

The XIII buiks o Eneados o the famous poet Virgil



translatit by Gavin Douglas and modrenised by John Law

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Buik 7

translatit out o Latin verses intae Scottish metre,
by the Reverend Faither in God, Maister Gavin Douglas,
Bishop o Dunkeld, and uncle tae the Earl o Angus,
every buik haein his parteecular prologue

modrenised by the late John Law,
completit by Caroline Macafee

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- XIII. Yit compts the poet the chieftains aa and some, agin the Trojans sall in weirfare come.
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The Prologue o the Seivint Buik

As bricht Phoebus, schene sovereign, heiven's ee
the opposite held o his chymmis¹ hie,
clear shinin beams and gowden simmer's hue,
in latoun² colour alterin haill o new,
kythin nae sign o heat by his veisage
sae near approachit he his winter stage;
ready he wis tae enter the thrid morn
in cloudy skyis under Capricorn.

Altho he be the heart and lamp o heiven
forfeeblyt waux his leamin giltly levin³
throu the declinin o his large round sphere.
The frosty region reiginis o the year,
the time and season bitter cauld and pale,
thae short dayis that clerkis cleip brumail⁴,
whan brim blasts o the northern airt
owrewhelmit haed Neptunus in his cairt
and aa to-shake the leaves o the trees;
the ragin storm owrewalterin wawy seas;
rivers ran reid on spate wi watter broun
and burnis hurlis aa thair bankis down
and landbrist rummlin rudely wi sic beir⁵
sae loud nocht rummist wild lion or bear.
Fluidis' monsters, sic as merswine⁶ or whales
for the tempest law in the deep devales.
Mars occident, retrograde in his sphere
provokin strife, reignit as lord that year;
rainy Orion wi his stormy face
bewailit o the shipman by his race;⁷
frawart Saturn, chill o complexioun –
throu whase aspect dearth and infectioun

¹ chymmis: mansion, i.e. sign o the zodiac

² latoun: bressy

³ levin: flash o licht

⁴ brumail: wintry

⁵ beir: ootcry

⁶ merswine: porpoises

⁷ race: course

been causit aft, and mortal pestilence –
went progressive the grees o his ascense;
and lusty Hebe, Juno's dochter gay
stude spulyiet o her office and array.
The soil y-sowpit⁸ intae watter wak,⁹
the firmament owrekest wi rokkis¹⁰ black,
the grund fadit, and fauch¹¹ waux aa the fields;
muntain tappis sleikit wi snaw owreheilds¹²
on raggit rowkis¹³ o hard harsk whinstane;
wi frozen fronts cauld clinty clewis¹⁴ shane.
Beauty was lost and barren shew the lands;
wi frostis hair owrefret the fieldis stands.
Sour bitter bubbis¹⁵ and the shoueris snell
seemed on the sward a similitude o Hell.
Reducin tae our mind, in every steid
goustly¹⁶ shaddas o eild and grisly deid.
Thick drumly scuggis¹⁷ daurkent sae the heiven;
dim skyis aft furth warpit fearfu levin,
flaggis o fire and mony felloun flaw,¹⁸
sherp sops¹⁹ o sleet and o the snipin snaw.
The dowie ditches war aa donk and wat;
the law vale flodderit aa wi spate;
the plain streetis and every hiewey
fu o flushes, dubs, mire and cley.

8 y-sowpit: droukit

9 wak: wat

10 rokkis: cluds

11 fauch: yalla

12 owreheilds: covers owre

13 rowkis: clints

14 clewis: cleuchs

15 bubbis: blasts

16 goustly: dreich

17 scuggis: shaddas

18 flaw: blast

19 sops: dauds

Laggerit leys²⁰ wallowit fernis shew;
broun muirs kythit thair wizzent mossy hue;
bank, brae and boddom blanchit waux and bare;
for gurl²¹ wadder groweit beastis hair.
The wind made wave the reid weed on the dyke;
bedoven in donkis²² deep was every syke;²³
owre craggis and the front of rockis sere²⁴
hang gret ice-shockles²⁵ lang as ony spear.
The grund stude barren, witherit, dosk²⁶ and gray;
herbs, flouers, and gresses wallowit away;
wuidis, forests, wi nakit bewis blout²⁷
stude strippit o thair weed in every hout.²⁸
Sae busteously Boreas his bugle blew
the deer fu dern doun in the dales drew.
Smaa birdis, flockin throu thick ronnis²⁹ thrang
in chirmin and wi cheepin changed thair sang
seekin hiddils and hirmis³⁰ thaim tae hide
frae fearfu thuds o the tempestuous tide.
The watter linns routis, and every linn
whustlit and brayit o the swouchin win.
Puir labourers and busy husbandmen
went wat and weary draggelt in the fen.
The silly sheep and thair little hird grooms
lurks under lee o bankis, wuids and brooms;
and ither dauntit gretter bestial
within thair stables seizit into stall,
sic as mules, horses, oxen and kye.

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- 20 laggerit leys: dubby pastures
21 gurl: cauld and stormy
22 bedoven in donkis: droukit in dubs
23 syke: sheuch
24 sere: mony
25 ice-shockles: icicles
26 dosk: daurk
27 blout: barren
28 hout: shaw, holt
29 ronnis: thickets
30 hiddils and hirmis: hidie-holes an neuks

Fed tuskit bairs, and fat swine in sty,
sustainit war by man's governance
on hervest and on simmer's purveyance.
Widewhaur wi force sae Eolus shoutis shill³¹
in this congealit season sherp and chill.
The caller air, penetrative and pure,
dazin the bluid in every creature,
made seek warm stoves and bein fires hot
in double garment cled and wilycoat
wi mighty drink and meatis confortive
agin the stormy winter for tae strive.

Repaterit³² weill, and by the chimney beikit
at even, betime, doun a-bed me streikit,
warpit my heid, kest on clathes thrinfauld
for til expel the perilous piercin cauld.
I crossit me, syne bounit for tae sleep
whaur leamin throu the gless I did tak keep
Latonia,³³ the lang irksome nicht
her subtle blinkis shed and wattery licht
fu hie up-whirlit in her regioun
til Phoebus richt in oppositioun
intae the Crab her proper mansion draw,
haudin the hicht altho the sun went law.
Hornit hebawd,³⁴ whilk cleip we the nicht owl,
within her cavern heard I shout and yowl,
laithly o form wi cruikit camsho beak;
ugsome to hear was her wild eldritch skreik.
The wild geese claikin eik by nicht's tide
atowre the city fleein heard I glide.

On slumber I slaid fu sad and sleepit sound
while the orient upwart gan rebound.
Phoebus' crowned bird, the nicht's orlogeir,³⁵
clappin his wingis thrice haed crawen clear,

³¹ shill: shrill

³² repaterit: fed

³³ Latonia: i.e. the Mune

³⁴ hebawd: hoolet (only here)

³⁵ orlogeir: time-keeper

approachin near the greikin o the day.
Within my bed I waukent whaur I lay;
sae fast declines Cynthia the muin
and kayis keckles on the ruif abuin;
Palamedes' birdis croupin in the sky
fleein on randoun shapen like a Y
and as a trumpet rang thair voices' soun
whase cries been prognosticatioun
o windy blastis and ventosities.
Fast by my chaumer, in heich wizzent trees
the sore³⁶ gled whustles loud wi mony a pew,
whaurby the day was dawin weill I knew;
bade bete the fire, and caunle alicht;
syne blissit me, and in my weedis dicht;
a shot windae unshet a little on char;³⁷
perceivit the mornin blae, wan and haar
wi cloudy gum and rack³⁸ owrewhelmed the air
the sulyie stithely hasart,³⁹ roch and hair;
branches brattlin; and blaiknit⁴⁰ shew the braes
wi hirstis⁴¹ harsk o waggin windlestraes;
the dewdraps congealit on stibble and rind
and sharp hailstanes, mortfundit⁴² o kind
hoppin on the thack and on the causey by.
The shot I closed and drew inwart in hy,
chiverin for cauld, the season was sae snell;
shupe wi het flame tae fleme the freezin fell.⁴³

And as I bounit me tae the fire me by,
baith up and down the hous I did aspy,
and seein Virgil on a lectern stand,
tae write anon I hint a pen in hand

³⁶ sore: sorrel

³⁷ on char: ajar

³⁸ gum and rack: haze an drivin mist

³⁹ the sulyie stithely hasart: the grund rigidly gray

⁴⁰ blaiknit: pale

⁴¹ hirstis: knowes

⁴² mortfundit: deidly cauld

⁴³ fleme the freezin fell: banish the freezin skin, i.e. get warm

for til perform the poet grave and sad,
wham sae faur furth ere than begun I haed
and waux annoyit some deal in my hairt
there restit uncompletit sae gret a pairt
and til mysel I sayed, “In guid effeck,
thou maun draw furth, the yoke lies on thy neck.”
Within my mind compassin thocht I sae:
naething is duin while ocht remains tae dae –
for business, whilk occurrit on case,
owrevolvit⁴⁴ I this volume, lay a space –
and, tho I weary wis, me list nocht tire
fu laith tae leave our wark sae in the mire,
or yit tae stint for bitter storm or rain.
Here I assayed tae yoke our pleuch again
and, as I cud, wi aefauld diligence,
this neist buik follaein o profound sentence
haes thus begun in the chill winter cauld
whan frost’s days owrefret baith firth and fauld.

Explicit tristis prologus

whaurof the author says thus:

This Prologue smells new come furth o Hell
and as our buik begouth his weirfare tell
sae weill accordin duly been annexed
thou dreary preamble wi a bluidy text.
O sable be thy letters illuminate
accordin tae thy process and estate.

⁴⁴ owrevolvit: laid by

The Seivent Buik

Chapter I

*Eneas' nurse, Caieta, gan decess
whaur yit the place keepis her name, but les.*

Oh Caieta, thou nurrice o Enee,
thou haes alsae, that time whan thou gan dee,
untae our coast or frontiers o Ital
given the bruit and fame perpetual,
while this day the ilk place and steid
observes the renown efter thy deid;
thy tomb and banes merkit wi thy name
in gret Hesperia witnessin the same,
gif that be ony glory nou tae thee.

The ruthfu than and devote Prince Enee
performit duly thy funeral service,
upo the sepulture, as custom wis and guise,
a heap o erd and little motte gart upraise
and wi bent sail syne furth his voyage taes.
Efter that assuagit wis the deep sea,
thay leave the coast and sped on thair journey.
The pipin wind blew in thair tail at nicht
nor the schene muin her course and clear licht
haes nocht denyit, sae that the haw streams
couth shine and glitter unner the twinklin gleams.

The coast endlang the isle Circaea
thay sweepen fast by, hard on buird the brae,
whaur-as the rich sun's dochter, Circe,
thae shaws – wham tae repair nane aucht tae be –
wi her eident sweet sang and carolling
causes aaway for tae resound and ring,
and in her proud place o beds aa the nicht
the weill-smellin cedar burnis bricht;
wi subtle slayis⁴⁵ and her heddles slee,

⁴⁵ slayis: weavin tuils for beatin up the weft

rich, lenyie⁴⁶ wabbis naetly weaves she.
Frae this land readily on faur micht thay hear
the gret ragin o lioness and the bear
whilk thay did mak, refusin tae be in band
in silence, aa the late nicht rummesand;
the birsit bairs⁴⁷ and beiris in thair sties
roarin aa wud wi whrinis⁴⁸ and wild cries,
and gret feigures o wolfis eik infeir,
yowlin and yammerin grisly for tae hear;
whilks aa this cruel goddess, hecht Circe,
by enchantment and forcy herbis slee,
haed furth o man's feigure and estate
intae wild beastis' shape and form translate;
whilk monstrous transformation for the naince
no happen micht untae devote Trojanes
gif thay arrivit in thae portis nice –
thae cursit coastis o this enchantrice,
that thay no suld dae enter, nor thaim finnd,
thair sailis aa wi prosper follaein wind
Neptunus filled; and made thaim sail swiftlie,
aa dangeris and gray shaulds cairryit by.

⁴⁶ lenyie: fine

⁴⁷ bairs: boars

⁴⁸ whrinis: squeals

Chapter II

*King Latin o the goddis haed command
tae wad his dochter tae man o uncouth land.*

Than gan the sea o beamis wauxen reid,
and heich abuve, doun frae the heivenly steid,
within her rosy cairtis clearly shane
Aurora vestit intae broun sanguane.
Efter the windis lownit war at will,
and aa the blastis pacified and still,
Outowre the caulm stream o marble gray
wi airis' palmis sweep thay furth thair way.
And suddenly here frae the stabled sea
a large seemly shaw beheld Enee;
amiddis wham the fluid he gan espy
o Tiber flowein saft and easilie,
wi swirlin wells and meikle yalla sand
intae the sea did enter fast at hand.
The birdis sere o mony diverse hues,
about the watter, abuve up in the clews,⁴⁹
on bankis weillbeknaw⁵⁰ and fluidis' bay,
wi wribles⁵¹ sweet and mirthfu sangis gay
gan mease and gled the heivens and the air,
and throu the shaw went fleein owre aawhere.
Tae turn thair course he gan his feirs command,
and stevin thair ships tae the samen land;
joyfu and blythe thay enter in the fluid,
that dern about scuggit wi bewis stuid.

