The XIII buiks o Eneados o the famous poet Virgil

translatit by Gavin Douglas and modrenised by John Law

The XIII buiks o Eneados o the famous poet Virgil

Buik 8

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

Contents o the Aucht Buik

The Prologue o the Aucht Buik

I. How Tiberinus, god o the riveir, Til Eneas in vision gan appear.

II. The sou wi grices, as Tiberinus sayed, Eneas fand, and sacrifice haes made.

III. Hou Eneas wi King Evander met, and bands o kindness haes betwix thaim knit.

IV. Evander tellis til Enee, but baid, the very cause why this sacrifice wis made.

V. In luvin o the dochty Hercules the people sings his werkis mair and less.

VI. Hou King Evander rehearsed til Enee in elders' days the rule o that kintrie.

VII. Untae Eneas Venus armour requires frae Vulcanus, whilk grantis her desires.

VIII. Evander tellin Eneas things sere, Vulcanus'armour did in the sky appear.

IX. Evander sends his son the young Pallas, wi his airmy in help o Eneas.

X. Hou that Venus untae Eneas brocht the guidly armour by Vulcanus wrocht.

XI. Hou that Vulcanus thare, amang the lave, stories tae come did in the armour grave.

XII. Eneas mervels o the stories sere wrocht by Vulcanus in his armour clear.

The Prologue o the Aucht Buik

O dreflin[1] and dreams, what dow it tae indite?
For, as I leanit[2] in a ley in Lent this last nicht,
I slid on a swevinin, slumberin a lyte,
and suin a selcouth[3] sedge[4] I saw tae my sicht,
swoonin as he swelt[5] was, soupit in syte.[6]
Was never wrocht in this warld mair waefu a wicht,
ramin,[7] "Reason and richt is rent by fause rite;
freindship flemit is in France, and faith haes the flicht;
lees, lurdanry,[8] and lust are our laidstern;[9]
peace is put out o play;
walth and weillfare away;
lufe and lawtie, baith twa,
lurkis fu dern."

"Langour lent is in land; aa lichtness is lost;
Sturten[10] study[11] haes the steer, destroyin our sport;
musin mars our mirth hauf mangelt aamost;
sae thochts threits in thraw[12] our breistis owre-thwort;[13]
bailfu business baith bliss and blytheness gan boast.
There is nae sedge for nae shame that shrinks at short;
may he come to his cast by cloakin, but cost,
he recks naither the richt nor reckless report.

---

1 dreflin: drifflin, delayin?

2 leanit: reclined

3 selcouth: byordnar

4 sedge: fellae

5 swelt: owrecome

6 syte: sorra

7 ramin: railin

8 lurdanry: villainy

9 laidstern: lode starn

10 sturten: withdrawn

11 study: musin

12 threits in thraw: presses in haste

13 owre-thwort: athort

Aa is weill dune, God wat, wield he his will.
That bern is best can nocht blin[14]
wrangous guids tae win.
Why sud he spare, for ony sin,
his lust tae fulfill?"

"Aa leids[15] langs in land tae latch what thaim leif is:
luvers langs only tae lock in thair lace[16]
thair leddies lovely, and louk[17] but lat or reliefs;
wha sports thaim on the spray spares for nae space;
the galliart grum[18] grunshes at grams[19] him grieves;
the fillock[20] her deformit fax[21] wad hae a fair face
tae mak her maikless o her man at mister[22] mischief is;
the guidwife grullin[23] before God greets efter grace;
the laird langs efter land tae leave tae his heir;
the preist for a parsonage;
the servant efter his wage;
the thrall tae be off thirlage
langis fu sair."

"The millar mythes[24] the multure wi a meat scant
for drouth haed drunken up his dam in the dry year;
the cadger caas furth his capill[25] wi crackis weill cant,[26]
caain the collier a knave and culroun fu queer;

---

14 blin: stop

15 leids: fellaes

16 lace: noose

17 louk: cleek

18 grum: chiel

19 grams: causes o sorra

20 fillock: flisky lass

21 fax: countenance (literally hair o the heid)

22 mister: craft

23 grullin: grovellin

24 mythes: notes

25 capill: horse

26 cant: lively

some shepherd slays the lord's sheep, and says he is a sanct;
some greens while the gress growe for his gray meir;
some spares naither spiritual, spousit wife, nor aunt;
some sells folks' sustenance, as God sends the fiar;[27]
some glasters[28] an thay gang at aa for gait wool;
some spends on the auld use;
some maks a tume ruse;
some greens efter a guse
tae farce his wame full."

"The wretch wails and wrings for this warld's wrack;
the muckerar[29] murns in his mind the meal gave nae price;
the pirate presses tae peel the pedlar his pack;
the hasarders hauds thaim herryit, haunt thay nocht the dice;
the burgess bings[30] in his buith, the broun and the black,
buyin busily, and bane, budge,[31] beaver and bice;[32]
some leids langs on the land, for luve or for lack,
tae semble[33] wi thair shafts,[34] and set upo syse;[35]
the shipman shrinks the shouer and sets tae shore;
the hine crines[36] the corn;
the browster the bere[37] shorn,
a fest the fiddler tomorn
covats fu yore."

"The railer reckons nae words, but rattles furth ranes
fu rude, and riot reasons baith roundels and rhyme;
swingeours and scurrivaigs, swanks and swains

---

27 fiar: fixit price

28 glasters: brags

29 muckerar: misart

30 bings: heaps up

31 budge: lambskin

32 bice: bluish (fur?)

33 semble: assemble

34 shafts: staffs

35 syse: occasions?

36 crines: fears

37 bere: barley

gies nae cure to cun craft, nor compts for nae crime
wi bairds as beggars, tho big be thair banes;
nae labour list thay leuk til, thair luves are bird lime.
Get a bismeir[38] a bairn, than aa her bliss gane is:
she will nocht wirk tho she want, but wastes her time
in thiggin, as it thrift war, and ither vain thews,
and sleeps whan she sud spin,
wi nae will the warld tae win.
This kintrie is fu o Cain's kin
and sic shire[39] shrews."

"What wickitness, what wanthrift nou in warld walks!
Bail haes banished blytheness; boast gret brag blaws;
prats are repute policy and perilous pawks;
dignity is laid doun; dearth tae the duir draws;
o trattles and tragedies the text o aa talk is;
lords are left landless be unleal laws;
burgess brings hame the boith[40] tae breed in thair baulks;[41]
knichts are cowhubies,[42] and commons plucked craws;
clerks for uncunningness misknaws ilk wicht;
wifes wad hae aa thair will;
eneuch is nocht hauf fill;
is naither reason nor skill
in erd haudin richt."

"Some laitit[43] latoun,[44] but lay,[45] leaps in laud lyte;
some pens furth a pan boddom tae prent fause placks;
some gowks while the glass pig growe fu o gowd yit;
throu cury[46] o the quintessence, tho clay mugs cracks;

---

38 bismeir: trollop

39 shire: out-an-out

40 boith: boot, spoils?

41 baulks: rafters? scales?

42 cowhubies: gomerals

43 laitit: lowsit

44 latoun: bress

45 lay: alloy

46 cury: cookin

some warnour[47] for this warld's wrack wends by his wit;
some treachour crines[48] the cunye,[49] and keeps cornstacks;
some prig penny; some pick-thank wi privy promit;
some gars wi a gadstaff tae jag throw black jacks.[50]
What feignit fare, what flattery, and what fause tales!
What misery is nou in land!
Hou mony crackit cunnand!
For naithir aiths nor band
nor seals avails."

"Priests, sud be patterers and for the people pray,
to be papes o patrimony and prelates pretends.
Ten teinds are a trump, but gif he tak ma,
a kinrick o parish kirks coupelt wi commends,
wha are wirkers o this weir, wha waukeners o wae
but incompetable clergy that Christendom offends?
Wha reives, wha are riotous, wha reckless, but thay?
Wha quells the puir commons but kirkmen, weill kent is?
There is nae state o thair style that stauns content:
knicht, clerk, nor commoun,
burgess, nor baroun.
Aa wad hae up that is doun,
weltrit the went."[51]

And as this leid at the last liggin me sees,
wi a leuk unluvesome he lent me sic words:
"What bern be thou in bed wi heid fu o bees,
graithit like some knapper[52] and as thy grees[53] gurds[54]
lurkin like a lounger?" Quod I, "Loun, thou lees."
"Ha! Wad thou fecht?" quod the freke.[55] "We hae but few

---

47 warnour: wretch

48 crines: reduces

49 cunye: coinage

50 jack: jerkin

51 went: state o affairs

52 knapper: stane-brekker?

53 grees: degree

54 gurds: ?

55 freke: fechtin man

swourds.
There is sic haste in thy heid, I hope thou wad neis,[56]
that brawls thus wi thy host whan berns wi thee bourds."
Quod I, "Churl, gae chat thee,[57] and chide wi anither."
"Move thee nocht," sayed he than,
"Gif thou be gentleman,
or ony courtesy can,
mine ain leif brither."

"I speak tae thee untae sport. Spell me this thing:
what likes leids in land? What maist langs thou?"
Quod I, "Smaik, lat me sleep. Sim Skinnar thee hing.
I ween thou bids nae better but I brek thy broo.
Tae me is mirk mirror ilk man's meaning.
Some wad be court man, some clerk, and some a catchcow,
some knicht, some captain, some kaiser, and some king;
some wad hae walth at thair will and some thair wame fu;
some langs, for the liver ill, tae lick o a quart.
Some for thair bounty or boon;
some tae see the new muin.
I lang to hae our buik duin,
I tell thee my part."

