coms to his maister hearing that he called for a preacher to prepar him for God *quhairvpon* the fool coms & sayes hav maister your staff for I think I shal never meit with ane gritter fool then *yourself quho* hav lived thes 90 yeiris & did never was prepared for God befor

A Spanyard in Flanderis comming to ane poor mans house that had a prety wyf at night coms & lyes down in the sam Bed *with* them the goodman finding him familiar *with* his wyf desyred hir to bid him go away why sayes sho yow knaw I hav no Spanish but go for the sexton he hes som Whil he is gon furth about the sexton he dois his busnes & goes away The goodman returning and asking *quhen* he went away said was I not wyse sayes for if I should been to hasty it might hav cost me my lif

Pyrocles princ of Tyr prikous the princes talyour.<sup>1</sup> a poor musitian.

Why Adam put out of paradic, for knavrie I warrant yow.

1685] OF A PEACABL WOMAN & A CURST SHROW.

A slow soft tongue betokenis modesty.  
But quik and loud signis of inconstancy.  
Wordis mor then swordis the inward heart do wound  
And glib'd tongued women seldom chast ar found

---

<sup>1</sup> "Just as a taylor hunts a louse"; see "The Dominie Depos'd," in *A Select Collection of Scots Poems*, &c. Edin., 1777, p. 42.

## MANUSCRIPT]

Much tongue in wiues is bad in maidis farr worse  
 A long tongued maid is right the diuelis dry nurse  
 He roaris aloud she scoldeth shrill lyk bell.  
 Both worse thæn feindis, both fit to liv in Hell.

## OF WOMEN.

Women to men ar equall every way.  
 And lyk infirmityes in both do stay.  
 Wee men ar women, women ar wee-men.  
 What differenc is tuixt us & women then ?

## ANOTHER

Women ar dainty vesselis fyne, yit tender weak & soft.  
 The must somtymes be borne *with*hall, since they do bear so oft.  
 Then let us not thes creaturis sueet, disgrace scorne or disdaine  
 When trouth to say we cam from thēm & they from us first  
 came.

## OF LOVE.

LOVE backward spelld (put I for O) is EVIL  
 Adde D befor the same & 'tis the DEVIL.  
 A DEVIL 'tis & mischeiff such doth work.  
 As never yit did Pagan Jew nor Turk

Non AMOR antiquo fuerat, sed amaror, ab æuo  
 Dicendus cum sit nil nisi amarus AMOR.

1690] PROVERBIAL SPEECHES OF SUNDRY NATIONS  
 ENGLISHED.*Of Italians*

Italians say thes things to be requyred in a traveller the ey  
 of ane Hawk to sie farr, The ears of ane Ass to hear the least  
 whispering The face of ane Ape to be ready to laught in

[MANUSCRIPT

soothing The mouth of ane Sow to eat *quhatsoever* is set  
befor him, The back of ane Camel to bear burthens patiently  
The Legg of ane hart to flie from danger A hug great purse  
topfull of gold becauss he *that* hes mony is called Lord

In England thay say thay *that* travel to Rome must hav the  
back of ane Ass the belly of ane Swyne and a conscienc as  
broad as the kings highway

Italians advise a traveller that he should meat & dress  
his hors lik a freind & ryd him lyk ane enemy

Thay say from ane new host & ane old harlot God delive(r) us

Of sleip thay say

A traveller fyve hours doth crav  
For sleip, a student seven wil hav  
And nyne sleips every idl knave

Women in Italy ar Magpyes at the doore, Saintis in the  
chur[ch] Goatis in the garden, devilis in the hous Angelis in  
the street & Syrens at the window.

Curia Roma(na)<sup>1</sup> non quærit *ovem* sine lana S.P.Q.R.  
Stul[tus] populus quærit Romam

Roma vale, vidi, satis est vidisse revertar  
Cum leno mæchus scurra cynædus ero

The French men reproach the Normans by this fained  
word fla-v[an-]gou-la-men as if thay wold call him flateur,  
vanteur, goula, larron, menteur *that* is flatterer, bragger,  
glutton, theiff, lyer

The Italians say of the French that thay use not to speak as  
they wil do not to read as thay wryt not to sing as thay talk

---

<sup>1</sup> The restoration of the “-na” of “Romana,” over which “non” has been  
written, gives a poor leonine hexameter.



## MANUSCRIPT]

England is said to be a hel for horses a purgatorie for ser  
vantis ane paradise for wemen

The Londiners pronounce wo to him that buyes ane hors in  
Smithfeeld that taks a servant in Paulis Church that marries  
ane wyf out of Westminster<sup>1</sup> Londiners & al *within* the  
sound of Bowbel ar in reproch called Cockneyes.