Nou, thou, my muse Erato, I thee pray,
dae shaw me this, at I may sherply say
whit kin process o time wis, and whit kings
in auld Latium, and in whit state aa things,
whan first this strange army or fellaeship
in Italy gan arriven, every ship.
I sall declare aa, and reduce fuit-hait,
frae the beginnin o the first debate.

⁴⁹ clews: cleuchs

⁵⁰ weillbeknaw: fameiliar

⁵¹ wribles: warbles

Oh thou sweet goddess, oh thou haly wicht,
convoy and teach thy poet tae say richt!
I sall the horrible battles shaw and tell,
the bluidy hostis, and the fieldis fell;
hou, throu thair courage, dochty kingis sere
as deid corpse become war, and brocht on bier;
the pouer haill o aa Tuscany,
and aa the gret routis o Italy
assembled intae airmies on the land.
Per order nou thare rises upo hand
faur larger maiters for tae treat and write;
a gretter wark begin we tae indite.

Thae boundis, wi thair lusty ceities all,
by lang process o peace, in state ryal
the King Latinus held in governing.
Ere than, fu ageit wis this noble king,
wham, as we hae heard tauld lang ago,
by King Faunus engendert wis upon
the maid or nymph o Laurent, Marica.
And tae this Faunus faither wis alsa
Picus the King, whilk doth thee represent,
Saturnus, for his faither and parent –
thou wis the first gan aa thair bluid begin,
the first fundment and chief stock o kin.
By disposition o the gods divine,
son nor manchild nane haed King Latine;
for alsmeikle as his young son, a page,
deceasit wis within his tender age.
The King's palace, and aa that ryal hauld,
aa her alane a dochter did withhauld,
nou ready for a man, and come tae age
in green yearis tae complete mairriage.
Fu mony nobles intae Latium
askit her tae wife, throu Ital aa and some:
Turnus her askis, comen o hie parage,⁵²
abuve aa ither maist guidly personage,
and tharetae rich o freindis and mighty
o elders gret and ryal ancestry;
wham King Latinus' spous, Queen Amatae,
wi diligence did procure, day by day,

⁵² parage: lineage

that he adjoinit war thair son-in-law:
but fearfu signis by the goddis shaw,
and sindry terrors gan tharetae gainstand.

Amiddis o the palace close did stand,
wi blissfu bewis, a fair green laureir,
hauden in dreid and worship mony a year,
wham this ilk prince and faither Latinus
did consecrate and hallow tae Phoebus,
for that he fand it growein in the field
whaur he his ryal palace first did beild.
The indwellers o the grund, efter this tree,
Laurentes untae name cleipit haes he.
Betide a wunner taikenin for tae say:
a gret flicht o bees, on a day
cairried owre the sea heich throu the moist air,
wi loud bummin gan alicht and repair
on the hie tap o this foresaid laureir.
Intil a clud fu thick thegither infeir,
thair feet aa samen knit efter thair guise,
a swarm, ere ony wist hou or whitwise,
hung frae a flourished branch o this ilk tree.
Incontinent the spaemen cries, “We see
a strange man tae come untae thir pairts
wi a gret rout, and frae the samen airts
whaurfrae yon beeis come, sall hither seek,
whilk, for his bontie⁵³ and his thewis⁵⁴ meek
sall weild this palace and hie seignory.
Abuve this, eik, betid ane mair ferly:
as King Latinus kennles, on thair guise,
upo the altars for the sacrifice,
the clean schydes⁵⁵ o the dry firebrands,
whaur that alsae fast by her faither stands
Lavinia the maid, his dochter fair,
a selcouth thing tae see, in her side hair
it seemed the het fire kennelt bricht,
and her gay clathin aa wi loweis licht

⁵³ bontie: excellence

⁵⁴ thewis: personal qualities

⁵⁵ schydes: kennlers, bits o wuid

gan gleit,⁵⁶ and sparklin burn up in a bleeze;
her ryal tresses inflamelt, ill at ease;
her crounel, picht wi mony precious stane,
enfirit aa o burnin flawis⁵⁷ shane.
And efter that seemit this guidly wicht
tae be involved in yalla reeky licht,
and furth owre aa the place and ruif on hie
the fire bleezes, thaim seemit, scatters she.
Certes, this wis repute wi young and auld
a grisly thing and wondrous tae behauld;
for the divines declares by and by
whit this fearfu taiken did signify:
that is tae know, that this ilk maid suld be
o fame excellin and felicity;
but tae the people prognostication clear
o sudden battle and o mortal weir.

But than the King, thochtfu and aa pensive
o sic monsters,⁵⁸ gan tae seek belive
his faither Faunus' orator and answer,
whilk couth the fates for tae come declare;
and gan requiren responsions⁵⁹ alsa
in the shaw unner hie Albunea,
whilk is a chief gret forest, as thay tell,
and namit frae a haly routin well,
whaur, frae the earth, in dern went here and thare,
a strang fleur⁶⁰ throws up in the air.
Thither hail the people o Italia,
and aa the land eik o Oenotria,
thair doutsome askin turses for answeir,
and thair petitions gets assoilyiet⁶¹ here.
The King's offerin and rich sacrifice
the priest thither gart bring, as wis the guise,
and, unner silence o the daurk nicht,

⁵⁶ gleit: glitter

⁵⁷ flawis: flashes

⁵⁸ monsters: i.e. divine portents

⁵⁹ responsions: answers frae a deity

⁶⁰ fleur: flavour, smell

⁶¹ assoilyiet: resolved (by reileigious authority)

on sheepskinnis, weill spreid and couchit richt,
whilk slain war in the sacrifice that day,
he streikis him adoun and thareon lay,
demandin swevins and visions til appear.
On mervellous wise, thir fleein shaddas sere
and feigures nice⁶² did he see and aspy,
and diverse voices heard he eik fast by,
and gan the goddis' carpin bruik and jose,⁶³
wi speech o thae spreitis that been y-close
in Acheron, the deepest pit o Hell,
and thaim that faur down in Avernus dwell.
The King alsae, that time, attour the lave,
here wad himsel his answer ask and crave.
A hunner woolit⁶⁴ wedders, weill gainand,
in sacrifice he brittens for offerand,
on whase saft fleeces, weill and duly spread,
the King doun ligs for that nicht's bed.
And suddenly, furth o the shawis close,
sayin him thus, thare come a hasty voce:

“Oh thou, my child, comen o my stock,
address thee ne'er tae knit intae wedlock
thy dochter til a man o Latin land;
lippen nocht in alliance ready at hand.
Tae be thy match sall come an aliener,
that o his bluid sall gender sic an heir,
whilk sall our name abuve the starns upbring;
o whase stock the nevoyis and affspring
unner thair feet and lordship sall behaud
aa landis steered and rulit as thay wad,
as faur as that the sun, circlin we see,
behauldin baith the east and wester sea.”

⁶² nice: byordnar

⁶³ bruik and jose: unnerstaun (literally possess an enjoy)

⁶⁴ woolit: woolly, unshorn

Chapter III

*Efter Eneas come tae Ital land,
made sacrifice tae the gods wi offerand.*

The King thir answers o his faither Faunus,
and admonitions by nicht given thus,
no hides nocht, nor closes in his mouth;
sae that the fame thareof walkis fu couth
owre aa the ceities o Italy widewhaur.
Whan-as the younkens o Troy arrived war,
and at the shore, unner a gressy bank,
thair navy gan thay anchor fast and hank.⁶⁵

Eneas, and ither chieftains glorious,
and the fresh lusty springald Ascanius,
unner the branches o a seemly tree
gan leanen doun, and rest thair bodies free;
and tae thair denner did thaim aa address
on green herbis and sonkis o saft gress.
The flour scones war set in, by and by,
wi ither messis, sic as wis readie;
syne braid trincheris did thay fu and charge
wi wild scrabbis⁶⁶ and ither fruitis large.
Betide, as wis the will o Jupiter,
for faut o fuid constrainit sae thay war,
the ither meatis aa consumed and duin,
the parings o thair breid tae mop up suin,
and wi thair haundis brek, and chaftis gnaw,
the crustis and the coffins⁶⁷ aa on raw;
no spare thay nocht at last, for lack o meat,
thair fatal⁶⁸ fower-neuked trinchers for tae eat.
“Och!” quo Ascanius, “Hou is this befaa?
Behaud, we eat our tables up and aa!”
He sayed nae mair but this, hauf-deal in bourd.
Thaim thocht thay heard a fatal voice and word,
whilk wis as final end o thair voyage.

⁶⁵ hank: tie up

⁶⁶ scrabbis: crab aipples

⁶⁷ coffins: caskets i.e. pie-crusts

⁶⁸ fatal: fatit

His faither first o aa, wi gled courage,
the word reft frae his mouth as that he spak,
and follaes on the answer stupefak.
“Aa hail, thou grund and land,” quo he in hy,
by the Fates untae me destinie;
and, traist Penates,” sayed Enee,
“aa hail our native goddis, weill ye be!
Here is our dwellin place whaur we sall leind,⁶⁹
for tae remain here is our kintrie heind.⁷⁰
Certes, nou I remember my faither Anchise
sic secret taikens o fates on this wise
shew and rehearsit, sayin thus tae me:
‘Son, whan in sic hungir thou stad sall be,
as you art cairryit til a strange coast,
that, aa the messes etten, duin, and lost,
thou art constrained thy buirdis gnaw and fret,
than thou, aa irked, may thare believe tae get
a sover dwellin steid perpetuallie.
Remember, in that place, or near fast by,
tae found thy first ceity wi thy hand,
dicht wi fosses⁷¹ and wallis hie standand.’
This wis that hungir tarried us sae lang;
this sall mak end o our mischiefis strang.
Whaurfore, the morn early, I you pray,
first as the sun uprises, we gledly may
search and inquire whit place and land is this,
or whit mainer o people tharein dwellis;
and o this kith whaur stauns the chief ceitie,
lat us seek sindry weyis frae the sea.
Nou mak we merry. Awa dowf hertis dull.
Nou skink,⁷² and offer Jupiter cups ful,
and in your prayers and orisons infeir
dae caa upo Anchise, my faither dear.
Bring wine again; set in thareof plenty.”

And sayin thus, wi a green branch o tree
he did envelop and array his heid,

⁶⁹ leind: bide, reside

⁷⁰ heind: bonny

⁷¹ fosses: defensive ditches

⁷² skink: pour out (the wine)

and Genius, the god o that ilk steid
he did worship, and gan in prayers caa
Erd, the gret mither and first god o aa;
the Nymphis, and the fluidis yit unknow;
the Nicht syne, wi her signis aa on raw.
And Jupiter Ideus o Ida,
and Sybilla the mither in Phrygia.
He gan alsae beseik, whaurat thay dwell,
aither o his parents baith in Heiven and Hell.

The faither than aamichty wi clear licht
gan thunner thrice doun frae the heiven's hicht;
and shakkin in his haun, whauras he went,
a burnin clud shew frae the firmament,
wi fiery sperkis like tae gowden beams,
or twinklin sprainges⁷³ wi thair gilten gleams.
And than belive divulgite round about is
the noise and rumour throu the Trojan routis:
the day wis comen, and the place whaur thay
thair ceity promised suld build and array.
For joy thay pingle than for til renew
thair banquets wi aa observances due,
and, for thir tithins,⁷⁴ in flagon and in scull⁷⁵
thay skink the wine, and wauchtis cuppis ful.

⁷³ sprainges: streaks, stripes

⁷⁴ tithins: tidins, wittins

⁷⁵ scull: smaa wuiden bowle

Chapter IV

*Hou Eneas ambassadors did send
tae King Latin wi rewards and commend.*

The neist morn, wi his gowden lamp bricht,
as the clear day did air and earth alicht,
thae boundis, coastis, and the chief ceity,
diverse spyis went furth tae search and see,
and fand a stank that floweit frae a well
whilk Numicus wis hait, and eik thay tell
this wis the fluid o Tiber thay haed fund,
and strang Latin people inhabit this grund.