"Thy buik is but bribry,"[58] sayed the bern than,
"but I sall lear thee a lessoun tae less aa thy pain."
Wi that he raucht me a roll. Tae read I began
the riotest a ragment, wi mony rat-rane,[59]
o aa the mows in this muild sen God merkit man:
the movin o the mappamond and hou the muin shane;
the pleuch, and the poles, the planets began;
the sun, the seiven starns, and the Charle Wain,[60]
the Elwand,[61] the elements, and Arthur's Hufe,[62]

---

56 neis: sneeze

57 gae chat thee: get lost

58 bribry: whigmaleeries

59 rat-rane: rigmarole

60 the Charle Wain: the Plough

61 the Elwand: Orion's Belt

62 Arthur's Hufe: Arcturus

the Horn[63] and the Handstaff,
Prater John and Port Jaff;
why the corn haes the caff
and coo weirs clufe.

"Thir romance are but riddles," quod I tae that ray.[64]
"Leid, learn me anither lesson; this I nocht like."
"I perceive, sir parson, thy purpose, perfay,"
quod he, and drew me doun dern in douf by a dyke;
haed me hard by the haun whaur a huird[65] lay,
than prively the pence begouth up tae pick.
But whan I waukened, aa that walth was wiskit away.
I fand nocht in aa that field, in faith, a bee byke;
for as I grunchit at this grum and glisent[66] about,
I grappit graithly the gill,[67]
every mowdiewart hill,
but I micht pick there my fill
ere penny come out.

Than waux I tene[68] at I tuke tae sic truffs tent,
for swevins are for swingeours that slumbers nocht weill.
Mony marvellous maiter, never markit nor meant,
will sedges see in thair sleep, and sentence but sele.[69]
War aa sic saws suithfast, wi shame we war shent.
This was but faint fantasy, in faith, that I feel,
never word in verity, but aa in waste went
throu royitness[70] and ravin that made mine een reel.
Thus listent I, as lossinger[71] sic lewdness tae leuk,
but whan I saw nane ither buit,
I sprent speedily on fuit,
and under a tree ruit
begouth this aucht buik.

---

63 the Horn: Ursa Minor

64 ray: literally king

65 huird: hoard

66 glisent: keekit

67 gill: guile

68 tene: angert

69 sele: prosperity

70 royitness: wildness

71 lossinger: flatterer

The Aucht Buik

Chaipter I

How Tiberinus, god o the riveir,
Til Eneas in vision gan appear.

As swith as Turnus, owre the maister touer
o Laurentum, his banner white as flour
in sign o battle did on braid display,
the trumpis' blast and hornis made deray,
and stern steeds stampen for the din;
the armour clatters, fast ilk man gan rin,
incontinent thegither, wi minds a-moved.
Aa Latium assembelt suin contruved
a conjuratioun or hasty convine,
as in fearfu affray thair land tae tyne,
and wud-wrath waux thir younkers, he and he,
wi burnin hertis fierce tae the melée.
The first chieftains for assay or defence –
the gret Messapus, and the strang Ufens,
wi Mezentius, o goddis contempnar –
the routis for supply, baith near and far
compellis tae assemble wi thair pouers,
and large fieldis laid waste o laubourers.
Ane Venulus alsae wis sent, a Greek,
tae gret Diomede's ceity, tae beseek
supply and help, and tae shaw aa and some
hou Trojans war descend in Latium,
Enee wi navy arrived up at hand,
and brocht his vanquished goddis in thair land,
sayin that, by the Fates and destiny,
he thither callit wis as king tae be;
and that he suld eik tae Diomedes shaw,
that mony people war adjoint and draw
untae this ilk foresaid stranger knicht,
for he wis comen o Dardanus the wicht,
and widewhaur owre aa pairts o Italie
his name begouth tae spreid and multiply.
And sen he haed begun sic thing on haun,
whit syne he ettelt micht be unnerstaun:
that is tae knaw, gif fortune war sae heind

by adventure o weir tae be his freind,
mair evidently he covet tae proceed
agin his ancient enemy, Diomede,
than tae owreset the young knichtly Turnus,
or yit owrecome the auld King Latinus.
As this convine and ordinance wis made
o Latium throu-out the boundis braid,
whilk every pynt this Trojan lord anon,
comen o the hous o King Laomedon,
in hivvy cures flowein aa on flocht,
advises weill, hou aa this thing wis wrocht;
and hastily in mind on every sides
nou for this purpose, nou for that, provides;
nou here, nou thare, revised in sindry pairts,
and searches, turnin tae and frae aa airts;
like as the radious sun's beamis bricht,
or than the glimmerin muin's shaddas licht,
reflectit frae the brazen vessel, we see,
fillit wi watter tae the circle on hie,
owre aa the hous reboundis and daes spreid
shinin, and searches every steid on breid,
while in the air upgaes the twinklin licht,
glitterin on every spar and ruif on hicht.

The nicht come, and aathing leivin ceased;
weary o wark baith bird and brutal beast
owre aa the landis war at rest ilkane,
the profound swouch o sleep haed thaim owretaen;
whan this ilk prince, Eneas, aa on flocht,
wi mind soupit in cure and hivvy thocht,
and for this sorrafu battle richt unglaid,
upo the riverbank himsel doun laid
unner the cauld firmament for the naince,
and gave short rest untae his weary banes.
Wham-tae the god o that steid did appear,
Tiberinus, furth o the still riveir,
amid the branches o the popple trees,
as ageit man seemin, himsel upheize;
a lenyie[72] wattery garment did him veil,
o colour fauch, shape like a hempen sail,

[72] lenyie: fine, thin

and russly[73] reedis deckis weill his hairs.
Tae mease Eneas' thochtis and his sairs,
thus he begouth tae speak, and sayed, but din:

"Gentle get, comen o the goddis' kin,
whilk frae thy faes tae us wi meikle joy
haes hither brocht the gret ceity o Troy,
and Pergama, the Trojan wallis wicht,
eternally conserves throu thy micht;
desirit maist o lang time, nou welcome
untae the grund and soil o Laurentum,
and aa the fieldis eik o Latin land.
Here is thy siccar dwellin place at hand,
a sover firm habitation for aye.
Withdraw thee nocht frae hyne. Pass nocht away,
nor dreid naething the boast[74] o this battell.
The rancour aa o goddis, I thee tell,
and boldenin[75] wrath appeasit are aamaist.
And sae thou ween nocht at my word be waste,
nor feignit dreamis dae tae thee appear,
unner sauch treeis, by thir bankis near,
anon thou sall dae finnd a meikle swine,
wi therty heid ferryit[76] o grices syne,
o colour white, thair ludgin on the grund,
her white brodmal[77] about her pappis wund –
that is the place tae set up thy ceity,
whilk o your labour sover rest sall be;
whaur that, as therty years by-run and gane is,
Ascanius sall dae build o lime and stanes
the ceity hait fair Alba o delight,
beirin his name frae the fair colour white.
Thus I declare thee nane uncertain thing,
but very suithfast taikens and warning.
Nou harkis but a little, I thee pray,
I sall thee lairn in whit wordis, whit way

---

73 russly: rustlin (only here)

74 boast: i.e. menace

75 boldenin: swallin

76 ferryit: farrowed

77 brodmal: brood

thou may come speed, and hae the haill owrehand
tuichin this instant maiter nou at hand.
Thare been people o Arcad frae the ring
comen in this land, descend o Pallas King,
whilk, wi Evander King in companie,
follaein the signis shaw, haes fast here by
chosen a steid, and buildit a ceitie
amang the knoweis round or mottes hie,
efter thair forefaither o noble fame,
Pallas, cleipit Pallanteum tae name.
Continually thir fowkis every year,
agin the Latin people leadis weir.
Adjoin tae thir thine host in fellaeship.
Dae mak wi thaim a league, and binnd freindship.
I sall mysel convoy thee the richt way
betwix thir braeis up the fluidis gray,
sae that agin the stream, throu help o me,
by airis' rowth[78] thither cairried sall thou be.
Hae duin, get up, thou son o the Goddess,
first as the starns declines, thee address –
I mean intae the dawin richt earlie,
duly tae Juno see thou sacrify,
her wrath and aa her menace tae owreset
wi devote supplications made o debt;
and, whan thou haes obtainit victorie,
tae me thou sall dae worship by and by.
I am God Tiber, wattery-hueit and haw,
whilk, as thou sees, wi mony jaup and jaw
beatis thir braes, shawin the bankis doun,
and wi fu fluid flowein frae toun tae toun,
throu fertile fieldis shearin thare and here,
unner the lift the maist gentle riveir.
Here is mine habitation huge and gret,
o michty ceities' chief and sovereign saet."

This bein sayed, this ilk God o the Fluid
unner the deep gan douk doun whaur he stuid,
and socht untae the watter grund anon,
sae dernly hid nane wist whaur he wis gone.

---

78 airis' rowth: the rowin o oars

Chaipter II

The sou wi grices, as Tiberinus sayed,
Eneas fand, and sacrifice haes made.