The Kentish men of old wer said to hav tails<sup>2</sup> becauss traffick-  
ing in the Low Cuntries thay never payed ful payment of what  
thay did ow but stil left som pairt unpayed Lankashyre eg  
pyes & to be wonne *with* ane aple *with* ane reid syd Norfolk  
wyls, Essex styls,<sup>3</sup> Kentish myls Northumberland horsmen  
Lincolinschyr belis & bagpyps Devonshyr whytpotis  
Teuksberry mustard Banberry cakes Kings Norten cheiss  
Scheffeld knyves Darby ale.

In France the kings theasaurer & in Inghland Dukes ar  
fatally misfortunat

Somno Itali, cantu Galli vinoque Alemanni  
Scæna Angli, planctu mœsti recreantur Hiberi  
Gallus amat celerem pede non remerante puellam  
Qua leuis est Certis et satis apta modis  
Hispano magis illa placet, cui forma benigna est  
Cui Venus ex oculis semper amica nitet  
Italus at timidæ lætatur amore puellæ  
Dulcia quæ veneris prælia sæpe fugit  
Virgo sed audaci quæ provocat ore magistrum  
Illa est Germano dulcis amica viro

<sup>1</sup> See *Ray*, edn. of 1670, p. 257.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. G. Neilson, *Candatus Anglicus*.

<sup>3</sup> P. 86.



## APPENDIX.

THE EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY LIBRARY MS.  
COLLECTION OF SCOTTISH PROVERBS.

A FEW days ago, while I was looking over the shelves of the Strong Room in the Edinburgh University Library, I came upon a second MS. collection of Scottish proverbs. Its press-mark is Dc. 6. 78, and its provenance is unknown. It measures  $8\frac{9}{16}$ "  $\times$   $5\frac{1}{8}$ ", and consists of thirty-eight closely written pages (with a good many erasures) in a difficult hand (or hands), which Mr Angus of the Register House agrees to belong to the first half of the seventeenth century.<sup>1</sup> It is therefore roughly contemporary with Dr Beveridge's MS., which has been printed above.

A considerable number of Fergusson's proverbs appear also in this Edinburgh University MS., which, however, from its contents and more strictly alphabetical arrangement, would seem to be an independent compilation. Neither time nor space will allow of a complete collation or discussion, but the twelve proverbs beginning with the letter R are given as a specimen :—

Raggit men sould gang far fra the wallis  
 Rakles youth maks goustlie age.  
 Racles hussies maks manie theives/ Rash doun Robin & rest ye  
 Raplow<sup>2</sup> werk, raplow payment woman wyfe.<sup>3</sup>  
 Reason band the man, but the devill could never bind the  
 Reason wald that reason sould reule the congregation  
 Reivars sould not be rewars.  
 Ryde the yow quha will, the lamb salbe myne.  
 Ruse the fuird as ze find it  
 Ruse the fair day at evin

Ryme spares na man

---

<sup>1</sup> If, as seems doubtful, the reference at p. 9 to "Martini Delrii Soc. Jesu Adagialia Sacra veteris et novi testamenti, lugduni apud Horatium Cardon in 4, 1612, Tomus secundus, *ibid.* 1613," is in the same hand as the body of the work, we have a superior limit for the MS. But even if there be two scribes in the case, the types of handwriting belong to the same period.

<sup>2</sup> Rough, coarse (raploch). This proverb was crowded into the space between "Racles . . ." and "Reason band . . ."

<sup>3</sup> "Woman wyfe" belongs to the proverb below.

It will be noted that of these proverbs 8, 10, 11, and 12 are common to all three collections; that 2 occurs in the edition of 1641, but not in the Beveridge MS.; and that 6 agrees with the Beveridge MS. as against the 1641 edition; while the remaining six—half of the total number—are to be found in neither of the collections printed above.

The Edinburgh University MS. differs in other respects from Fergusson's collection. In a number of cases the Scots proverb is followed by its equivalent in Latin—*e.g.*, at page 1.

"A cock is ay crouse on his awin midden" is followed by "Gallus in suo sterquilinio plurimum potest." Again at the end of letter A (p. 5) there is a batch of scriptural proverbs not arranged in alphabetical order, and distinct in language from the rest of the collection. These twelve proverbs, written in English with occasional lapses into Scots orthography, are taken from the Genevan version of 'The Proverbs of Solomon.' They differ only in a few unimportant details of orthography from the text of the first Bible printed in Scotland—the Bassandyne Bible of 1579,—which is, except for the preliminary matter, a mere reprint of the Genevan version.

I have to thank Mr F. C. Nicholson and the staff of the University Library for help received and for permission to print the extracts above.

BRUCE DICKINS.

11th July 1924.

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