Tharewith Anchises' son, the wyce Enee,
per order chosen o every degree
a hunner gay ambassadors did wale,
tae pass untae the King's steid ryale;
bade beir the prince rewardis for the naince,
and him beseik o peace tae the Trojanes.
Wi fresh garlands and branches aa thay be
arrayit o the olive o Pallas' tree;
and but delay, as he thaim chairgit haed,
wi swift pace thay on thair message gled.
And he intae the meantime fast gan spur,
but wi a smaa sheuch, or a little furr,
tae merk the fundment o his new ceity;
and fast by the ilk coast's side o the sea
his first mansion, in mainer as it haed been
a host o tentis stentit on the green,
wi turrets, fossie,⁷⁶ and erd dykes ilk deal,
he gan address tae closen wunner weill.

By this the young men sent furth in message
sae faur haes sped furthwart thair voyage,
that thay the touers and the turrets hie
o King Latin the chief chymmis gan see.
Unner the ceity waa childer and page,
and lusty springalds aa o tender age,
thair horses and thair steedis did assay,
and dauntit cairtis in the dusty way;

⁷⁶ fossie: ditch

and some thair big bowis did bend and draw,
some wi airmis lat trimmlin dartis thraw;
baith wi swift course and shuitin sae thay wirk,
ilkane busy his pairty for tae irk.
Than, cairryit on a horse, a messengeir
brocht tithins tae the ancient King's ear,
a gret menyie o sturdy men war come,
cled in a strange habit, aa and some.
The King bade bring thaim in his palace soon,
and set himsel amid his elders' throne.

Thare stuid a gret temple, or salle⁷⁷ ryal,
o Laurent ceity saet imperial,
belt wi a hunner stately pillars hie,
o King Picus the chymmis chief tae see,
wi seemly shaws circulit, and lang hauld
in worship and reverence by faithers auld;
whaur wis statute by the consent commoun
the kingis suld receive sceptre and croun,
and o justice ither ensenyies sere,⁷⁸
and thare the banner first raise for the weir.
In this temple held thay court on raw;
that wis the saet eik by thair gentle law
depute for hallowed feast and mangerie;⁷⁹
and here fu aft at buirdis by and by
the herrs war wont thegither sit aa same,
whan brittent wis, efter thair guise, the ram.
And faurer eik per order micht ye knaw,
within the chief deambulatur⁸⁰ on raw
o forefaithers gret eimages did staun,
o auld cedar cairvit wi crafty haun:
King Italus, and faither Sabinus
that first the wine tree plantit, stock or buss –
the cruikit heuk unner his weed held he.
The ancient King Saturn thare micht thou see,
and Janus' stature eik wi double face,
wi ither princes porturate in that place,

77 salle: muckle chaumer

78 ither ensenyies sere: mony ither emblems

79 mangerie: banquetin

80 deambulatur: daunerin place, walk-wey

frae the beginnin o thair first descense,
whilk, o thair native kintrie for defense,
in martial battle sufferit woundis sair.
Upo the postis alsaie mony a pair
o harness hang, and cairtwheels gret plenty,
frae enemies war wunnen in melée:
the bouin aixes; helmis wi hie crests;
o rich ceities' yettis, staples and rests,
gret lockis, slottis,⁸¹ massy bandis square.
Dartis and shieldis hingis here and thare,
and stalwart stevins⁸² baith o airn and tree
reft frae thair shippis fechtin on the sea.
The eimage porturate wis o King Picus,
daunter o horse, in chair sat glorious,
cled in a ryal robe augurial,⁸³
and in his haun a sceptre wand ryal,
and in his left haun haudin a buckleir;
wham, ravished for his luve, throu venoms sere,
Circe his spous smate wi a gowden wand,
and in a bird him turnit, fuit and hand,
wi spruttelt⁸⁴ wings, cleipit a speicht⁸⁵ wi us,
whilk in Latin hecht *Picus Marcius*.

81 slottis: bolts

82 stevins: ships' stems

83 augurial: pertainin til augury, ceremonial

84 spruttelt: speckelt

85 speicht: wuidpecker

Chapter V

*King Latin speirs the cause o thair comin,
and Ilioneus made guidly answerin.*

In sic a temple o gods Latin King,
amid his faither's saet ryal sitting,
gart fetch the Trojans tae his presence here;
and as thay entert, and before him wer,
wi gled semblant and veisage fu bening⁸⁶
thir wordis first tae thaim carpis the King:

“Say me, Trojans, whit ye desire,” quo he,
“for weill we knaw your lineage and ceity;
and it is alsae comen tae our ears
ye set your course owre sea thir mony years.
Shaw for whit cause or whit necessity
your shippis owre sae feil haw streams o sea
been hither tae this coast o Italy
cairryit or drive; or whether your navy
haes errit by thair course and faur gane wull,
or yit by force o storm chased hithertil,
as aft will happen by the frawart tide
tae mariners on fluidis deep and wide.
Gif ye sicwise within our riverbanks
be entert, or remainis wi our thanks
intae our port and havens fast here by,
withdraw you nocht, nor flee nocht that herbry;
nor misknaw nocht the conditions o us
Latin people and folk o Saturnus,
unconstrait, nocht by law bund tharetil,
but by our inclination and free will,
just and equal, and but offences aye
are rulit efter the auld goddis' wey.
As tuichin eik your descense and affspring,
weill I remember that I hae heard something;
but that is passed, ere nou, sae mony years,
the fame aamaist forget is and effeirs.
Ageit men o the ceity Auruncae,

⁸⁶ bening: benign

wi gret avaunt,⁸⁷ forsuith, than heard I say,
o this kintrie Sir Dardanus y-bore
throu-out the sea socht faur and faurer more
til Samo, first, in Thrace, the nearest gate
(whilk Samothracia nou tae name is hait);
syne socht he tae the land o Phrygia,
and ceities set in the Wuid o Ida.

The gowden palace nou wi starnis bricht
o heiven in saet ryal withhauds that wicht,
that umquhile socht frae hyne o Tuscany
and Coryth ceity, stauns our coast hard by,
that nou a god is cleipit owre aawhaur,
and tae that nummer eikis his altar.”

Thus sayed the King; and Ilioneus, but baid,
untae his wordis this wise answer made:

“Maist ryal prince, comen o hie parage
o God Faunus, naither the sea’s rage
by force o daurk tempest haes us drive
untae your realm, and thareat made arrive;
nor yit the leidstarn frae our course bewavit,
nor strange coast o this regioun dissaivit;
but by assent common, and o free will
and set purpose, we socht this ceity til,
as fowks flemit⁸⁸ frae thair native kintrie,
umquhile the maist sovereign realm, traist me,
that e’er the sun frae the faur pairt o heiven
wi his beamis owreshane, or man can nevin.⁸⁹
Frae Jupiter did our lineage begin;
and aa the affspring o Sir Dardanus’ kin
o Jupiter thair forefaither can rejoice.
O Jove’s stock in hiest gree maist choice
our king descend, the strang Trojan Enee,
in message sent us here tae thy ceitie.
Hou gret tempest o battle and debate
our Trojan fieldis wide haes walkit late,
by cruel Greekis’ hideous confluence;
whit fatal bargain thare made and defence,

⁸⁷ avaunt: boasting

⁸⁸ flemit: exiled

⁸⁹ nevin: declare

aither pairt knawis o the warldis twa,
that is tae say, Europe and Asia;
and gif thare ony faurer region be,
dividit by the stream and ocean sea
frae the firm land, thareof thay hae heard tell;
and thay alsae, gif ony thare may dwell,
the sun's mid circle remainis under,
hait *Torrida Zona*, dry as ony tinder,
whilk is amid the heivens situate
amang fower ither plages⁹⁰ temperate.
Frae that deluge escape and fearfu spate,
cairryit throu feil large haw streams wat,
a little steid or mansion, we beseek,
grant tae our native kindly goddis meek –
the bare sea coast, hurtin nae man's richt,
wi air and watter common tae every wicht.
Nae mair lack tae your realm sall we be,
nor nae repruif thareby tae your renowné
by us, nor nane ither, sall ever spreid;
nor yit the thanks o sae freindfu a deed
sall ony time intae oblivion slide;
nor Italy, wi her braid bounds and wide,
sall ne'er repent that she the fowk o Troy
haes receivit, nor thareof think annoy.
By aa Eneas' destinies I sweir,
his traisty faith, or richt haun intae weir
sae valiant at onset and defence,
and by his lang uise and experience
o armis, whilk he haes in battle hauntit;
fu mony people, victorious, undauntit,
desirit us in freindship and ally,
and tae be jointit in thair seignorie.
Nor lichtly nocht forthy our freindly proffer,
whilk o our free will unrequired we offer,
wi wordis o request and o treaty,
the taikens in our haundis borne up hie;
for aft the fates o the goddis sere
haes us compellit by thair strang pouer
untae your landis and thir coastis seek.
Sir Dardanus, born o this kintrie eik,
desires hither tae return again;

⁹⁰ plages: airts

and wi commandments strait, fu mony ane,
Apollo chairgit us tae speir bedene
tae Tiber, flowein in the Sea Tyrrhene,
and tae the fountain and the strandis clear
o Numicus the hallowed fresh riveir.
And faurer eik our prince haes tae thee sent
o his auld fortune but a smaa present,
the sober⁹¹ leavins reft frae Troy's fire.
Intae this cup o gowd Anchises, his sire,
at the altar wis wont tae sacrifice;
and o the gret King Priam, maist dochtie,
this wis the chief diadem owre the lave,
wi wham he crounit sat and doomis gave;
his sceptre als, and eik his tire hat,⁹²
hallowed whaurwi at sacrifice he sat;
and this wis eik his precious robe ryal,
by Trojan leddies wrocht and brusit⁹³ all."

Hearin sic words o Ilioneus,
fu still his veisage haudis Latinus;
his sicht unmoved tae the erd did he prent,
wi een rowein, and earis richt attent.
The brusit purpour moves him naething,
nor Priamus' sceptre sae faur steirs the King,
as that he muses thochtfu gretumlie⁹⁴
upo his dochter's spousage and ally,
and in his mind gan compass aft infeir
his faither Faunus' response and answeir;
thinkin this ilk Eneas seemed tae be
the self stranger, wham fatal destiny
signified tae come furth o an uncouth steid
tae be his son-in-law, and for tae lead
equal dignity wi him in that ring;
fu o sovereign virtue, whase affspring
by thair pouer suld joice⁹⁵ and occupy

⁹¹ sober: modest

⁹² tire hat: ceremonial headdress

⁹³ brusit: embroidert

⁹⁴ gretumlie: gretly

⁹⁵ joice: possess

the haill warld unner thair seignorie.
And at the last, efter fu large musing,
wi joyous cheer on this wise sayed the King:

“The goddis your beginnin further and speed,
and thair pronostication manifest indeed.
I grant thine askin, Trojan messengeir,
and your rewards receives in thank; for here
ye be aa hertly walcome, traistis me.
Sae lang as leives King Latin in this kintrie,
the riches o maist plenteous fertile grund
ye sall nocht want, that in this realm is fund,
nor yit nane ither walth, weillfare, and joy
whilks ye war wont tae bruik and hae in Troy.
But, at the least, ye cause your prince Enee –
gif that sae gretly he desires tae be
wi us confederate intil alliance,
or gif he langs, but langir discrepance,
within our palace tae enter before ither,
and be cleipit our companion or brither –
dwell nae langir, but come hither in haste,
nor scare nocht at his frein’s face as a ghaist.
For the maist pairt o our convene⁹⁶ and band
tae me sall be tae tuich your king’s hand.
And nou again ye sall, turnin your went,
beir tae your prince this my chairge and commandment:
I hae a dochter wham responses shaw
furth o my faither’s oratory law,
and mony fearfu taikens o the heiven
by diverse weys shawen, and fiery levin,
will nocht suffer that she in wedlock be
given untae a man o our kintrie;
but aa the spaemen declares, by and by
thare suld come tae remain in Italie
frae strange coastis, tae be our son-in-law,
a dochty man, uncouth and unknow,
whilk, o his lineage and posterity,
our name abuve the starnis sall up-hie.
Gif that my mind can ocht imagine richt,
I ween that he suld be the samen knight,
and gledly wad, wi aa my hert’s desire,

⁹⁶ convene: agreement

the weirdis tharetae caaed that ryal sire.”

This bein sayed, the King Latin, but fail,
gart chuisse o aa his steedis furth the wale –
three hunner milk-white horse and fair haed he,
seizit and fed in stalwart stallis hie.
For every Trojan per order thare the King
wi purpour housours⁹⁷ bade a courser bring.
Thair brusit trappours and patrells⁹⁸ ready boun,
wi gowden brooches hang frae thair breists down;
thair harnessin o gowd richt dearly dicht,
thay runge the gowden mollets⁹⁹ burnished bricht.
Untae Eneas als, thair prince absent,
a ryal chair richly arrayed he sent,
wi twa stern steedis tharein yoke infeir,
comen o the kind o heivenly horses wer,
at thair neis-thirls¹⁰⁰ the fire fast swarmin out,
o the ilk stock and stud sprungin, but dout,
whilkis Circe, crafty and ingenious,
and mair subtle than e'er wis Daedalus,
by a quent wey frae her ain faither staw,
makkin his steeds beleap meiris unknow,
that by her sleet conceit and wily mind
sic mainer horses engendert o bastard kind.