The nicht fled, and the sleep left Enee;
on fuit he sterts, and anon gan he see
furth o the orient in the bricht morning
the sun's heivenly beamis newly spring,
and in the howe[79] luifs o his haun, whaur he stuid,
duly the watter hint he frae the fluid,
syne tae the heiven thiswise his prayers made:

"Oh nymphis aa o fluidis blythe and glaid,
and ye, haly nymphs o Laurentum land,
whamfrae the fresh rivers, and every strand
that floweis rinnin as we see sae clear,
haes thair beginnin furth o sources sere;
and thou, haly faither Tiberine,
wi Tiber eik, thy blissit fluid divine,
receive Eneas, tae ye unbekenned,
and nou at last frae aa perils defend.
And, gif thou takkis ruth o our gret skaiths,
here I avow and promises wi aiths,
whaure'er thy loch or fountain may be fund,
whaureversae thy spring is, in whit grund,
fluid maist pleasant, thee sall I owre aawhere
hallow wi honourable offerins evermair.
Hornit river, reignin as lord and king
owre aa the fluidis intae Ital ring,
be in our help, nou at last, I requeir:
efter sae feil dangers and perils sere,
confirm thy promise and oracle in hy."
Whan this wis sayed, furth o aa his navie
twa galleys did he chuise the ilk tide,
wi double raw o airs on aither side,
and for the rowin weill graithed thaim haes he,
syne for the weir instruckit his menyie.

But lo, in haste afore his een he saw
a mervellous and wondrous thing tae knaw.

---

[79] howe: hollow

A milk-white sou within the wuidis lay
upo the green watter's bank in his way,
wi her litter new ferryit in that steid,
aa o ae colour, grices therty heid;
wham the devote Eneas on this guise
untae thee, grettest Juno, in sacrifice
brittens, and, wi her flock and followers,
haes set and offered up on thy altars.
Tiber his swellin fluidis aa that nicht,
hou lang that e'er it wis while day's licht,
stables[80] and caulms at his ain will;
the stream backwarts upflawis saft and still,
on sic wise measin his watter, that he
a staunin stank seemed for tae be,
or than a smuith puil, or dub loun and fair,
sae that the airs micht finnden nae contrair.
Tharefore Eneas gan his time espy,
and hastes on his voyage busilie.
Wi prosper course, and sober whispering,
the pykit barges o fir fast gan thring,
and slides throu the shauldis still and clear.
The watter ferlies o thair faird and beir.[81]
The forest, nocht accustomate tae see
sic things, wunners whit aa this micht be,
as tae behaud shinin shieldis on far
on men's shouthers aye comin nar and nar,[82]
the pentit carvels fleetin throu the fluid.
Baith nicht and day ilk man, as thay war wuid,
gan spend in rowth wi irksome laubourin;
the lang streamis and wawis round sworlin,
owreslidin fast upwardis the riveir,
hid and owreheildit wi mony trees sere;
endlang the still fluids, caulm and bien,
thay seek and shear throu-out the wuidis green.

---

80 stables: maks stable

81 faird and beir: impetus an noise

82 nar and nar: nearer an nearer

Chaipter III

Hou Eneas wi King Evander met,
and bands o kindness haes betwix thaim knit.

The fiery sun by this ascendit even
the middle ward and region o the heiven;
that is tae knaw, by than it wis midday,
whan that on faur the ceity waas see thay,
the touers and the hous-heidis on raw
scattered disperse, and but a few tae knaw –
whilk nou the michty pouer o Rome toun
haes untae heiven made equal o renoun.

The King Evander, o mobles[83] nocht michty,
held for that time but sober seignory.
In haste thither thair stevins[84] gan tae steer
Eneas' sort,[85] and tae the toun drew near.

This King Evander, born wis o Arcade,
per case the self day a gret honour made,
solemnit fest, and fu hie sacrifice,
untae the gret Hercules on thair guise
that foster son wis tae Amphitryone,
and tae the ither goddis every one,
afore the ceity in a hallowed shaw.
Pallas, his son, wis thither alsae draw,
thegither wi the principals o younkers.
The sober senators, and puir officiars,
aa samen kest incense; and wi a stew[86]
aside the altar bluid shed and skailed new,
bein lew-warm,[87] thare fu fast did reek.
But yit, as swith as thay perceivit eik
the gret barges slidin thus on raw,
and throu the dern wuidis fast thither draw,

---

83 mobles: possessions

84 stevins: ship stems

85 sort: troop

86 stew: reek

87 lew-warm: lukewarm

sae stilly[88] bendin up thair airs ilk wicht;
thay worth[89] affrayit o the sudden sicht,
and every man thay left the buirds on hy,
on fuit gan stertin frae the mangerie;
wham hardy Pallas did forbid and defend
thair sacrifice tae brek, while it war end.
He hint a wappon. Wi a few menyie
thaim tae reconter anon furth haudis he;
and yit weill faur frae a hill or a knowe
tae tham he caas, "Staun, young men, how!
Whit cause haes movit you upo sic way
thir strange wentis unknawen tae essay?
Whither ettle ye, or whit kinrent[90] ye be?
Shaw whence ye come, and whilk is your kintrie.
Whether dae ye bring intae our bounds here
bodword[91] o peace, or comes in feir o weir?"[92]

Eneas than, the faither o worship,
made answer frae the pulpit o the ship,
and in his haun straucht furth, as he micht see,
in taiken o peace a branch o olive tree.
"My frein," quo he, "thou sees people o Troy,
tae Latin people enemies, man and boy;
whilk, fleemit frae our realm, newly again
thae ilk Latins haes socht wi proud bargain.
Untae the King Evander aa seek we,
him tae requeir o succour and supplie.
Beir him this message, and declare him plain,
that chosen men descend frae King Dardane
been hither comen, beseekin his freindship
tae knit up band in arms and fellaeship."

Pallas, astonished o sae hie a name
as Dardanus, abashit worth for shame.

---

88 stilly: quately

89 worth: becam

90 kinrent: kindred

91 bodword: message

92 feir o weir: posture o war

"Come furth," quo he, "whit-e'er thou be, bern[93] bauld,
and say afore my faither whit thou wald,
and enter in our ludgins thee tae rest,
whaur thou sall be receivit walcome guest.
And furth anon he hint him by the hand,
a weill lang while his richt airm embrasand.
Syne furth thegither raikit thay on raw,
the fluid thay leave and enters in the shaw.

Eneas than, wi freindly communing,
spak courteously, thus sayin tae the King:
"O thou maist courteous prince, and best in need
that ever wis beget o Greekis' seed,
wham-tae fortune wad I suld comen here,
thee lawly tae beseeken and requeir;
and wad alsae I suld furth rax tae thee,
wippit wi bands the branch o olive tree,
in taiken that o thy supply I need;
forsuith, I caucht nae mainer fear nor dreid,
tho thou a captain o the Greekis be,
y-born alsae o Arcad the kintrie,
o bluid conjoint tae the Atrides twae –
I mean untae Agamemnon and Menelay –
but mine ain virtue, and haly oracles
o the goddis by divine miracles,
and our forebearis aa o ae kindred,
thy fame divulgate intae every stead
haes me fermly adjoinit untae thee.
The Fates eik tharetae induces me,
that willfully I obey thair command.
Sir Dardanus, the king first in our land
that built the ceity Troy or Ilion,
our chief faither, as Greekis grants ilkone,
born o Electra, Atlas' dochter ying,
cairried by ship come first tae Troy's ring;
and this Electra gret Atlas begat,
that on his shouther beirs the heivens plat.
Mercure is faither o your clan alsae,
wham the schene maiden, the fair fresh Maia,
upo the frosty hill's tap aa bare,
whilk Cyllenus is hait, in Arcad bare;

---

[93] bern: warrior

and this ilk Maia suithly – gif that we
ony credence tae it we hear or see
may gie – Atlas begat, that same Atlas
that rowes the heivenly starrit sphere compass.
Sae baith our kinrents, shortly tae conclude,
dividit are furth o ae stock and bluid.
Whaurfore, haein confidence in thir things,
naither by ambassat, message, nor writings,
nor ither craft, thy freindship first socht I
but mine ainsel in person come in hy,
that untae thee submittit haes my heid,
and thee tae pray socht lawly tae this steid.
For the ilk people unner Daunus King,
that the Rutulians haes in governing,
whilk leadis weir againis thy kintrie,
wi cruel battle nou pursueis me;
and gif thay micht expel us o this land,
thay ween thareby that nocht may thaim gainstand,
but that thay sall unner thair seignory
subdue aahaill in thraldom Italy,
and occupy thae boundis orientale
whaur-as the Owre Sea flowes aahaill,
and eik thae wester pairtis, traistis me,
whilks are bedyit wi the Nether Sea.
Receive, and knit up faith and firm cunand.[94]
Tak our promise, and gie us truth and band.
Strang bodies tae abide bargain hae we,
wi hardy minds in battle or melée,
exerced in weir, and expert in sic needs,
in lusty youth likely tae dae our deeds."

Thus sayed Eneas, and Evander than,
frae time that he first for tae speak began,
his een, his mouth, and aa his body richt,
gan tae behaud, espyin wi his sicht.
Syne shortly made his answer thus again:
"Oh hou gledly thee, maist forcy Trojane,
I dae receive as tender frein and feir!
Hou blythely nou I knaw and weill may hear
the voice, the wordis, and the speech, but les,
o thy faither, the grettest Anchises!

---

[94] cunand: covenant, agreement

And fu perfitly nou I draw tae mind
the veisage o that worthy knicht maist kind.
For weill I dae remember, lang time gone,
hou Priamus, son o Laomedon,
tae vizzy his sister's land, Hesiona,
socht tae the ceity hait Salamina
and at the samen race[95] his voyage made
throu the cauld frosty boundis o Arcade.
My green youth that time wi piles[96] ying
first cled my chin, ere baird begouth tae spring.
I joiced tae see the Trojan dukes ilkone,
and on the son o King Laomedon,
that is tae say, this ilk young Priamus,
for tae behaud wis mervel glorious.
But thy faither Anchises, whaur he went,
wis hie-er faur than aa the remanent.
My mind brint, o youthheid throu desire,
tae speak and commune wi that lordly sire;
tae be acquentit, and join hand in hand,
cunnand tae knit, and binnd fordwart[97] or band.
Tae him I went desirous o freindship,
and sped that samen sae in fellaeship,
within the waas o Pheneus I him led.
And whan he did depairt or thence him sped,
a courtly quiver fu curiously wrocht,
wi arrows made in Lycia, wantin nocht,
a garment he me gave or knichtly weed,
pirnit and woven fu o fine gowd threid,
twa gowden bridles eik, as he did pass,
whilk nou my son occupies, young Pallas.
Whaurfore our alliance, faith, and richt hand,
as ye desire, are else adjoined in band.
We been o auld confederates, perfay.
Whaurfore the morn, as suin as the bricht day
begins alicht the landis and the sky,
wi succours and suppouel,[98] blythely I
sall you frae hyne hame tae your airmy send,

---

95 race: journey

96 piles: hairs

97 fordwart: treaty

98 suppouel: assistance

and wi my guides and my mobles amend.
And in the meantime, sen, my freindis dear,
untae our sacrifice be comen here,
whilk yearly uisin we as anniversary,
that been unleifu tae defer or tarry;
whaurfore wi us dae hallow our hie feast,
and wi gled semblin blythely, maist and least
accustom you frae thence, and nou instant
our tables as your freindly buirdis haunt."

Whan this wis sayed, messes and cups ilkane,
whilk war awa tak, bade he bring again,
and he himsel the Trojan men fuit-het
on sonks o gressy scheralds[99] haes dounset.
Thair principal capitain syne, Enee,
beside himsel on dais receives he.
The bink, y-buildit o the green holline
wi lokkered lion skin owrespreid wis syne.
Than young men walit busy here and thare,
and eik priestis o Hercules' altair,
the roastit bullis' flesh set by and by;
the baken breid o baskets teems in hy,
and wines birlis intae gret plenty.
Eneas, samen wi his Trojan menyie,
did o perpetual oxen fillets eat,
and purgit entrails, cleipit cleansin meat.[100]

[99] scheralds: fails, turfs

[100] purgit entrails, cleipit cleansin meat: i.e. sacrificial offerins o offal (Latin *lustralibus extis*)

Chaipter IV

Evander tellis til Enee, but baid,
the very cause why this sacrifice wis made.

Efter that staunchit wis the hungir's rage,
and appetite o meat begouth assuage,
sayed King Evander, "Nae superstition vain,
nor misknawledge o goddis anciane,
this hie feast and gret solemnity,
nor this banquet and messes, as ye see,
haes institute tae us, and this alteir
o sae excellent majesty staunin here,
but, my dear frein and noble guest Trojane,
we, preserved frae cruel perilous pain,
hauntis this service upo sic manneir,
as proper debt and observance ilk year.

First, dae behaud yon schorin[101] heuch's brou,
whaur aa yon craggy rockis hingis nou,
hou the huge wechty braeis been doun cast,
the howkit fosse in the munt-side left waste,
whaur-as the craggy whinnis, doun decline,
haes drawen o the hill a huge ruine.
Yon wis a cavern or cave in auld days,
wi gousty entry faur furth o aa ways,
a grisly den and a forworthen[102] gap
o Cacus, that nae mair haed but the shape
o man's form, for scant hauf man wis he,
throu cruel deedis o iniquity,
that in yon fiendlike hole dwelt him alane;
a Hell's byke, whaur sun's beam never shane,
whaur the vile fluir ever lew warm wis spread
wi recent slauchter o bluid newly shed.
Before that tyrant's yett o men that deid is
affixit stuid mony dolorous heidis,
wi veisage blaikent, bluid by-run, and blae,
the laithly odour o filth stinkin tharefrae.

---

101 schorin: threatenin

102 forworthen: deformit

Untae this hutit[103] monster, this Cacus,
the God o Fire wis faither, Vulcanus;
and at his mouth, a wunner thing tae see,
his faither's reeky flame furth yiskit[104] he.
As tae his body, whaur-sae-e'er he passit,
o busteous stature like nane ither was it.

Process o time at last haes us inspirit,
and sent us help, as we fu lang desirit,
by comin o the michtfu god's presence;
for the daunter o monsters, our defence,
the maist redoutit Hercules, come at hand
by aunter[105] untae this ilk land,
new frae the slauchter intae stern melée
o Geryon, the whilk haed bodies three.
Wi proud spulyie arrivin triumphal,
this conqueror made thither drive and call
his bullis, and his oxen huge and greit,
and eik his kye, tae pasture and tae eat
endlang yon vale, that is large and wide,
and teuk thair ludgin on this riverside.
But the undauntit fury mind o this thief,
shrewit Cacus, aawey fu o mischief,
by his frawart ingyne and slee consait,
sae that nae mainer o wickitness nor dissait
micht be, that he no durst nocht tak on haun,
nor unassayit leave, out frae thair staun
fower seemly oxen o body gret and square,
as mony tender queys[106] exceedin fair,
o aa thae cattle awa wi him drave.
And, that thair tread suld nae wey be persaive,
untae his cave aye backwarts by the tails
tae turn thair fuitsteps he thaim harls and trails.
And thus his spreath he haed untae his inn,

---

103 hutit: despised

104 yiskit: boakit

105 by aunter: per adventure

106 queys: heifers

and wi a queme[107] stane closit haes the gin.[108]
Sic wey he wrocht that, wha thair tread list gove,
nae taikens suld convoy thaim tae his cove.

In the meanwhile, as aa the beastis war
repaterit[109] weill efter thair nicht's lair,
at morrow early first as thay removit
(for Hercules depairt frae thence behuvit)
the cattle gan tae routen, cry, and rair.
The wuidis rang o thair sound owre aawhere,
and wi thair noise dindellit[110] hills and knowes;
while in the cave as that a queyock[111] lowes,
wi loud voice squeelin in that gousty hauld,
aa Cacus' traist[112] revealit she and tauld.

But than in grief this worthy Hercules,
(Alceus' nevoy,[113] the dochty *Alcides*
that sae aft syse wis cleipit commonly)
within his skin begouth tae birn and fry,
in brim fury o his bitter gall;
his wappons and his armour hint withal,
his wechty burdoun[114] or his knorry mace,
and tae the hill's hicht held in a race.
Than wis the first time that ony in this erd
o our people perceived Cacus affeared,
within his heid trubbelt his een twae.
Swift as the wind he fled and gat away,
and tae his cave him sped wi eerie spreit;
the dreid adjoinit wingis tae his feet.
And, frae he haed himsel seizit[115] tharein,

---

107 queme: ticht-fittin

108 gin: fastenin

109 repaterit: fed

110 dindellit: resoundit

111 queyock: heifer

112 traist: literally trust, confidence (Latin *spes*)

113 nevoy: grandson

114 burdoun: club

115 seizit: sattlet

a stane o huge wecht for tae close the gin
he lat doun faa, and wi sic haste dounthrang,
the chynes brak whaurwi it festent hang,
that forgit war by his faither's ingyne;
wi gret airn slottis shut the entry syne.
But lo, in haste Hercules cam at hand
wi furious mind cairryin owre the land,
passage and entry seekin busilie,
nou here his een, nou thare, rowein in hy,
graislin[116] his teeth, and birnin fu o ire.
O Aventinus Hill thrice aa the swire[117]
he searches owre, and thrice assayis he
tae brek and rent that craggy stane entry;
but aa for nocht, tho he wis ne'er sae wicht.
Sae, thrice irkit, doun frae the hill's hicht
tae rest him is he tae the valley gane.
Thare stuid a pinnacle o whin or flint stane,
upo the backside o this cavern cauld,
that rase on end richt hie for tae behauld,
for wild foulis o reif[118] a gainand steid,
that rent raw flesh o beastis banes deid.
The craggis aa about this rock war worn,
wi wather's blast to-howkit and to-torn;
and as it stuid unshuir sweyin that tide,
dounwith the bank taewart the watter side,
Hercules it smites wi a michty touk[119]
upo the richt hauf, for tae mak it jouk,
enforcin[120] him tae welt it owre the brae;
and sae rudely it brangils tae and frae,
that frae the ruitis he it lowsed and rent,
and tummelt doun frae thyne, ere he wad stent.
The large air did rerden[121] wi the rush,
the braeis dindelt, and aa doun gan dush;
the river waux effrayit wi the wrack,

---

116 graislin: gnashin

117 swire: flat land atween twa hills

118 foulis o reif: birds o prey

119 touk: dunt

120 enforcin him: exertin hissel

121 rerden: resound (wi Chaucerian Inglis endin)

and, dammit wi the rockis, ran aback.

Than this gret cave o Cacus' salle[122] ryal,
wis discovert; his inwart caverns aa,
wont tae be daurk, worth patent nou and knaw;
nane itherwise than whan the erd outhraw
by force o thunner, or erdquake wi a clap,
rives up a terrible sheuch or grisly gap,
openin the hellish mansion infernale,
and uncloses that daurk regioun pale
whilk o the goddis aa abuve is hate;
or tho the hellish bysm in sic estate
war opent, that his boddom see men micht,
and damnit sauls effrayit o new licht.
Whaurfore this worthy stalwart Hercules –
that on this wise haed Cacus set in press,
and fund unwarnist[123] by this licht suddane,
whaur he wis closit in a cave o stane,
fast rummisin[124] upo a strange manneir –
this champion wi dartis fell o weir
gan doun tae beat, and in his wud furie
efter aa kind o wappons gan dae cry,
wi branches rent o trees, and quarrell[125] stanes
o huge wecht doun wappin aa at aince.
But this ilk Cacus, whan that he did see
frae this danger thare wis nae wey tae flee,
furth o his throat, a wunner thing tae tell,
a laithly smuik he yiskis black as Hell,
and aa the hous involvit wi daurk mist,
that suin the sicht vanished, ere ony wist,
and reeky nicht within a little thraw
gan thicken owre aa the cavern and owreblaw,
and wi the mirkness middelt sperks o fire.