⁹⁷ housours: housins, coverins

⁹⁸ trappours and patrells: trappins and breistplates

⁹⁹ mollets: bits

¹⁰⁰ neis-thirls: nostrils

Chapter VI

*Juno, perceivin the Trojans bigg a toun,
for grief and dolour like tae swelt¹⁰¹ in swoon.*

Wi sic giftis Eneas' messengers,
and o King Latin wi joyfu answers,
returnis, muntit hie on horse ilkane,
o peace and concord bodeword brocht again.

But lo, the spous o Jove, cruel Juno,
the self time gan return frae Arge tho¹⁰²
(the whilk kintrie, o noble bruit and fame,
frae Inachus the King haes tak his name)
and haes cairryit throu the air pure,
whilk is her proper region. As she fure,
doun frae the skies on faur gan dae espy
o the hie land Pachynus in Sicilie;
beheld the Trojan navy stand on raw;
and Eneas blythe and gled she saw
o the joyous bodeword untae him brocht,
that busily, wi aa the haste he mocht,
enforces thair herbry and strenth tae beild,
than aa assurit o this land and field,
and thair shippis left desolate and waste.
In ecstasy she stuid, and mad aamaist;
in sudden dolour smitten wunner smert,
gan shak her heid, wi hermis at her hert,
and o her breist thir wordis warps in hy:

“Och, kind o people hatefu and unworthie!
For aa the willis and the fates Trojane
been tae our mind and destinies e'er again.
Micht thay nocht aa been slain in Troy fields?
Micht thay nocht aa hae swelt¹⁰³ thare unner shields?
Are thay nocht vanquished and owrecome ilkane?
Whit! may nocht thir preisoners again be tane?
Haes nocht Troy aa enfirit yit thaim brint?

¹⁰¹ swelt: faint

¹⁰² tho: than

¹⁰³ swelt: dee'd

Na – aa sic laubour is for nocht and tint.
Hae thay nocht fund, for tae escape away
thru mid fire, and mid hostis, sover way?
Sae traist I nou at last my force and michts
lies dowf and irkit by yon caitiff wichts.
Insatiate o haterent, I rest in peace
that wis sae bauld afore, and ne'er wad cease,
whan thay war chasit aff thair native land,
tae sturt thaim on the stream frae hand tae hand,
and tae pursue thae fleemit wavengeours
thru aa seais, mysel, ilk tide and hours.
Again Trojans consumit are by me
the strenth o aa the heivens and the sea.
Whit profitit me Syrtes, that soukin sand,
or yit Scylla, the swelch is aye routand?
Or whit availit Charybdis' bysm huge?
Are thay nocht stakit¹⁰⁴ at rest, and weill ludge
in the desirit sound o Tiber's bay,
assoverit o¹⁰⁵ the sea, and haes nae fray
o me, nor o my malice and faint thocht?
The stern people Lapithos bring tae nocht
and quite destroy nicht Mars for his offence.
Wis it nocht eik grantit in recompense
tae Diane, by the Faither o Goddis each one,
tae wreak her grief in ancient Calydon?
Whit fate made the Lapithos ere trespass,
or Calydon, that sae sair punished was?
Abuve meisure forsuith thay chastised wer.
But I, the spous o the gret Jupiter,
whilk, sae unhappy, aa weys I nicht finnd
thaim til annoy conceit left nocht behinnd;
whilk haes mysel in proper person eik
turnit and writhit aa wents I cud seek,
am nou vanquished by ae man, this Enee.
But, gif my pouer nocht sufficient be
or gret eneuch, why suld I dreid or spare
tae purchase help, forsuith, attour aawhere?
Gif I may nocht the heivenly gods incline
tae my purpose, I sall seek faurer syne
tae thaim that faur down intae Acheron dwell,

¹⁰⁴ stakit: established

¹⁰⁵ assoverit o: made sauf frae

and sall commove that deepest pit o Hell.
I put the case, that I may nocht obtain
frae Latin land thaim tae expel aa clean,
but by the Fates' unmovable destiny
Lavinia remains spous tae Enee.
Yit at least thare may faa stop or delay
in sae gret maiters for a year or twae;
and leifu is it eik o aither king
the retinue in battle doun tae ding.
Lat the eild faither and maich¹⁰⁶ knit up freindship
by price o thair people and fellaeship.
Wi gret effusion o the bluid Trojan,
and samen o people Rutulian,
thou sall be seizit, maiden, tae dowrie:
Bellona, Goddess o Battle, sall staun by,
tae be convoyer o the mairriage.
Ne'er Hecuba, o Cisseus' lineage,
whilk, bund wi child, dreamit she did furth bring
a gleid o fire, or het brand licht birnin,
wis deliver o sic flames, but fail,
as thou sall beir, and fires conjugal.
And faurer eik, this Venus' proper birth,
and saicont Paris, Enee, little worth,
sall raise and kennle deidly flame again
o het firebrands amang the waas Trojane."

Frae this wis sayed, wi horrible mind in haste
doun tae the erd she socht, and the laith ghaist
furth o her saet and mirk dungeon o Hell
she did provoke, and callis wi a yell
ane o the sary furious sisters three,
Alecto, whilk causes aa mischief tae be,
and ever mair desires o her kind,
and haes fu green imprentit in her mind
the deidly battles, and the dolorous weir,
strife and deceit, herm and discordis sere.
This fiendlik hellish monster Tartariane
is hatit wi her ither sisters ilkane;
and Pluto eik, the faither o Hell's see,

¹⁰⁶ maich: son-in-law

reputes that bisning¹⁰⁷ belch¹⁰⁸ hatefu tae see,
intae sae mony grisly formis sere
she daes hersel translate, and o sic fear
been her cruel shapes and veisage,
sae foul and laithly aa her personage,
that, for her piles¹⁰⁹ and insteid o her hair,
feil snakes springs owre her body aawhere.
Whilk Fury quent, o kind sae perilous,
Juno tices¹¹⁰ tae mischief, sayin thus:

“Dae tae me, virgin, dochter o the mirk nicht,
this ae service, thy proper wark by richt;
dae me this laubour, whilk is thine o debt,
that our honours and fame be nocht owreset,
nor yit subdueit intae sic a place
as wi yon Trojans, standis void o grace;
lat ne'er Enee sae proudly tae obtain
the spousage o Latinus' dochter schene;
and, by nae wey, lat ne'er his feiris weild
a fuit braid o Italian grund nor field.
Thou can brether, o ane assent mony years,
agin ither enarm in mortal weirs;
thou may owreturn wi haterent and wi strife
the haill houshaul, the man agin his wife;
thou may scourgins and strakes in ludgins raise,
and thou o freindis may mak mortal faes,
and deidly firebrands kennle in thack and ruifs.
A thousan names thou haes that nae man luves;
a thousan weys fowks tae annoy and shent.
Knock on thy bruidy breist at mine intent;
brek and cast down thair concord made o new.
Causes o strife and battle I wad thou sew.
Gar aa the pouer, and everilk stout younkeir,
first in thair minds desire tae move the weir;
syne cry, and ask armis and battle aa,
and rush tharetae forcily gret and smaa.”

¹⁰⁷ bisning: monstrous

¹⁰⁸ belch: ? (DOST treats as *belch* abyss)

¹⁰⁹ piles: hairs

¹¹⁰ tices: entices

Chapter VII

*Alecto, throu persuasion o Juno,
Queen Amata aa witless gart she go.*

This cruel monster, Alecto, onane,
infect wi fell venom Gorgoniane,
socht first tae Latium, and the chymmis hie
o Laurentine, the King's chief ceity,
and privily begouth a-watch and lour
about his spous Queen Amata's bouer;
whilk, aa inflamed in ire and wifely thochtis,
o this new come o Trojans, aa on flocht is,
the busy cures o Turnus' mairriage
scaudin her breist and mind hauf in a rage.
This wickit goddess taewart her as fast
ane o her slimy serpent hairs did cast,
deep in her bosom lat in-slip wi slicht
amid her hert pipes or precordials¹¹¹ licht;
that by this ilk monster's instigioun
wud wrath she suld perturble aa the toun.
This edder, slidin owre sleeked bodies saft
o thir leddies, amang thair weedis aft
went thrawin, sae that nane felt whaur she glides,
the furious Queen deceivin on aither sides,
and in her mind gan blaw and kennle syne
a felloun grief or courage serpentine.
The grisly serpent seemed some time tae be
about her hause a linked gowden chenyie;¹¹²
and some time o her curch,¹¹³ lap wi a waif,¹¹⁴
becam the selvage or border o her quaif;¹¹⁵
some time her heid lays for tae knit her hair;
fu slide¹¹⁶ she slips her members owre aawhere.
Suin as the first infection, a little wee

¹¹¹ precordials: pairts o the body in about the hert

¹¹² chenyie: chyne

¹¹³ curch: heidscarf

¹¹⁴ waif: wave?

¹¹⁵ quaif: coif, cap

¹¹⁶ slide: slippery

o slimy venom inyett¹¹⁷ quaintly haed she,
than she begouth her wittis tae assail,
and deep amid her banes for tae skail
and multiply the rage or birnin fury;
for yit nocht aa owre her breist cruelly
the spreit haes felt the flame frenetical;
whaurfore the mair soberly furth withal,
efter the common custom and usage
o auld matrons in thair wild dotage,
wi huge complaint for her dochter and regrait,
and Trojan wedlock contrar her consait,
thus sayed she weepin, and that fu peitiously:

“Faither King Latin, why wilt thou, why?
Whit! sall our child, Lavinia the may,¹¹⁸
tae banished men be give tae lead away?
Naither haes thou o thy tender get peity,
nor yit compassion o thysel, nor me
her mither, wham sae suin, fu desolate,
yon fause sea reiver will leave in sturt, God wait,
and cairry the maid owre the deep fluids haw,
as suin as e’er the first north wind daes blaw?
Wis it nocht e’en be sic a feignit gird,¹¹⁹
whan Paris furth o Phryge, the Trojan hird,
socht tae the ceity Laces in Sparta,
and thare the dochter o Leda staw awa,
the fair Helen, and tae Troy tursit raith?¹²⁰
Whit sall avail your faith and hallowed aith?
Whit o your ancient purveyance, Sir King,
that ye haed o your freindis and affspring?
Whit o your richt haun, haud sae glorious,
sae feil syse gien tae our kizzen Turnus?
Gif that thou seeks an aliener unknow
tae be thy maich or thy guid son-in-law,
and haes that thing determit in thy heid,
constrained tharetae by the command and rede
o thy faither Faunus; as tae that gate,

¹¹⁷ inyett: poured in

¹¹⁸ may: maiden

¹¹⁹ gird: straik

¹²⁰ raith: immediately

hear a little my fantasy and consait.
Aa kintrie unsubjectit unner our wand,
it may be cleipit an uncouth strange land,
and aa that tharein dwells alieners been –
o sic strangers the goddis spak, I ween.
And gif we list seek furthermair, yit than
tae compt the first beginnin o Turnus' clan,
Inachus and Acrisius, but weir,
twa kingis o Greece, his forefaithers wer;
thus is he Greek, tae compt his grees a piece,
and come o Myce, the middle realm o Greece.”

Efter at the Queen wi sic words, aa for nocht,
essayit haed King Latin as she mocht,
and fand that he resistit her intent,
the furious pyson than o the serpent
deep in her breist and entrails swiftly yeid,
and did owre aa pairts o her body spreid;
sae that, forsuith, chasit unhappilie
wi hideous monsters, gan she rin and cry
throu-out the large ceity in wild dotage,
but reason, stricken wi the nymphis' rage;
as some time scentis the round tap o tree,¹²¹
hit wi the twinit whip, daes whirl, we see,
wham childer drives busy at thair play
about the close and void hallis aa day.
She smitten wi the tawis¹²² daes rebound,
and rins about, about, in circle round.
The witless sort o foresaid babbies ying
studies a-wunnert o sae nice a thing;
this turnit tree sae aa that bairdless rout
ferlies tae see sae slip and whirl about,
and aa thair mind sets it tae chase and drive –
nae slawer went Amata, the King's wife,
throu-out the mid ceities o Latin land,
and throu the fierce people, frae hand tae hand.
And further eik untae the wuidis green
wi swift faird chases furth this Queen,
feignin the rage o Bacchus and gret nicht.
A mair mischief for tae contrive and slicht,

¹²¹ tap o tree: wuiden spinnin top

¹²² tawis: tawse

and gretter fury, swith she gan begin:
her dochter hid thir wuidy hills within;
thareby the Trojan spousage tae delay,
stop and prolong thair feast and bridal day.
She shoutis, “Hey, hou! Bacchus, God o Wine,
thou only art worthy tae hae our virgine,”
and this wi loud voice cries and shoutis she.
“Tae thee, Bacchus, she raisit eik on hie
gret lang spears, as thay standards wer,
wi vine tree branches wipped¹²³ on thair mainer;
tae thee she led ring sangs in carolling,
tae thee her hair addressit lat down hing.”
The fame hereof wide owre aa did spreid,
while at the last the samen fury gan spreid
in aa the matrons’ breistis o the land.
Chasit wi force thay flock frae hand tae hand,
thair houses thay forhou¹²⁴ and leaves waste,
and tae the wuidis socht as thay war chased,
and lat thair necks and hair blaw wi the wind.
Some ithers went yellin unner the lind,¹²⁵
while aa the skyis o thair screik fordins;
and some war cled in pilches¹²⁶ o fawn skins,
intae thair haundis raisit upo hie
the lang stouris,¹²⁷ wind wi the sweet vine tree.
Amid thaim aa the Queen Amata gaes,
and fiercely did a birnin fir tree raise,
and o her dochter eik and o Turnus ying
the waddin sangs and ballads did she sing;
wi bluidy een rowein fu thrawenlie,
aft and richt shrewedly wad she cleip and cry,
“Out, harroo! Matrons, whoursae-e’er ye be,
aa Latin wifes harkens nou tae me:
gif ony favours or freindship yit remains
in your devote breistis, amangs thir plains,
o the unhappy mither Amata,

¹²³ wipped: wrappit

¹²⁴ forhou: forsake

¹²⁵ under the lind: in the wuids (literally unner the linden)

¹²⁶ pilches: claes o hairy hide

¹²⁷ stouris: staffs

gif ony thocht remords¹²⁸ your minds alsae
o the effectuous peity maternal,
lowse heid bandis, shake doun your hairis all,
walk in this wuid here carollin wi me,
sing Bacchus' sangs, sen nae better may be."

¹²⁸

remords: afflicks

Chapter VIII

*Hou Alecto persuadit haes Turnus
tae move battle incontrar Latinus.*

Alecto thus, amang the wuidis dern,
mony wild beastis' den and deep cavern,
intae sic rage this ilk Queen Amatae
wi Bacchus' fury chases tae and frae.
And efter that this wickit fause goddess
thocht she haed sherpit weill eneuch, I guess,
the first fury o sae dolorous rage,
for til distruble the foresaid mairriage,
and quite pervert or turnit tap-owre-tail
Latinus' houshauld, purpose, and counsail;
but mair delay, wi wallowed¹²⁹ wingis she
wiskis frae thyne ontae the wallis hie
o the courageous Rutulian Turnus;
whilk ceity the dochter o Acrisius,
fair Danae, fundit for her men and her,
driven tae that coast wi the south wind's birr;
whilk steid wis somewhile cleipit Ardea,
frae *ardea*,¹³⁰ a foule (yit namit sae),
and, tae this day, the foresaid ryal hame
by fortune bruiks o Ardea the name.
Within thae hichty boundis Turnus richt
lay still at rest amiddis the daurk nicht.

Alecto her thrawn veisage did away,
aa furious members laid apairt and array,
and her in shape transformit o a trat,¹³¹
her forrat scored wi wrinkles and mony rut;
and wi a veil, owrespreid her lyart hair,
a branch o olive tharetae knittis yare.¹³²
O Juno's temple seemis she tae be

¹²⁹ wallowed: literally withert (translating Latin *fuscis* dark)

¹³⁰ ardea: the heron

¹³¹ trat: auld wumman

¹³² yare: eagerly

the nun and tratess,¹³³ cleipit Calybe.
Before the veisage o this stout young knicht
present hersel, wi thir wordis on hicht:

“Turnus, whit! Wilt thou suffer this, undocht,
thy lang travail and laubour be for nocht,
and thy sceptre and croun deliver be
tae yon banished new-come Trojan menyie?
The King Latin the spousage o Lavine,
and thy dowry, bocht wi thy bluid and pyne,
denyis for tae grant thee, or else ocht;
and tae succeed in his realm haes besocht
an aliener, born o an uncouth land.
Pass nou thy wey, and set thee tae gainstand
thir perillis, but aa thanks or gainyeild;
sen thou art mockit, gae, dounbet in field
the hostis o Etruria, and syne
defend in peace and rest the folk Latine.
Aamichty Saturn’s dochter alluterly,
as thou by nicht thus doth at quiet lie,
bade me shaw plainly aa thir things tae thee.
Hae duin tharefore, assemble this kintrie,
address thy fencible men in thair array,
enarmit gledly move and haud your way
taewart the ports or havens o the sea,
and set upo yon same Trojan menyie;
drive thair chieftainis aff this land, but hune;¹³⁴
thair pentit carvels birn. Sae tae be duin
the gret pouer o heivenly gods divine
commandit haes, decreed, and determine.
Lat King Latinus feel, tae his ain harms,
and hae experience o thee, Turnus, in arms,
but he thee grant tae wife his child Lavine,
and keep tae thee his promise and convine.”¹³⁵

The young man mockin at the prophetess,
hearin sic speech, answers wi mouth express:

¹³³ tratess: auld wumman

¹³⁴ but hune: wi’out delay

¹³⁵ convine: agreement

“It staundis nocht sae as thou weens, but weirs.¹³⁶
The messenger is nocht gane by mine ears,
fu lang ere nou, hou that a strange navie
arrivit in this Tiber’s stream fast by.
Feignyie nae causes me for til affray;
ween nocht me list my purpose leave nae way,
nor ryal Juno, Queen o realmis aa,
list our quarrel forget, nor thole we faa.
But, auld dame, thy vile unwieldy age,
owreset wi hasart¹³⁷ hair and faint dotage,
whilk void is o aa truith and verity,
in sic cures in vain occupies thee,
and thee deceives, as prophet, by fause dreid,
that gies thy mind thareon thou haes nae heed,
as for tae treat o battles betwix kings –
thine occupation stauns on ither things,
whilk suld hae cure o nocht alanerlie
but goddis’ temples and eimages tae espy.
Thole men o peace and weir carp and rehearse,
wham tae pertains the battles tae exerce.”

At sic wordis Alecto, het as fire,
brint in her fury rage and felloun ire,
sae that, the young man speakin, suddenly
the trimmlin hint¹³⁸ aa members o his body;
his een stuid abashed in his heid.
This hellish monster, fu o wrath and feid,
hissit and whustelt wi sae feil edder sounds,
and her feigure sae grisly gret abounds,
wi glowein een birnin o flames black.

Turnus a-wunnerin stints and draws aback;
and, as he purposed meikle mair tae say,
insteid o hairs she raised up serpents twae,
and o her scourge the sound she made him hear,
wi ragin mouth syne sayed and felloun beir:¹³⁹

¹³⁶ but weirs: wi’out dout

¹³⁷ hasart: gray

¹³⁸ hint: seized

¹³⁹ beir: outcry

“Behaudis this my ‘vile unwielderly age,
owerset wi hasart hair and faint dotage,
wham eild, void o aa truith and verity,
by fause dreid deceives sae’!” quo she,
“As for tae treat o battles betwix kings:
behaud gif it sae be, conseider thir sings:¹⁴⁰
lo me present, ane o the sisters three,
infernal Furies o fearfu Hell’s sea;
see, I beir in my hauns and pouer
the deed o battles and the mortal weir.”

And sayin thus, at this ilk fierce young knicht
a het firebrand kest she birnin bricht,
and in his breist this furious leamin schyde¹⁴¹
wi deidly smoke fixed deep gan hide.
The huge dreid wi this dissolvit his sleep.
Owre aa his body bristin furth did creep
the warm sweit throu every lith¹⁴² and bane;
and aa enraged gan efter harness frane;¹⁴³
armour, aa witless, in his bed seeks he;
armour, ower aa the ludgin, law and hie.
The gret courage o airn wappons gan waid,¹⁴⁴
cruel and wild, and aa his wit invade,
in wickit wudness battle tae desire,
whauron he birnis het in felloun ire;
like as whan that the ingle o stickis dry
wi bleezin sound is laid tae, by and by,
about the sides o the pat playin,
the liquor sparkis for the het bullin;¹⁴⁵
within, the fervent buller violent
o watter makkin reeky froth upsprent;
sae swellis up the scum and bells¹⁴⁶ bedene;
the vessel may nae mair the broth contain,

¹⁴⁰ sings: signs

¹⁴¹ schyde: kennler

¹⁴² lith: jynt

¹⁴³ frane: ask

¹⁴⁴ waid: run wud

¹⁴⁵ bullin: bylin

¹⁴⁶ bells: bubbles

but furth it popples in the fire here and thare,
while up fleeis the black stew¹⁴⁷ in the air.
And for-as-meikle as Turnus thus wis stad,
the grettest o his chieftains gae he bade
tae King Latin and him declare, but weir,
the peace wis broken, and he wad move the weir.
Tae graith thair armour fast commandis he,
tae defend Italy, and o thair ain kintrie
thair enemies expel and drive. As yit
he wis eneuch for baith, he lat thaim wit,
baith tae recounter¹⁴⁸ the Latins and Trojanes.

Whan this wis sayed, and, on sic wise as gains,
the goddis caaed tae be in thair helping,
than busily Rutulians, owre aathing,
gan aither ither fast exhort and pray
on thair best weys for weirfare tae purvey.
Some the maist seemly-farrant personage¹⁴⁹
tists¹⁵⁰ tae the field, tae preive his green courage;
some on his youthheid, and his thewis¹⁵¹ guid;
and some is movit throu his ryal bluid,
for his progenitors noble kings wer;
and some war eik inducit tae the weir
for hie prowess knawn in ilk lands,
and deedis wrocht maist knichtly wi his hands.

¹⁴⁷ stew: reek

¹⁴⁸ recounter: meet in weir

¹⁴⁹ i.e. Turnus

¹⁵⁰ tists: entices

¹⁵¹ thewis: character

Chapter IX

*Ascanius huntin haes a tame hart hurt,
whilk wis the first movin o strife and sturt.*

While Turnus on this wise, about aa pairts,
in the Rutulians raises hardy hearts,
Alecto taewart the Trojans, but mair tarry,
wi her infernal wings furth gan carry.
By a new slicht a place spyt haes she,
whaur, for the time, by the coast o the sea,
the young seemly Ascanius at solace
did hunt the wild deer, follaein the chase.
Thare suddenly this hellish wench infest
a hasty fury on his hundis kest;
thair neis-thirls wi a sover scent
she fillis sae, that busily thay went
efter the fuit o a tame hart; whilk thing
wis the first cause o weirfare and fechtin,
and first steirit the wild foresters fell
tae move debate, or mak thaim for battel.

This hart o body wis baith gret and square,
wi large heid and tines furnished fair;
wham childer o ane Tyrrhus thaim amang,
reft frae his mither's pap, haed nursit lang.
Tyrrhus thair faither wis fee maister, and guide
o studdis, flockis, bous;¹⁵² and hirdis wide,
as storer¹⁵³ tae the King, did kep and yim;¹⁵⁴
o the large plain aa traist wis gien tae him.
Fu dauntit and fu tame at thair command
wis sae become this beast, that, but demand,
Sylvia, thair sister, wi aa diligence
arrayit him o flouers sweet as cense;
aft plait she garlands for his tines hie;
the deer alsae fu aft-time kaim wad she,
and feil syse wesh intil a fountain clear.
Fu weill suffert her haundis the tame deer,

¹⁵² bous: hirds of kye

¹⁵³ storer: keeper o livestock

¹⁵⁴ yim: tend

and wis accustomed sae whan he list eat,
at his ain maister's buird tae seek his meat.
Owre aa the wuidis wad he raik¹⁵⁵ ilk day,
and at even tide return hame the straucht way
til his ludgin weill bekennit, fuit-hait,
aa by himsel, war the nicht ne'er sae late.