The hie courage o Hercules, lordly sire,
micht this nae langir suffer, but in the gap
wi hasty stert amid the fire he lap,

---

122 salle: muckle chaumer

123 unwarnist: unwarned

124 rummisin: rairin

125 quarrell: quarry

and thare as maist aboundit smuikis dirk,
wi huge sop o reik and flames mirk,
sae that the cave did glevin[126] o the heat.
Thare haes he hint Cacus, that wickit spreit,
that aa in vain his het kennlin furth gaspit;
for as a baa he him in airmis claspit,
and sae strainis his throat, furth chirt[127] his een;
his hause worth dry o bluid. Than micht be seen
this mirk dungeon and unseemly hauld.
The entry opent Hercules the bauld,
beat doun the closers, and syne brocht tae licht
his oxen frae him reft by subtle slicht;
and by the feet furth harlit wis anon
o Cacus the deformit carrion.
The hertis than and minds o our menyie
micht nocht be satisfied on him tae leuk and see,
as tae behaud his ugly een twain,
his terrible veisage, and his grisly gane,[128]
the roch birses on the breist and crest
o that monstrous hauf-deal wild beast,
and in his gorge stickin the slockent fire.

E'er sen that time, tae Hercules the gret sire
we hae this honour made and sacrifice,
aa our affspring and young men on this wise
this day keepis solemnit, as ye see;
Potitius first maister here wi me,
and the faimil o Pinaria the bauld,
the chief keepers o Hercules' hallowed hauld,
yon altar in this cuthill[129] did upbeild,
that untae us in every time o eild[130]
is cleipit maist solemnit and hie altair,
and sall be repute grettest evermair.
Tharefore hae duin, young gallants. Nou in hy,
in worship o this feast and mangerie,

---

126 glevin: glowe (only here, possibly erroneous for gloven i.e. glowen)

127 chirt: squirt

128 gane: ugly face

129 cuthill: shaw, smaa wuid

130 o eild: frae antiquity

o green branches plait for your heid garlands.
Dae waucht and drink. Bring cuppis fu in hands.
Caa on our patron, common god divine is,
and wi guidwill dae skink and birl the wines."
Thus sayin, the parti popple grane[131]
heildit his heid wi scug[132] Herculean,
the leafis frae the plaitis doun hingand,
a haly cup fillit in his richt hand.
Than ilk man smertly tastes the wine at table,
prayin thair gods for tae be agreeable.

[131] parti popple grane: parti-colourt poplar branch

[132] scug: shade

Chaipter V

In luvin o the dochty Hercules
the people sings his werkis mair and less.

In the mean season Hesperus drew near,
throu the declinin o the heivenly sphere;
tharewith the priestis o the sacrifice,
girdit in skinnis, efter thair auld guise,
gan tracen furth thegither in a rout,
and foremaist went Potitius the stout.
Aa dae thay beir the birnin het firebrands;
and, tae renew the banquet, wi thair hands
fu delicate denties for the saicont meat
thay dress anon, and furth o plates greit
wi paisit[133] flesh plenished the altars large,
thareon bestowin in heapis mony a charge.
Syne the minstrelis, singers, and danceirs,
tae sing and play wi soundis, as effeirs,
about the kennelt altars, while thay brint,
assembelt are fu swith, and wad nocht stint,
wi popple-tree hats buckelt on thair heid.
The younkers yonner in anither steid
led roundis, dances, and fresh carolling.
Ither aged persons thaim addressed tae sing
in hymnis, ballads, and lays, throu the press,
the luvable gestis[134] o michty Hercules:
hou the first monsters o his stepmither slee,
liggin a bab in credle, strangelt he;
that is tae knaw, twa gret serpents perfay,
the whilk he wirryit wi his haundis twae;
and hou this ilk Hercules o renoun
the ryal ceities assieges and beat doun
o Troy, and eik the strang Oechalia;
a thousan hard journeys sufferin alsa,
unner the king cleipit Eurystheus,
by Juno's frawart will maist envious.
And thus thay sang: "Invincible warriour,
that bare o strenth and hardiment the flouer,

---

133 paisit: laden

134 gestis: heroic tales

the stern centauris thou slew and dounbet,
double o form, and on the clud beget.
Thou brittens eik and wi thy haun haes slain
Pholus and Hylaeus, stalwart giants twain.
O Crete the monsters dauntis thou at ful,
the savage beastis, as wild bear and bul.
Unner a rock, Nemeae forest within,
thou slew and rent the hideous lion skin.
The Lake o Styx trummelt for dreid o thee;
the grisly porter o the hellish sea,
ludgin in cave on deid banes hauf gnaw,
did quake for fear, whan he thy veisage saw.
Nae kind o bisning[135] feigure did thee grise;[136]
nor big Typhoeus, that agin Jove aft syse
movit battle, wi wappons fell in haun
micht thee affray, nor thy gret strenth gainstaun;
nor the Serpent o Lern, thou put tae deid,
fand thee want naither wisdom nor manheid,
tho she, o heidis wi her meikle rout,
thee did assail and umbeset about.
Hail, very child o Jove; hail, honour hie
adjoinit tae the gods in majesty!
Baith us and eik thy sacrifice infeir
we pray thee vizzy, that thou may come here
wi prosper presence and fu happy fuit,
in our helpin for tae be our buit.[137]

In sic sangis thair feast thay sanctify,
and Hercules' hie luvin sing and cry;
but principally, and last o the lave,
thay made mention o Cacus slain in cave,
and hou that he the flames furth did blaw.
The wuid resoundis shill, and every shaw
shoutis again o thair clamour and din.
The hillis rerds, while dindles rock and whin.

Syne, whan divine service wis at end,
tae the ceity boundis ilk man to-wend.

---

135 bisning: monstrous

136 grise: frichten

137 buit: saviour

Furth held the King unwieldy in auld years,
fast by him haudin, as his freins and feirs,
the Prince Eneas and his young son Pallas;
and, while thay thus taewart the ceity pass,
wi sindry sermons shortis he the way.
Eneas a-wunners o that he did say,
and kest his een about deliverlie,
thae steidis aa tae searchen and espy;
sae fair places tae see and vizzy tyte.
This strange knicht caucht pleasance and delight,
and gledly gan inquiren everything,
and heard the answer o the ageit King,
whilk teachin him per order tae him tauld
memorials o sere forefaithers auld.

Chaipter VI

Hou King Evander rehearsed til Enee
in elders' days the rule o that kintrie.

This King Evandrus than, the first foundair
o Rome's broch or palace, gan declare
and did rehearse untae his guest Enee:
"Thir wuidis and thir shawis aa," quo he,
"some time inhabit war and occupied
wi nymphs and faunis upo every side,
whilk fairfowks, or than elves, cleipen we,
that war engenerit in this samen kintrie,
and wi a kind o men y-born, but lees,
furth o auld stockis and hard runts o trees;
whilks naither mainers haed nor policy,
nor couth thay aer[138] the grund, nor occupy
the ploois, nor the oxen yoke infeir,
nor yit haed craft tae conques nor win gear,
nor kep thair mobles whan it gaithert was;
but, as thir beastis, or the doilit[139] ass,
thair fuid o treeis did in wuidis fet;[140]
or o the wild venison shape[141] tae get.
First frae the heivens intae this land
Saturnus come, fleein gret Jove's brand;
his realmis reft and banished eik wis he;
but thae untaucht people o this kintrie,
that scattert dwellit in hie hillis green,
he made forgaither thegither and convene,
gave thaim lawis and statutes thaim tae lead,
and wad alsae this region every steid
war caaed Latium, and cleipit tae his name,
for that he shuirly lurkit in the same.[142]
And as thay tell, and reads in mony rhyme,
o gowd the warld wis in that king's time;

---

138 aer: ploo

139 doilit: stipit, dull

140 fet: fetch

141 shape: contrive

142 The name *Latium* is unnerstuid tae be frae Latin *latere*, tae be concealed.

sae likandly, in peace and leiberty,
at ease his common people governed he;
while,[143] piece and piece, the eild[144] syne waur and waur
begouth tae waux, that colour fadin faur,
as, in the steid o peace, the rage o weir
begouth succeed, and covatice o gear.
Syne the puissance cam o Ausonia,
and the people Sicanae hecht alsa,
by wham the land o Saturn, waur[145] and wyce,
haes left and changit his auld name aft syse.
Syne kingis cam, amangs wham for the nainces
stern Thybris reignit, a man big o banes,
frae wham, aye syne, aa the Italian bluid
thair gret river haes cleipit Tiber fluid;
thus Albula his auld true name haes lost.
And me alsae tae dwell within this coast,
banished and fleemit o my native land,
strang destiny, whilk may nocht be gainstand,
and fortune eik, cleipit omnipotent,
throu aa extremes o sea haes thither sent.
The reverend als and dreidfu monishings
o Carmentis, my mither, in mony things
expert as nymph and prophetess divine,
and the authority o God Apolline,
haes me constrainit tae dwell in this hauld."