This hart errin faur frae his reset,¹⁵⁶
Ascanius' wud hundis umbeset,
as that, per case, for the het sun's gleam,
he held doun swimmin the clear river stream,
tae cuil his heat unner a gressy brae.
Ascanius the child himsel alsae,
birnin in desire o some notable renoun,
wi nockit¹⁵⁷ bow y-bent aa ready boun,
weenin him wild, lat suin an arrow glide.
The Goddess wis aa ready fast beside,
that gan his haun address, but waverin;
the flane flaw fast wi a spang frae the string,
throu-out the wame and entrails aa, but stint,
the sherp-heidit shaft dushit wi the dint.
The deer, sae deidly woundit and to-lame,¹⁵⁸
untae his kind reset gan fleein hame,
and enters in his stall, and that anon,
aa bluid besprent, wi mony grank¹⁵⁹ and groan,
and like a man besocht help and supplie;
wi his plainin aa the hous fillis he.
Sylvia, the eldest sister, wi a shout,
her hauns clappin fast her shouthers about,
cries efter help, and gan thegither caa
the landwart fowks and dour foresters aa.
Thay than assembelt tae the fray in hy,
and flockis furth richt fast unwarnistlie;¹⁶⁰
for the ilk Fury pestilential that hour

¹⁵⁵ raik: gang

¹⁵⁶ reset: stall, shelter

¹⁵⁷ nockit: drawn

¹⁵⁸ to-lame: completely lamit

¹⁵⁹ grank: hairse groan

¹⁶⁰ unwarnistly: unexpectedly

fu privily in the dern wuid did lour,
tae cast on thaim sleely her fearfu rage,
that furth upstertis baith man, wife, and page –
he wi a burdoun¹⁶¹ o a lang stiff tree,
the pynt sherpit and brint a little wee;
he wi a knotty club and knorry¹⁶² heid.
Whit ilk man fand first ready in that steid –
seekin a swourd, new rinnin frae the pleuch –
thair grief made that thing wappon guid eneuch.
Tyrrhus, the maister storer, in a rout
the churls aa assembelt him about,
whauras, per case, busy wi wedges he
stuid schydin¹⁶³ a fower-square aiken tree,
wi mony pant, and felloun hochs and quakes,
as aft the aix reboundit o the strakes.
This cruel goddess, fearfu Alecto,
for til annoy her time espyit tho,
and speilis up fu suin, as she war wuid,
upo a heich stable whaur-that beasts stuid.
Richt busteously upo the ruif on hie
the hirdis' ensenyie¹⁶⁴ loud up trumps she,
and in a bouin¹⁶⁵ horn, at her ain will,
a fiendlike hellish voice she liltis shill;
at whase sound aa trimmelt the forest,
the dern wuidis resoundit east and west.
The blast wis heard thence miles mony ane,
at the deep loch o Trivia or Diane;
the din wis heard eik ellis-whaur fu far,
at the sulphurous white river caaed Nar,
and at the lake or fountain o Veline.
Baith tae and frae owre aa the kintrie syne
wemen and mithers affrayed o this case,
thair young children fast tae thair breists did brace.
Than speedily, wi haste and busy fare,
the laubourers undauntit here and thare

¹⁶¹ burdoun: cudgel

¹⁶² knorry: knobly

¹⁶³ schydin: splittin

¹⁶⁴ ensenyie: rallyin cry

¹⁶⁵ bouin: curvit

hint wappons, and assemblt on every side
taewart the sound, whaur-as the trump that tide
wi deidly voice blew this fearfu sing.
The Trojan pouer alsae gan furth thring
wi haill routis, Ascanius tae rescue.
The battles war adjoinit nou o new;
nocht in mainer o landwart fowks' bargain –
wi hard blocks rushin aa owre-ane,¹⁶⁶
nor blunt stings o the birselt¹⁶⁷ tree –
but wi sherp shearin wappons made melée.
The grund blaikent¹⁶⁸ and fearfu waux alsae
o drawn swourds scentin tae and frae;
the bricht metal, and ither armours sere,
whauron the sun's blenkis beats clear,
glitters and schane, and unner beamis bricht
casts a new twinklin or a leamin licht.
This stour¹⁶⁹ sae busteous begouth tae rise, and grew,
like as the sea changes first his hue,
in white lipperis by the windis blast;
syne, piece and piece, the fluid boldens sae fast,
while finally the waws uprisis mair,
that frae the grund it warps up in the air.

At the first contray¹⁷⁰ intae this bargain,
Almon, Tyrrhus's eldest son, wis slain,
a fair young springald, whilk caucht deid's wound
throu dint o arrow shot wi felloun sound,
that smate him richt e'en in at the hause bane;
the loppert bluid stoppit his aynd¹⁷¹ onane,
and closit in o life the tender spreit.
About him fell doun deid, and lost the sweat,¹⁷²
mony o the hird men, amangs wham wis ane,
the elder Galaesus, as that he alane

¹⁶⁶ owre-ane: thegither

¹⁶⁷ birselt: fire-hardent

¹⁶⁸ blaikent: bleckent

¹⁶⁹ stour: fecht

¹⁷⁰ contray: encounter

¹⁷¹ aynd: braith

¹⁷² lost the sweat: lost the life bluid (literally sweat)

offert himsel amid the hostis twae,
tae treat concord o peace and o the fray;
whilk wis the justest o aa rural man,
and michtiest in his time leivin than –
owre aa the boundis o Ausonia
his five flockis pasturit tae and frae;
five bous o kye untae his hame repairit,
and wi a hunner plews the land he earit.¹⁷³

¹⁷³ earit: ploo'd

Chapter X

*Frae the first slauchter made upo this wise,
Turnus and the people for battle cries.*

And as this bargain on this mainer yeid
in plain field and evenly battle steid,
this hellish goddess, joicing at her will
her promise whilk she hecht for tae fulfil,
as suin as wis this gret melée begun,
the erd littit¹⁷⁴ wi bluid and aa owrerun,
and the first slauchter wis commit and duin
in deidly weir; than Italy as suin
she leaves, and wi swift faird daes flee
throu-out the skyis tae the heivens hie,
haein her purpose sayed wi voice fu proud,
untae Juno thus spak she throu a cloud:

“Lo! Nou, discord perfurnished, as thou wald,
wi shrewit battle and cares monyfauld.
In tender freindship lat thaim *nou* convene,
knit up *alliance* and *fellaeship* bedene,
sen that I hae the Trojans aa besprent
wi bluid o the Italians, ere I went.
And, gif thy mind be firm tharetae wi me,
I sall thus meikle eik tae my wark,” quo she,
“for til induce the ceities adjacent
untae the bargain. Ere that I hyne went,
wi shrewed rumours I gan amang thaim skail,
thair mindis sae I sall inflame aahaill
by wud undauntit fierce desire o Mart,
thay sall forgaiter tae help frae every airt,
while battle, armours, swourdis, spears and shields,
I sall dae saw and strow owre aa the fields.”
Than answert Juno: “At abundance there is
o thy deceitfu slicht and fraud, iwis,
and eik o fearfu terror and deray.
Weill are perfurnished causes o this weir perfay.
Thay fecht thegither middelt on the land,
baith face for face, wi drawen glaves in hand,
and new-shed bluid littis thair armour clear,

¹⁷⁴ littit: dyed

whilk thay by fortune caucht hae first in weir.
Yon worthy squire o Venus' bluid and kin,
and King Latinus, *nou* lat thaim begin
sic wedlock tae contrack and spousal feast.
But the gret Faither o Heiven, at my requeist,
will suffer thee at large nae langir here
tae walk, nor tarry abuve the skyis clear.
Withdraw thee o this place, forthy, weill suin;
gif ony chance restis mair tae be duin,
I sall mysel that maiter rule and gy."¹⁷⁵
Thir words spak Juno. And she tharewi in hy
her double wings wi edder sound did beat,
leavin the heivens, socht tae her hellish seat.

Amiddis Italy, unner hillis law,
thare staundis a famous steid weill beknaw,
that for his bruit is named in mony land,
the vale Amsanctus hait, on aither hand
wham the sides o a thick wuid o tree
closes fu dern wi scuggy bewis hie;
a routin burn amidwart thareof rins,
rummlin and soundin on the craggy whins.
And eik, forgain the broken broo o the mont,
a horrible cave wi braid and large front
thare may be seen, a thirl¹⁷⁶ or ayndin¹⁷⁷ steid
o terrible Pluto, Faither o Hell and Deid;
a rift or swelch sae grisly for tae see,
til Acheron riven doun, that hellish sea,
gapin wi his pestiferous gowl¹⁷⁸ fu wide;
at whase bysm the Fury gan doun slide,
this hutit¹⁷⁹ goddess, and by that descence
deleivert heiven and erd o her presence.

And naetheless, durin the mean season,
the Queen hersel, Saturnus' get, anon

¹⁷⁵ gy: guide

¹⁷⁶ thirl: vent

¹⁷⁷ ayndin: breathin

¹⁷⁸ gowl: thrapple

¹⁷⁹ hutit: detestit

set tae her haun, and undid the battle.
O hirdmen aa the routis wi a yell
rushed frae the field tae the ceity, but tarry;
the slain bodies awa wi thaim did carry,
Almon the child, and deid Galaesus als,
wi bluid-besparkit veisage, heid, and hals.
Thay thig vengeance at the goddis, and syne
thay rame¹⁸⁰ and cry fast on the King Latine.
Turnus wis by, and amid this deray,
this het fury o slauchter and fell affray,
the terror doubles he and fearfu dreid,
that sic forloppen¹⁸¹ Trojans, at this need,
suld thankfully be reset¹⁸² in that ring,
or Phrygian bluid confederate wi the King,
and he furth o thae bounds tae be expellit.

The self time eik, for the matrons that yellit,
and roundis sang sae in thair wild dotage,
in the dern wuids, smitten wi Bacchus' rage,
gret routis did assemble thither in hy,
and roupit efter battle richt earnestlie.
Thare the detestable weirs, ever in ane,¹⁸³
agin the Fates aa, thay cry and rane;¹⁸⁴
contrar answers and dispositions aa
o goddis, for the weir thay cleip and caa,
led by the pouer and frawart godheid
o cruel Juno wi auld remembert feid.
Fu fast thay thring about the King's palace.
But this ilk Latin, knawin thair malice,
resists unmovit as a rock o the sea,
wham, wi gret bruit o watter smite, we see
himsel sustains by his huge wecht
frae wawis feil, in aa thair birr and swecht,¹⁸⁵
jaupin about his skirts wi mony a bray.

180 rame: cry out

181 forloppen: renegade

182 reset: gien shelter

183 in ane: continuously

184 rane: rail, complain

185 swecht: impetus

Skellies¹⁸⁶ and faemy craggis thay essay,
routin and rarin, and may nocht impair,
but gif thay shed frae his sides the ware.
Sae, efter that the King micht nocht resist
thair blinnd purpose, for, as e'er Juno list
the maiter went, aa set tae cruelty.
Fu mony goddis and the heivens hie
tae witness drew he, aa wis by his will;
but aa for nocht, nae tent wis tane tharetil.
“Alas!” he sayed, “We are to-broke¹⁸⁷ and rive
by the Fates, by storm chasit and drive.
Oh! Oh! Ye wretchit people!” gan he cry,
“wi cruel pain fu dear ye sall aby¹⁸⁸
this wilfu rage, and wi your bluid express
the wrangis o sic sacrilege redress.
Oh, Turnus, Turnus, fu hard and hivvy wraik
and sorrafu vengeance yit sall thee owretake,
whan, aa too late, in thy helpin thou sall
wi prayers on the goddis cleip and call.
For I haed fund my rest and ease,” quo he.
“Nou at the duir Deid ready bydes me,
whaur nou o happy pompous funeral
I spulyiet am, and sic triumph ryal.”

Nae mair sayin, wi that ilk word, fuit-het,
fu close within his palace he him shet;
o aa sic things gave owre the cure and charge,
sen nae better micht be, tae gae at large.