Scarce haes Evandrus aa thir wordis tauld
whan, walkin thence furth but a little space,
he gan dae shaw the altar and the place,
whilk in the langage Roman yit, sans fail,
is tae this day cleipit Port Carmentale;
whaurby remembert is in the ilk toun
this auld Carmentis' worship and renoun,
whilk wis baith nymph and fatal prophetess,
that first declarit, in her saws express,
the gret princes for tae come o Enee,
and o Pallenteum the nobility.
The King syne shew him tae the haly shaw,

---

143 while: until

144 eild: age, epoch

145 waur: vigilant

whilk strang Romulus did reduce and draw
in mainer o franchise[146] or o sanctuary.
He shew him eik, but ony langir tarry,
unner the frosty brae, the cave, wis call
fu mony years in thair leid Lupercal,
efter thair guise o Arcad and estate,
tae Pan the God o Lycae consecrate.
He shew alsae the wuid hait Argilete,
that tae the man o Arge, thare lost the sweit,[147]
wis dedicate, and drew tae witness that steid
that he wis ne'er culpable o his deid,
and gan tae him declare the maiter plain,
whitwise his guest, this man o Arge, wis slain.
Frae thyne, tae Munt Tarpeia he him kenned,
and beckont tae that steid, frae end tae end,
whaur nou staundis the gowden Capitol,
umquhile o wild bussis roch scroggy knoll.
Tho, the ilk time, yit o that dreidfu place
a fearfu reverent releigion, per case,
the eerie[148] rural people did affray,
sae that this crag and scroggis worshipped thay.
"In yon shaw, on this wuidy hill's tap,
that scuggit is wi mony bussis' crap,"
quo Evander, "thareon a god daes dwell,
but whit god at he be, can nae man tell.
My people that been comen frae Arcade
weens thay saw yonder, as thay me sayed,
gret Jove himsel, as he fu aft at large
did shak his tabard, or his bleckent[149] targe,
and wi his richt haun did assemble and steer
the wattry cluds, that makkis thunners beir."[150]
And faurer eik he sayed untae Enee,
"Yon twa toun steidis thou behauds," quo he,
"wi barmekin dounbet and every wall,
o forefaithers thay been memorial.

---

146 franchise: i.e. a legal freedom

147 lost the sweit: dee'd

148 eerie: supersteitious

149 bleckent: bleckent (Latin *nigrantem*)

150 beir: rair

This ceity buildit our auld faither Janus,
and yonder ceity fundit Saturnus:
Janiculum this hecht, mine ain leif brither,
and Saturnia cleipit wis that ither.“

Amangis thaim wi sic carpin and talk,
taewart Evandrus’ puir ludgin thay stalk.
The cattle eik behaud thay raik on raw,
and in that steid thare pasturin thay saw,
whaur nou in Rome is the chief mercat places,
baith squeal and lowe in thae ilk plenteous gates
whilk some time hecht Carine, fair and large,
whaur the houses war like a turnit[151] barge.
And whan thay comen tae the palace wer,
quo Evander, “At thir ilk yettis here
the conqueror entert, dochty Hercules,
this sober manse receivit him, but lees.
My gentle guest, enforce thee and address
tae lairn tae daur contemn walth and richesse,
and dae thysel compone, and shaw indeed
in goddis’ steid worthy tae succeed,
wi thaim equal received in sic herbry.
Amang smaa gear nou enters bousomely.”
And sayin this, the michty gret Enee
within his narra chymmis leadis he,
and made him sitten doun upo a bed,
that stuffit wis wi leafis, and owrespread
wi the roch skin o a busteous wild bear
in Afric bred before mony a year.

[151] turnit: whammelt, owerturnit

Chaipter VII

Untae Eneas Venus armour requires
frae Vulcanus, whilk grantis her desires.

The nicht approaches wi her wingis gray,
owrespreid the erd, and put aa licht away;
whan Venus mither til Enee affeared,
and nocht but cause, seein the felloun rerd,
the dreidfu host and assembly at aince
agin her son o people Laurentians.
Tae Vulcanus, her husband and guidman,
within his gowden chaumer she began
thus for tae speak, and wi her words the fire
o divine luve gan taewarts him inspire.
Quo she: “While that the kings o Greece and Arge
dounbet the Trojan wallis wide and large,
that destinate war, baith touer, toun, and waa,
o enemies by flames tae doun faa,
nae help untae thae wretchit fowks I socht,
nor armour askit, nor thy craft besocht,
nor thee, my dearest spous, exerce bade I
thy craft, nor wirk in vain wad occupy,
albeit that tae the children o Priam King
I wis bedebtit intae meikle thing,
and the intolerable laubour o Enee
bewailit aft weepin fu sair,” quo she,
“whilk nou by Jove’s pouer stad remains
within the boundis o Rutulians.
Whaurfore this time I, thy ilk spous and wife,
thy blissit godheid, dearest tae me on life,
comes lawly tae beseek and requeir
for wappons, harness, armour, and sic gear
for my dear son. I, mither, prayis thee:
sen Nereus’ dochter, Thetis, micht,” quo she,
“induce thee til enarm her son Achill,
and eik Tithonus’ spous, at her ain will,
Aurora, wi her tearis sae thee brak
for til enarm her son, Memnon the Black.
Behaud whit people, lo, assembelt been,
whit wallit touns wi yettis closed in tene
grindis thair wappons agin me and mine,
tae bring us tae destruction and ruine.”

Thus sayed the Goddess, and in her milk-white arms
fu tenderly belappis him and waarms,
while that he muses sae, that het fire slee
o luve bekent anon receivit he.
The naitural heat intae the merch[152] did glide,
piercin the banes made saft on every side;
nane itherwise than as some time, we see
the shinin broken thunner's lichtnin flee
wi subtle fiery streamis throu a rift,
piercin the wattry cluddis in the lift.
Venus his spous, confidin in her beauty,
fu gled perceives that him caucht haed she.

The faither than Vulcanus, God abuve,
lockit in the eternal chyne o luve,
answert and sayed: "Whaurfore, mine ain hert dear,
sae faur about thou glosses thy maiteir?
Why axes thou nocht plainly thy desire?
Whither is become o me, thy lord and sire,
the firm confidence thou suld hae, goddess?
Whit needit mair but shaw thine mind express?
Gif siclike cures and desire haed been
intae thy mind that samen time, I mean
durin the subversion o Troy's ring,
tae us it haed been but a leisome thing
Trojans til hae enarmed at thy request.
Naither the Faither aamichty at the lest,
nor yit the Fates contrary did gainstaun;
but Troy's ceity micht hae langir staun,
sae that King Priamus' reign, by our pouer,
micht hae remained fully ither ten year.
And nou, gif thou thee graithis for tae fecht,
and tharetae be thy mind set, I thee hecht
aa mainer thing, wi solist[153] diligence,
that may be wrocht in my craft or science,
or yit may be forgit in airn or steel
or molten metal grave and burnished weill,
sae faur as fire, and wind, and hie ingyne,
intae our airt may compass or divine.

---

152 merch: marra

153 solist: solicitous

Tharefore desist o thy strenth tae hae dreid,
or me tae pray in ocht that thou haes need;
for in sic case thare needis nae request:
am I nocht ready tae fulfil thy behest?"

Thir wordis bein sayed, this het fire
gan her embracin aa at his desire,
and, lappit til his spous's breist in arms,
the pleasin naitural sleep, tae beit[154] his harms,
and ease his weary members, gan he tak.
Syne as he haed slummerit but a snack,[155]
whan the first silence o the quiet nicht
his middle course and circle run haed richt,
provokin fowk o the first sleep awake;
like as the puir wife whilk at e'en haed rake
her ingle, rises for til bete her fire –
as she that haes nae ither rent nor hire
but wi her rock[156] and spinnin for tae thrive,
and tharewithal sustain her enty[157] life –
her day wark tae increase, ere she may see,
tharetil a pairt o the nicht eikis she,
and at the caunle licht her haundis twae,
and eik her puir damisels', as she may,
naetly exerces for tae wirk the line,[158]
tae snuve the spindle, and lang threidis twine,
whaurby she micht sustain her poverty,
keep chaste her spous's bed in honesty,
and tharewith eik foster her childer lyte.[159]
The michty God o Fire this time as tyte,
and nae slawer, but on the samen manneir,
furth o his bed stertis, and hint his gear,
and tae his smiddy craft and forge him speeds.

Thare stauns an isle, wi reeky stanes as gleids,

---

154 beit: mend

155 snack: snatch o time

156 rock: distaff

157 enty: ? (only here)

158 line: linen

159 lite: wee, little

upstreikin hie betwix the coast Sicile
and Liparen, God Eolus' windis' isle;
unner the whilk big island in the sea
a cave thare is, and hirnis[160] feil thare be,
like til Etna howked in the munt,
by the Cyclopes' furnace worn or brunt,
that maks rummlin, as wha did thunner hear,
the busteous dintis on the studdies[161] sere,
a huge din and noise the strake daes mak.
The airn lumpis in thae caves black
gan biss and whustle, and the het fire
daes fuff and blaw in bleezes birnin schire;
whilk forges been Vulcanus' dwellin caa,
and efter Vulcan that kintrie namit aa.
The michty God o Fire doun frae the heiven
intae this foresaid isle descendit even,
whaur-as, intil his large and gousty cave,
the hideous Cyclops forgit furth and drave –
Brontes, Steropes, and nakit Pyragmon –
the glowein airn tae weld and pein[162] anon.
The fireflaucht, yit no formed perfitlie,
whilk the Faither o Gods aft throu the sky
frae every airt doun in the erd daes cast,
thay haed intae thair haundis workin fast,
that ane pairt polished, burnished weill and dicht,
thair ither pairty nocht perfitit richt.
Three raws weld thay o the frozen hail shouer,
three o the wattry clud, tae eik the stour,
three bleezes o the birnin fires bricht,
wi three blastis o the south windis licht.
Syne tae thair wark, in mainer o gunpouder,
thay middelt and thay mixed this fearfu souder,
a grisly sound, gret dreid, and goddis' ire,
wham follaes aye the fell flames o fire.
Anither sort fu busily tae Mart
the rinnin wheelis forges, and weir-cart,
whaurwi the men tae battle daes he steir,
and moves ceities tae raise mortal weir.