¹⁸⁶ skellies: skerries

¹⁸⁷ to-broke: completely broken

¹⁸⁸ aby: pey for

Chapter XI

*The ports o weir tae tuich the prince refuses,
whilkis Juno breks, syne aa for battle muses.*

The mainer than wis, and the auld custom
within the land o ancient Latium,
whilk blissit usance efter mony a day
the ceities and faithers o Alba keepit aye;
nou the gret maister sovereign ceity ding¹⁸⁹
o Rome keepis and hauntis the self thing;
that is tae know, whan first thay move or steir
the martial ensenyies for the weir –
whether sae thay list tae set wi hostis plain
on the Getis, people Tartarian;
wi dolorous and fu lamentable weir
in Hyrcany or Araby tae steer,
or for til ettle intae Inde furth eik,
taewart the dawn and sunrisin tae seek;
or yit til ask and reduce hame again
thair staundarts frae the dour people Persian –
twa portis been o Battle and Debate
(sae thay war cleipit tae thair name, and hait,
hauden in religion o haly reverence
o Mart's cruel dreid and his offence),
a hunner brazen hesps thaim claspit queme,¹⁹⁰
and strenthy airn slottis that did seem
tae be eternal and inconsumptive;¹⁹¹
nor Janus, keeper o this entry o strife,
wis nae while furth o this ilk hallowed hauld;
but whan the firm sentence o faithers auld
wis ony time determit tae move weir,
than he that wis chief duke or consuleir,
in robe ryal vestit, that hait Quirine,
and rich purpour, efter the guise Gabine,
gird in a garment seemly and fuit-side,¹⁹²
thir yettis suld up open and warp wide;

¹⁸⁹ ding: dignified

¹⁹⁰ queme: ticht, close-fittit

¹⁹¹ inconsumptive: indestructible

¹⁹² fuit-side: fuit-lang, hingin tae the feet

within that jirgin hirst¹⁹³ alsae suld he
pronounce the new weir, battle, and melée,
wham aa the fencible men suld follae fast,
wi plain assent and brazen trumpis' blast.
The King Latin furthwith command thay than
on this mainer, as prince and grettest man,
tae proclaim weir and decreet the melée
agin Trojans thither come wi Enee,
and warp thae sorrafu yetts up on breid.
The prince refused tae dae sae vile a deed,
nor list nocht aince thaim tuich, nor brek his hest;
sair grievit, plainly gainstuid thair request,
and in his secret closet him withdrew.
Than frae the heiven doun whirlin wi a whew
cam Queen Juno, and wi her ain hands
dang up the yetts, brak but delay the bands.
This cruel dochter o the auld Saturn
the marble hirst gan welter and owreturn,
and strang yett cheeks¹⁹⁴ o weirfare and battel
strake doun, and rent the gret airn postis fell.

Unsteirit lang time and unmoved, Ital
nou birnis intae fury bellical.¹⁹⁵
Some graithis thaim on fuit tae gae in field,
some hie muntit on horseback unner shield
the dusty pouder up driven wi a stour,
and every man socht wappons and armour.
Thair shinin shieldis some did burnish weill,
and some polished sherp spearheidis o steel,
tae mak thaim bricht wi fat creesh or saim¹⁹⁶,
and on whetstanes thair aixes sherps at hame.
Tae beir pinsels¹⁹⁷ it gleds thaim up and doun,
and are rejoiced tae hear the trumpet's soun.
Five the grettest and maist chief ceities,
thair wappons tae renew in aa degrees,

¹⁹³ jirgin hirst: creakin threshold

¹⁹⁴ yett cheeks: duir-posts

¹⁹⁵ bellical: bellicose

¹⁹⁶ saim: fat

¹⁹⁷ pinsels: pennons

set up forges and steel stiddies¹⁹⁸ fine.
Rich Atina, and the proud Tiburine,
Ardea the ceity, and Crustumerie,
and eik Antemne wi strang touers hie,
and weirly wallis battellit about,
the siccar helmis peens¹⁹⁹ and forges out.
Thair tairgets²⁰⁰ bou thay o the licht sauch tree,
and boss bucklers covered wi cuirbulyie;²⁰¹
some steel hauberkis forges furth o plate,
burnished flankarts²⁰² and leg harness, fuit-hait,
wi latit²⁰³ souple siller weill annealled.
Aa instruments o pleuch graith, airned or steeled –
as coulter, sockis, and the soumis²⁰⁴ greit –
wi scythes, and aa heuks that shearis wheat,
war thither brocht and tholes temper new.
The lust o aa sic wark-luims wis adieu;
thay did thaim forge in swourds o metal bricht,
for tae defend thair kintrie and thair richt.

By this, thair armour graithit and thair gear,
the draucht trumpet blawis the brag o weir;
the slughorn ensenyie,²⁰⁵ or the watch cry,
went for the battle aa suld be readie.
He pullis doun his sallet²⁰⁶ whaur it hang,
somedeaal affrayit o the noise and thrang;
he drives furth the stampin horse on raw
untae the yoke, the chariots tae draw;
he cleeds him wi his shield, and seemis bauld;

198 stiddies: anvils

199 peens: haimmers

200 tairgets: targes, shields

201 cuirbulyie: leather byled hard

202 flankarts: armour-pieces for the thee

203 latit: surface-platit

204 soumis: draw-chynes

205 slughorn ensenyie: rallyin cry

206 sallet: helmet

he clasps his gilt habergeon and thrinfauld;²⁰⁷
he in his breistplate strang and his birny,²⁰⁸
a sover swourd belts law down by his thee.

²⁰⁷ gilt habergeon and thrinfauld: a three-layered gilt habergeon (coat o mail or leather)

²⁰⁸ birny: hauberk

Chapter XII

*The poet maks tae goddis his prayeir
duly tae compt the fowks' graiths for this weir.*

Ye Muses nou, sweet goddesses each one,
open and unshet your Munt Helicone;
reveal the secrets lyin in your micht,
address my style, and steer my pen gae richt.
Entune my sang, and til indite me lear
whit kingis did remove furth tae this weir,
whit routis follaed every prince in field,
wi hostis braid that did the plain owreheid;
wi whit mainer o valiant men sic ways
the happy grund Ital flurished thae days,
wi whit-kin armis it inflamit shane;
furth shaw thir ancient secrets every ane.
Ye blissit wichts forsuith remembers weill
aa sic things, and, whaur thou list, may reveal,
tho scarcely, for the process o lang years,
by smaa rumour thareof come til our ears.

First, frae the land and coastis hait Tyrrhene,
untae the battle bounis stern and keen
Mezentius the King, that in his day
contempner cleipit wis o the gods aye.
The guider o his airmy and his rout
wis his son Lausus, valiant and stout;
abuve aa ither the maist seemly wicht,
excep the person o Turnus the gentle knight,
whilk wis the flouer o aa the Laurenties.
This Lausus wis weill taucht at aa degrees
tae daunt gret horse, and as him list arreist,
hunt and dounbet the deer and ilk wild beast;
a thousan men he led o his convine
frae Coryth the ceity Agylline.
Worthy he wis tae rule a gret empire,
and tae be comen o some mair happy sire
than o Mezentius, banished and inding,²⁰⁹
but tae hae been some emperor's son or king.

²⁰⁹ inding: disgraced

The lusty Aventinus neist in press
him follaes, the son o worthy Hercules.
Throu gressy plains his chair wi palm ryal
wis roweit furth by horse victorial,
whilk, in his musters, shew he in the field,
his faither's taikens merkit in his shield:
a hunner edders and ither snakes inset
linkit about o Lern the serpent gret;
wham the nun Rhea, a wumman divine
in the dern wuid o the Munt Aventine
bare and brocht furth untae this warld's licht,
fu privily, unknow o ony wicht.
The wumman middelt²¹⁰ wi the god went bound,
efter this ilk Hercules haed brocht tae ground
and vanquished Geryon wi proud bodies three,
syne in the field beside Laurent ceitie
wis entert as him list tae tak his rest;
his Spanyolie²¹¹ oxen, wham him likit best,
did bathen and refresh, tae mak thaim clean,
in Ital strandis at the coast Tyrrhene.
This Aventinus follaes in thir weirs,
bare in thair hauns lance staves and burell²¹² spears,
and dangerous falchions²¹³ intae staves o tree;
wi round stock swourdis²¹⁴ focht thay in melée,
wi pointals,²¹⁵ or wi stockis Sabelline.
Thair capitain, this ilk strang Aventine,
walkis on fuit, his body wimpled in
a felloun busteous and gret lion skin,
terrible and roch, wi tatty lokkerin²¹⁶ hairis;
the white tuskis, the heid, and clawis thare is;
and on sic wise, grim and awfu tae see,
within the King's gret palace enters he,
owre his shouthers hingin, as sayed is plain,

²¹⁰ middelt: united

²¹¹ Spanyolie: Spanish

²¹² burell: roch

²¹³ falchions: bill-heuks

²¹⁴ round stock swourdis: stabbin swourds (Latin *tereti mucrone*)

²¹⁵ pointals: pyntit wappons

²¹⁶ taty lokkerin: shaggy curlin

his faither's tabard coat Herculean.

Twa brethren tae this battle bounis syne,
furth o the wallit ceity Tiburtine,
leadin thae people namit, ane and ither,
frae Tiburtus that wis thair elder brither.
And thay war cleipit, the tane Catillus,
the tither Coras, strang and courageous,
stout young men, Greeks born o Arge baith twain,
before the foremaist hostis in the plain.
Amid a buss²¹⁷ o spearis in rade thay;
generit o the clud like tae Centaurs twae,
whan, frae the muntain tap o Homolane,
or snawy Othrym hill, doun tae the plain
wi felloun faird and swift course, he and he,
gan dae descend, leavin the holtis hie;
the large wuid makkis places tae thair went,
bussis withdraws, and branches aa to-rent
gan rattlin and resound o thair deray,
tae redd thair rink, and roomis²¹⁸ thaim the way.

Nor Caeculus wis nocht absent, traist me,
the founder o the ceity Praenestie,
wham aa eildis reputes and shawis us
engenert wis by the God Vulcanus,
and by the fireside fund, a young fundling,
owre landwart beastis syne waux lord and king.
A hail legion in a rout follaes him
o wild wud men, whilk doth thair cattle yim,²¹⁹
aa thae people on breid, baith he and he,
that inhabits the heich toun Praenestie,
and thay that occupied the fields also
o Gabine, whilks are dedicate tae Juno;
and thae that dwellis langs the chill riveir
o Anien, and thay alsaie infeir
amang the dewy strands and crags remains
o Hernica, in the Sabine muntains;
and thae alsaie that bred and fostert be

²¹⁷ buss: clump (literally bush)

²¹⁸ roomis: clears

²¹⁹ yim: tend

in bounds o rich Anagnia ceity;
and eik thae people dwellin fair and bein
in Campany, on the fluid Amasene.
Amangs aa thir people nae bricht arming
nicht thou hear sound, nor shield owre shouther hing,
or cairtis clatter; but o thaim the maist pairt
tae shuit or kest war perfit in the airt,
wi leid pellocks²²⁰ frae engines or staff sling
by dintis' blaw thair faemen doun tae ding.
Some double dartis castin in hauns bure,
and for defence, tae keep thair heidis shuir,
a yalla hat wore o a wolf's skin.
For thay wad be licht bodin²²¹ aye tae rin;
thair left fuit and aa that leg wis bare;
a roch rilling²²² o rawhide and o hair
the tither fuit coverit weill and knit.

Neptunus' son list than nae langir sit,
hait Messapus, but bounis furth tae gang.
Daunter he wis o steedis wild and strang,
wham nae man wi steel wappon forgit bricht,
nor birnin fire, untae his deid nicht dicht.
Nou hastily in armis callis he
the routis o his people and menyie,
whilks lang tofore disuisit haed the weir
wi courage dowf, that idle lay thair gear;
thair swourdis nou and burnished glaves gray
he made thaim furth bedraw and aft assay.
Wi him thae fowk in fellaeship led he
that inhabits Fescennium the ceity,
and the just people, cleipit Faliscy,
and thaim that dwells in Soracte fast by,
a strang ceity, and hie situate,
untae the God Apollo dedicate;
and thae that in Flavinia fieldis dwell,
or that winnis beside the lake or well
o Ciminus unner the muntain brae,
or yit amang the shaws o Capenae.

²²⁰ pellocks: pellets

²²¹ bodin: armit

²²² rilling: shae

In guidly order went thay and array,
and o thair king sang ballads by the way;
sicwise as some time in the skyis hie
throu the moist air daes snaw-white swannis flee,
whan thay frae pasture or feedin daes resort
tae seek thair solace, and on thair guise tae sport;
weill-soundin wrubbles throu thair throatis lang
swouchin maks in mainer o a sang,
that o thair bruit resoundis the riveir,
and aa the lake²²³ o Asia faur and near –
sae, in sic wise, on faur wis nane micht ken
that rout haed been a host o armit men,
but o the swouchin swannis suld he ween
a sop fleein in the air thay haed been,
whilk chasit, or affrayit, jollily
socht croupin²²⁴ tae the coast's side fast by.