---

160 hirnis: hidden neuks

161 studdies: anvils

162 well and pein: melt and hemmer

Thay dicht and polish eagerly alsa,
the horrible tairget,[163] busteous Aegida,
whilk is the grievit Pallas' grisly shield,
wi serpent scales poudert in gowden field,
thegither linkin lowpit edders twae;
and in the breist o the goddess grave thay
Gorgon's heid, that monster o gret wonder,
wi een wawlin,[164] and neckbane hack in-sunder.

"Awa wi this, ye Etna Cyclopes,
quod Vulcanus, "and aa sic warkis cease,
and at I say imprentis in your thocht.
Untae a forcy man are tae be wrocht
harness and armour. Nou needis it," quo he,
"your strenth excerce and pithis shaw. Lat see
wha nimblest can come and turn thair hauns.
Nou on aa maister pynt o craft it stauns.
Dae put awa in haste aa mainer delay."
Nae mair he sayed; but wunner frakly[165] thay
untae thair laubour gan thaim aa address,
assignin every man his pairt express.
The airn and metal throu thair cundies flowes,
the molten gowd and weirlike steel het glowes,
and furth o gousty furnace fundit ran.
Maist craftily tae forgen thay began
a huge gret seemly tairget, or a shield,
whilk only micht resisten intae field
agin the dint o Latin wappons aa.
In every place seiven-ply thay welt and caa.
Some gan receive the glowein heat, some wind
wi blawin bellus bet the fire behinnd;
some o the troch upo the sperklin gleids
the bissin watter sprenkles and owrespreids.
The huge cave and aa the munt within,
for strake o studdies, gan resound and din.
Amangs thaimsel thae grisly smithis greit
wi meikle force did forge, pein, and beat,
and gan thair airmis heizen up and doun

---

163 tairget: targe, shield

164 wawlin: lollin

165 frakly: smertly

in nummer and in due proportioun,
and wi the grippin turkas[166] aft alsae
the glowein lump thay turnit tae and frae.

[166] turkas: pincers

Chaipter VIII

Evander tellin Eneas things sere,
Vulcanus'armour did in the sky appear.

While that the Faither o Lemnos, Vulcanus,
within the bounds o windy Eolus
tae work this gear hastes on every side,
the blissfu licht early at morra tide,
and mirthfu sangis o the birdis bay,[167]
the swallow, singis on the ruif her lay,
awaukent King Evander, and made rise
within his sober chymmis whaur he lies.
Upstert the auld, and cled him in his coat.
Upo his feet his meet[168] shoes hot[169]
war buckelt on the guise o Tuscany.
Syne owre his shouthers, doun his middle by,
hingis buckelt his traisty swourd Arcade.
Frae his left airm, about the richt side laid,
y-wimpelt wis the spottit panther's skin.
His twa keeperis[170] gan furth by him rin
frae the hie palace, busteous hundis twae,
that haudis thair lord's pace whaure'er he gae.
Furth hauds this herr the secret privy way
taewart the steid whaur-as Eneas lay,
his Trojan guest, rememberin aa at richt
his help and promise grantit yester nicht.
On the samen wise, at morra fu earlie,
Eneas hastes up, and micht nocht lie.
The King only but wi his son Pallas,
Achates wi Eneas accompanyit wis.
Thay joinit haundis suin as thay war met,
and syne amid the chaumer doun thaim set,
whaur, finally, thay fell in communing
o secret maiters and authentic[171] thing.

---

167 bay: broun

168 meet: weill-fittin

169 hot: hastily

170 keeperis: i.e. watch-dugs (Latin *custodes ... canes*)

171 authentic: truistworthy

The King begouth, and sayed first til Enee:

"Maist sovereign leader o Trojan company,
wha bein on life ne'er grant I sall
Troy is destroyed, nor cassen doun the wall,
nor yit the Trojan pouer put at unner;[172]
we hae but sober puissance, and nae wunner,
tae help in battle, and tae mak supply
untae sae hie excellin majestie.
On this hauf closit wi the Tuscan fluid;
on yonder side are the Rutulians rude,
nidders[173] our boundis, as fu aft befaas,
wi thair harness clatterin about our waas.
But I purpose adjoin tae thee anon
a huge people, and landis mony one,
hostis o fertile realmis near fast by.
Oh fortune, ere we wist, sae happilie
thou shawest thee in our help and supply!
And oh! maist dochty champion Enee,
desirit o the destiny and Fates,
here ye be weill arrivit mony gates!
Fundit o auld stanes, no faur hyne,
inhabit staun the ceity Agylline;
whaur that the worthy people Lydiane,
valiant in battle dwells, and daes remain
upo the edge o the Etruscan hills.
Thir fowkis aa in liking at thair wills
this land inhabit, vale, munt and swire; [174]
while finally, fu proud in his empire,
Mezentius begouth thare tae be king,
and in gret force o armis thareon ring.
Suld I rehearse the untellable mischief,
the cruel deedis, slauchter, and huge grief
o that tyrant, whilk yit the goddis' ding
upo his heid reserves and affspring?
For he, beside his ither wickit deed,
the quick bodies, speldit furth on breid,
adjoinit tae the corpse and carrion deid,

---

172 put at unner: put in subjection

173 nidders: restricks

174 swire: pass (atween hills)

laid haun tae haun, baith face tae face and heid,
while quick mouthis did deid mouths kiss –
oh, whit mainer o turment caa ye this! –
drappin in worsum[175] and filth laithly tae see,
sae miserable embracing, thuswise he
by lang process o deid gan thaim slay;
while, at the last, o this annoy and wae
his ceitizens irkit, syne in a rout
enarmit umbeset his manse about.
Him, aa enragit on his wild manneir,
besieged thay, and o his complices sere
haes slain anon, and aa in pieces hackit,
and fire bleezes on his hie biggins swackit.
Amid the slauchter, on case, escapit he,
and tae the fields Rutulian gan flee,
whaur intil arms, by Turnus and his host,
he him begouth defend upo that coast.
Whaurfore Etruria aa, fu justlie
aggrievit, rase in armis by and by,
untae punition and aa turments sere
thair king tae ask, and seek in feir o weir.[176]
Tae thir mony thousan people," quo he,
"sovereign leader I sall thee join, Enee."
For nou thair shippis fu thick ready stands,
brayin[177] endlang the coastis o thir lands.
Thay bid display thair banners out o faulds,
but an ancient diviner thaim withhaulds,
shawin the fatal[178] godly destiny:
'Oh ye maist valiant young gallants,' quo he,
'and people comen frae Maeonia,
ye that been flouer o chivalry alsa,
the virtue and the strenth o vassalage[179]
o ancestry and men o your lineage,
wham just dolour steirs on this wise,
bauldly agin your enemies tae rise;

---

175 worsum: putrifyin maiter

176 in feir o weir: in war formation

177 brayin: makin a noise (Latin *fremunt*)

178 fatal: fatit

179 vassalage: knichtly courage

altho Mezentius tae his mischief,
haes weill deservit agin him your grief
thus in commotion for tae raise and steir;
yit ne'ertheless believes, out o weir,
sae gret a people, as unner Turnus King
and Latinus lendis,[180] for tae dounthring
unleisome is til ony Italian –
you behuves tae seek a strange chieftain.'
O Etruria the hostis unner shield
wi that word stoppit in the samen field,
o the goddis' admonishin aa affrayit.
Tarchon himsel, thair duke, list nocht delay it,
but tae me sent ambassadors aa boun,
offerin tae me the sceptre and the croun
o aa thair realm, and thair ensenyies brocht,
requirin me that I refusit nocht
tae come and be chieftain o thair airmie,
the realm Tyrrhene eik tae receive in hy.
But my feeble and slaw unwieldy age,
the dazit bluid gane faur bye the het rage,
or than the outworn date o mony years,
wi force failit tae haunt the strang weirs,
envies[181] that I suld joice or bruik empire.
My son Pallas, this young lusty sire,
exhort I wad tae tak the steer on hand,
no war that o the bluid o this ilk land
admixit staundis he, takkin some strynd,
upo his mither's side, o Sabine kind.
But thou, wham baith thy yearis and thy bluid
the Fates favours, and is sae conclude
by the goddis abuve as, out o weir,
tae be callit and shape for this maiteir,
gae tae the battle, champion maist forcie,
the Trojans baith and Italians tae gy.[182]
And faurer eik this samen young Pallas,
our son, our hope, our comfort, and solace,
I sall adjoin in fellaeship," quo he,
"as his maister, tae exerce unner thee,

---

180 lendis: bides, dwells

181 envies: i.e. begrudges

182 gy: guide

and lairn the fate o knichtly chivalry,
hard martial deedis hauntin by and by,
tae be accustomed, and behaud thy feirs,
for wunner follaein thy works in young years.
Twa hunner walit horsmen wicht and stern,
o Arcad, sall I gie untae that bern,[183]
and o his ain behalf, in thy supplie,
as mony Pallas sall promise tae thee,
whilks in the haill may weill fower hunner been."