²²³ lake: i.e. marshland (Latin *palus*)

²²⁴ croupin: craikin

Chapter XIII

*Yit compts the poet the chieftains aa and some,
agin the Trojans sall in weirfare come.*

Lo, Clausus eik, that dochtly wis and guid,
descend o the ancient Sabines' bluid,
a meikle rout furth leadis tae the weir,
as gret man worthy sic a host tae steer;
frae wham the clan and people Claudian
is comen owre aa the bounds Italian,
efter that Rome wis given and made free
tae the Sabines, as thair proper ceity.
Thegither gan assemble a huge rout,
that frae the ceity Amitern flocks out;
the ancient Sabines, hait Quirites then,
and o Eretum aa the fencible men,
o Mutusca, whilk nou hecht Trebulie,
whaur growes o olive trees gret plenty;
aa thae that dwalls in ceity Nomentine,
or rosy fields beside the Lake Veline;
or on the sherp craggy rocks hie,
whilk for harskness are cleipit Tetricie,
wi hingin hews²²⁵ and mony a scoulin²²⁶ brae.
Thither held the ceity o Casperiae,
thae that inhabits Forulos that toun,
or on the fluid Himella up and down,
aa thae that drinks o Tiber the riveir,
or Fabaris that rinnis fresh and clear,
and thae that wones²²⁷ in Nursia sae cauld,
and o Hortine the navy gret and bauld;
the Latin people alsae, and aa thae
whaur the unhappy fluid o Alliae
flowes throu the boundis and bedyes thair land.
As thick thay gaither, and flocks frae hand tae hand,
as e'er the faemy bullerin wawis hie
is seen welter on the large Libyan Sea,
whan the stormy Orion his heid shrouds

²²⁵ hews: heuchs

²²⁶ scoulin: shelterin

²²⁷ wones: bides

in winter unner the black wattry clouds;
or hou feil ickers o corn thick groweing,
wi the new sun's heat birsellit, daes hing
on Hermus' fieldis in the simmer tide,
or in the yalla corn flattis o Lyde –
as mony shieldis clatters and tairgets,
that for dinnin o thair feet aa the gates,
for stampin steedis, and for trumpet blast,
the grund waux aa affrayit and aghast.

The enemy tae Trojan name anon,
the bastart son o King Agamemnon,
hait Halaesus, gan wi fierce muid ackwart
adjoin his horses for tae draw his cart,
and, in the aid o Turnus and supplie,
a thousan fierce fowkis assembelt he:
thae whilks wi rakes owreturnis every brae
fertile o wines in the Munt Massicae;
and thaim alsaе dwellin in hillis hie,
sent frae the auld faithers o Aurunca ceity;
and thae that dwellis hard on the sea brae
beside the ceity o Sidicinae,
or come frae Cales intae Company;
wi aa thae peoples intae company
inhabitin the shauld fluid Voltornus;
and frawart fowkis, hait Saticulus,
thegither eik wi the haill multitude
o Oscores, that people stern and rude.
Thir bare in field, o wappons in the steids,
round kestin darts or maces wi piked heids,
whilk, in thair leid, is cleipit an *aclyde*;
and, sae it micht the mair shuirly abide,
untae thair airms is knit wi a teuch string,
whaurwith thay dae it at thair faeis sling.
A baleen pavis²²⁸ covers thair left sides,
made o hart skinnis and thick oxen hides;
and cruikit swourdis, bouin as a scythe,
thay bare at haun ready tae draw furth swith.

Nor thou, Oebalus, unreckont sall nocht wend
by our metre but luvng and commend,

²²⁸ baleen pavis: whalebane shield

wham King Telon engenerit, as thay say,
on Sebethide the lusty nymph or may,
that time whan he reignit as lord and king
owre Capreas Isles, and in governing
led the people hait Teleboes bauld.
Ere than, faur step in age wis he, and auld:
but his son, this Oebalus, in his intent
o his faither's boundis stuid nocht content,
that lang afore tae his obeisance he
subdueit haed the people Sarraste,
and aa the large fields, bank and buss,
whilk are bedyed wi the River Sarnus;
thae that occupyit Rufra and Batulane,
in Campany rich and strang touns twain;
the plainis eik and sulye²²⁹ o Celene,
whilk dedicate are untae Juno Queen;
and thay behauds the weirly waaed ceity
o Abella, wi his stalwart touers hie,
whaur gret plenty o aipples orange²³⁰ growes;
whilk people in thair weirfare haed nae bows,
but war accustomed for tae thraw aft syse
the castin spearis on the Dutchmen's guise;
whase heidgear war o fu sober extent,
made o the cork or bark frae treeis rent;
bucklers thay bare, wi boss or plate o steel,
and shinin swourds o metal burnished weill.

Thae people eik that cleipit been Nersanes,
whilks in the strait and hie muntains remainis,
sent tae the field a chieftain o defence,
o worthy fame, the renownit Ufens –
happy in arms and redoutit wis he,
busteous abuve aa ithers his menyie.
The fowkis cleipit o Aequiculae,
that hard furrows haed tillit mony a day,
and aa enarmit laubour thay thair land –
they haunt fu aft huntin in wuids at hand;
ever likes thaim tae chase and drive away

²²⁹ sulye: soil

²³⁰ aipples orange: oranges

the recent spreath,²³¹ and fresh and caller prey,
and on spulyie tae leive and on rapine.

Untae this battle bouns the priest divine,
Umbro tae name, the strenthiest ae man
o aa the people in Marruvia clan,
sent frae the King Archippus wi his feirs,
as thair chieftain and ruler in the weirs;
his helm arrayit wi a garland schene
plait o the happy olive branches green.
Aa kind o edder and hissin serpent fell
wi incantation he cud gar rive and swell,
or cast upo thaim sleepin wi his sang,
and, wi his charmis and his herbis strang,
thair wrath and venom cud he daunt and mease,
and heal thair stangin, and sic hurtis ease.
But he cud find nae cures nor remeid
tae sauve him frae the Trojan spear's heid –
his sleepy charmis haed nae force nor micht,
nor herbis gaithert on Mars' mont's hicht,
tae help thae hurts he caught in the melée.
Oh sovereign priest, whit ruth wis it o thee!
For thee the wuidis weepit o Angitus,
the crystal strandis murnit o Fucinus;
thee bewailit clear lakes and spring wells,
nymphs, virgins, matronis, and damisels.

Furth tae the battle eik held Virbius,
the son maist seemly o Hippolytus.
His chief maternal ceity, fu o micht,
Aricia, furth sent this worthy knight.
In shawis schene, endlang the watter brae
o fluid Hymettus, by Egeriae
that nymph he fostered wis fu tenderly,
whaur-as o mansuete²³² Diane fast thareby
the altar, eith for til applease,²³³ upstands,
aft fu o sacrifice and fat offerands;
for mony hauds opeinion, sayin thus

²³¹ spreath: plunder

²³² mansuete: gentle

²³³ applease: propitiate

by common voice and fame: Hippolytus,
efter that he slain wis, and tae deid dicht
by fause deceit o his stepmither's slicht,
and haed eik suffered by his bluid and braith
the cruel painis o his faither's wraith,
as tae be harled²³⁴ wi horse that caught affray
and skeichit at a merswine²³⁵ by the way;
yit ne' ertheless, for the luv o Diane,
he wis restored tae this ilk life again,
and come tae dwell unner our heiven and air,
that here abuve contains thir starnis fair;
whilk cure wis duin by Aesculapius slee,
throu the michtis o the rose peony.
Than Jupiter, aamichty Faither hie,
haein disdain ony mortal suld be
raisit tae life, or ower warld's licht,
frae the daurkness o nether Hell's nicht,
the finder o this crafty medicine,
whilk wis beget by the God Appolline,
that is tae knaw, this Aesculapius,
wi thunner's dint baith fell and dangerous
unner the erd smate doun, for tae remain
in Hell's grund and watter Stygian.
But than the thrinfauld Diane, fu o bliss,
in secret place Hippolytus wi this
hid, and betaucht Egeria the may,
tae be keepit in the ilk forest gay;
whaur, him alane, in wuids o Italie
his life he led unknowen o ony wy,²³⁶
and whaur he first wis hait Hippolytus,
changit his name y-cleipit Virbius;
and, by this self reason yit also,
frae the temple o Diane evermo
thir horny-hoofit horses been debarred,
for asmeikle as thay at the sea monsters skarred,²³⁷
and brak the cairt throu thair undauntit micht,
and furth swacked Hippolytus, gentle knight.

²³⁴ harled: dragged

²³⁵ merswine: porpoise

²³⁶ wy: person

²³⁷ skarred: shield

Yit ne'erttheless, his son, this Virbius,
the ardent steedis fierce and chivalrous
throu-out the plain field drives aa infeir,
and furth hurlis his chariot tae the weir.

Chapter XIV

*Hou Turnus tae this battle bouns tae gae,
and als the weirlike wumman Camillae.*

Turnus himsel, o weir the chief captain,
amid princes and gret chieftains ilkane
enarmit walkis, turnin tae and frae,
wi cors o stature elegant, that sae,
whaur-as he went throu-out the routs on hie,
abuve thaim aa his heid men nicht weill see,
whauron his helm set fu richly shane
wi crestis three, like til a lokkered²³⁸ mane;
thareon as tymbral²³⁹ staunin Chimaerae,
that wondrous monster, wi wide chaftis blae
furth blawin fire and flame sulphurious,
like burnin Etna, that munt perilous,
the mair wud-wrath and furious waux she,
wi sorrafu fire bleezes spoutin hie,
ever as the battle worths²⁴⁰ mair cruel
by effusion o bluid and dintis fell.
His shinin shield wis aa o fine gowd bet,
whaurin thare wis, insteid o armis, set
Io the wench, some time but hornis, nou
wi hair owregrowe, transformit in a coo
(whilk wis gret argument and probation
that he wis o his bluid a Gregion).
The keeper eik o this ilk maid, Argus,
wis porturit thare, and faither Inachus,
furth o a pentit pig²⁴¹, whaur-as he stuid,
a gret river defundin²⁴² or a fluid.

A host o fuitmen, thick as the hail shouer,
follaes this Turnus, drivin up the stour;

²³⁸ lokkered: curly

²³⁹ tymbral: crest

²⁴⁰ worths: becomes

²⁴¹ pig: vessel

²⁴² defundin: pourin down

wi shields shroudit²⁴³ mony huge rout
thick forgaiters the large fieldis about.
Thae younkers whilk o Greekis war descend
the pouer o Aurunca thither send;
the garrisons alsae o Rutulians,
and the ancient people hait Sicans,
o Sacranie the airmy bauld in fields,
the Labicans eik wi thair pentit shields,
whilk tillis on thy bankis, Tiber fluid;
or yit endlang thy gressy braeis guid,
oh Numicus, thou hallowed fresh riveir;
and thae that wi sherp coulter till and shear
o Rutuly the hilly knollis hie,
or kaimy edge,²⁴⁴ and holtis fair tae see,
that Circaeus tae surname cleipit are,
whaur Anxurus, the bairdless Jupiter,
for patron is hallowit owre the plains,
and Juno eik fu joyously remains
in Feronia, her sweet shaw aye green,
near by the black lake cleipit Saturene,
whaur-as the chill river hait Ufens
seekis wi nerra passage and descense
amid howe valleis his rink²⁴⁵ and ischie,²⁴⁶
and hides himsel within the Tyrrhene Sea.

Above aa thir the stout wench Camilla,
o the faimil and kinrent o Volsca,
come leadin armit hostis and stern fields,²⁴⁷
in burnished plate arrayed and shinin shields.
Forsuith, a worthy warrior wis she;
her wummanly hauns naither rock²⁴⁸ o tree
nor spindle uised, nor brooches²⁴⁹ o Minerve,
whilk in the craft o claith-makkin daes serve;

²⁴³ shroudit: protectit

²⁴⁴ kaimy edge: kaim-like (only here) ridge

²⁴⁵ rink: course

²⁴⁶ ischie: issue, outlat

²⁴⁷ fields: airmies in the field

²⁴⁸ rock: distaff

²⁴⁹ brooches: pirms

but yit this maid wis weill accustomate
tae suffer bargain dour and hard debate,
and throu the speed o fuit in her rinning
the swift windis prevert and backward ding;
or than alsae sae speedily cud she flee
owre the cornis, owretread thair crappis hie,
that wi her course nae reed nor tender strae
wis hermit ocht, nor hurt by ony way;
and, throu the boldnin²⁵⁰ fluids amid the sea
borne soverly, furth haud her wey micht she,
the swift soles o her tender feet
nocht tuichin aince the watter her to weit.
Aa young fowkis, on her for tae ferlie,
furth o fieldis and houses flocks in hy.
Little children and matrons a-wunnerin
on faur behauds her stout pace in a ling²⁵¹ –
sae manfully and bauldly walkis she –
wi spreit abashed thay gove her for tae see,
whit-wise her sleekit shouthers war array
wi kingly purpour, honourable and gay;
and hou the hair wis o this damisel
knit wi a button in a gowden kell;²⁵²
and hou a quiver close she bare alsae,
wi grunden dartis wrocht in Lycia;
and a haill sapling o a gret myr²⁵³ tree,
whilk hirdis micht owreheild, wi bewis hie,
in mainer o a spear in haun she bare,
heidit wi forgit steel fu sherp and square.

250 boldnin: swellin

251 ling: line

252 kell: hairnet

253 myr: myrtle