Scant this wis sayed, whan castin doun his een,
traist Achates, and Anchises' son Enee,
sat starin on the grund, baith he and he,
and in thair hertis did fu aft compass
fu mony hard adversity and case,
wi dreary cheer and mindis sad baith twa:
nocht war Venus, Leddy Cytherea,
doun frae the heiven o comfort tae thaim sent
an open taiken, clear and evident,
for suddenly thay see, ere thay be waur,
the fireflaucht beatin frae the lift on faur,
come wi the thunner's hideous rummlin blast,
seemin the heiven suld faa and aa doun cast;
the air anon gan dinnen up and doun
wi brag o weir and Tyrrhene trumpis' soun.
Thay listenin tae perceive and hear the din,
aye mair and mair again it did begin
tae rerd and rattle upo a fearfu wise;
while at the last thay see and aa espies
throu the clear sky and region o the heiven,
amang the cluddis, bricht as fiery levin,
the glitterin armour burnished leamin schene,
and, as thay sheuk, thare rase thunner bedene.[184]
Abashit in thair mindis worth the lave;
but this lord Trojan knew and did persaive
fu weill the sound, and aa the case express
by promise o his mither the Goddess;
syne gan rehearse it plain, and thusgates sayed:
"Forsuith, forsuith, my gentle host, be glaid,
thee needis nocht tae ask, nor yit tae speir

---

183 bern: warrior

184 bedene: richt awa

whit signifies thir wunners did appear;
for I am callit tae the heiven," quo he.
"the haly mither, my genitrice, shew me
that sic a taiken suld be sent, she sayed,
gif ony wad wi battle us invade.
And, in my helpin, hecht doun throu the air
tae send Vulcanus' armour, guid and fair.
Alas, hou fell slauchter nou appears
tae wretchit Latins in thir mortal weirs!
By me, Turnus, whit painis sall thou dree!
Oh Tiber fair that rinnis in the sea,
hou mony shieldis, helms, and stern bodie,
unner thy fluidis warpit law sall lie!
Lat tham array thair hostis *nou*, lat see,
and bauldly brek thair freindship made wi me."

Chaipter IX

Evander sends his son the young Pallas,
wi his airmy in help o Eneas.

Frae this wis sayed, frae his hie saet he start,
and first the slockent fires haes he gart,
the rakit hearths and ingle yester nicht,
on Hercules' altar bet and kennle bricht,
and gledly went tae worship and tae call
sober Penates, gods domestical;
and walit twinters, efter the auld guise,
he slew and brittent untae sacrifice;
wi him Evander eik, and aa his feirs
o Trojan menyie, lusty fresh younkeirs.
Syne doun in haste he went untae his ships,
his fowks he vizzyit and his fellaeships,
o whase nummer haes he waled out
ane certain, the maist likely, bauld, and stout,
whilk suld him follae intae every place.
The remanent teuk busily thair race
doun by the watter, on the flowein fluid
descendin slawly, tae beir message guid
suin efter this, untae Ascanius ying,
tuichin his faither and o everything.
The horses syne war given and furth brocht
tae the Trojans that untae Tuscan socht;
and til Eneas led anon thay gave
a gentle steed exceedin aa the lave,
on wham at aa pairts wis owrespreid and fold
a dun lion's skin wi nails o gold.
Than throu the little ceity aa on raw
the fame anon divulgate swiftly flaw,
hou that the horsemen speedis thaim bedene
tae gae untae the land and coast Tyrrhene.
The wusses and avowis than, for fear,
by wemen and the matrons doubelt wer.
Mair grew the dreid the nearer drew danger,
nou Mart's eimage seems wauxen mair.

The faither than Evander, as thay depairt,
by the richt haun thaim grippit wi sair hairt,
his son embracin, and fu tenderly

upo him hingis, weepin untellably;
and thus he sayed, “Oh send omnipotent
hie Jupiter my ying yearis bywent
wad me restore, in sic strenthis and eild,
sae as I wis whan first in battlefield
the armis o the hostis doun I dang
o Praeneste unner the wallis strang,
and victor o mine enemies, as proud sire,
haill heapis o thair shieldis brint in fire;
whaur, wi this samen richt haun quelled and slain,
unner the hellish grund Tartariane
King Erulus wis sent tae dwell for aye;
wham-til his mither Feronia the gey,
intae the time o his nativity,
grisly tae say, haed given saulis three,
and that he suld beir armis thrice in ficht,
and thrice behuvit tae the deid be dicht;
frae wham that time this richt haun, nocht-the-less,
thae saulis aa bereft, and thare express
o as mony enarmours[185] spulyiet clean.
Gif sae war nou wi me as than haes been,
no suld I ne’er depairt, mine ain child dear,
frae thine maist sweet embracin, for nae weir;
nor our neibour Mezentius in his feid
suld naewise, mockin at this hasart[186] heid,
by swourd hae killt sae feil corpse as slain is,
nor this burgh o sae mony ceitizainis
left desolate and denudit,” quo he.
“But ye goddis abuve, and Jove maist hie,
the Governor o heivenly wichtis aa,
on you I cry, on you I cleip and caa –
begin tae hae compatience and peity
o your ain waefu King o Arcady.
Open and incline your divine godly ears,
tae hear and receive the faither’s meek prayeirs.
Gif it be sae your godheid and gret michts
by prescience provide haes, and foresichts,
Pallas my son in saufty haill and fere,[187]

---

185 enarmours: armours, suits o armour (only here)

186 hasart: gray

187 haill and fere: sauf and soun

gif the Fates preserves him o dangeir,
sae aince in my life I may him see,
again thegither assembelt I and he;
I you beseek my feeble life tae respite,
that I micht leive, and endure yit a lyte
aa pain and laubour that you list me send.
But, oh faint Fortune, gif thou daes pretend
and menaces ony mischievous case,
nou, nou furthwith, intae this samen place
suffer me swelt, and end this cruel life,
while doutsome is yit aa sic sturt and strife,
while hope uncertain is o thing tae come,
and while I thus, my dear child, aa and some
my lust's pleasance, and my last weillfare,
thee in mine airms embraces, but despair;
sae that, efter, nae sorrafu messengeir
wi smert annoy hurt ne'er mine ageit ear."

The faither Evander wi fu sary hairt,
at latter pynt whan thay war tae depairt,
thir wordis spak, syne fell in swoon richt thare.
His men him hint, and tae his chaumer bare.

By this, the rout o horsemen strang in ficht
war issued at the portis every wicht.
Amangis the foremaist the Duke Eneas,
and eik the traist Achates, furth gan pass,
syne ither nobles o the Trojans stout;
the ying Pallas ridin amid the rout,
sae farrand[188] and sae lusty personage,
cled in a mantle in his tender age,
whilk did owreheild his burnished armour bricht.
On him tae leuk wis a mair guidly sicht
than on the day starn, whilk at morn earlie
bathed in the ocean rises in the sky,
whase fiery beamis Venus in special
chuises abuve aa starnis gret and small,
heich in the heiven liftin his veisage schene,
tae chase awa the mirkness wi his een.
The waefu mithers, quakin for cauld dreid,
stuid on the waa, behaudin whaur thay yeid,

---

188 farrand: weill-faured

and did convoy or follae wi thair sicht
the dusty sop,[189] whaur-sae the raik[190] went richt,
govin upo thair bricht armour that shane,
sae faur as that thair leuk micht thaim attain.
The company aa samen held array
throu scroggy busses furth the nearest way,
enarmit ridin thither as thay wald.
The bruit and din frae thaim upsprang thickfauld,
the horny-hoofit horses wi fower feet
stampin and trottin on the dusty street.

---

189 sop: clud

190 raik: route

Chaipter X

Hou that Venus untae Eneas brocht
the guidly armour by Vulcanus wrocht.

Thare growes a gret shaw, near the chill riveir
whilk that flowes wi his frosty streamis clear
doun by the ceity o Agyllina,
that itherwise is cleipit Caerita,
whilk is in worship hauden and in dreid
by faithers auld, the large boundis on breid,
as sanctuar; and wi deep clewis wide
this shaw is closit upo every side.
A thick aik wuid and scuggy firris stout
bylappis aa the sayed cuthill[191] about.
The fame is that the Greekis anciane,
whilk cleipit been tae surname Pelasgane,
that whilom lang time in the foremaist eilds[192]
the Latin boundis occupied and fields,
tae Silvanus first dedicate this shaw,
the god o beastis and o fieldis faw,[193]
and constitute tae him solemnit feast.
Duke Tarchon, and the Tuscans maist and least,
no faur frae thence intil a strenthy place
thair palyouns[194] aa haed plantit, upo case
that frae the tap o the hill's hicht
the airmy aa thay micht see at ae sicht,
wi tentis stentit[195] streekin tae the plain.
Thither held Eneas, the sovereign Trojane,
and aa the barons o his ryal rout,
chosen for the battle, lusty, stern, and stout;
and, weary o thair travail, thocht thay best
thairsel and horses tae refresh and rest.

But than Venus, the fresh Goddess, bedene

---

191 cuthill: shaw, smaa wuid

192 eilds: ages, epochs

193 faw: variegatit

194 palyouns: pavilions, tents

195 stentit: pitched

amang the heivenly skyis bricht and schene,
beirin wi her the divine armour clear,
tae mak thareof a present, gan draw near;
and as on faur her son she did behauld,
secret alane by the chill river cauld,
amid a howe cleuch, or a dern valley,
o her free will til him appearis she,
and wi sic wordis tae him spak, sayin:
"Lo, my reward here, and my promisin
fulfillit justly by my husband's wark;
sae that, my son, nou art thou sover and stark,
that thee nocht needis tae hae ony fear
for til resist the proud Latins in weir,
nor yit the strang Turnus tae assail,
him tae provoke, or challenge for battail."
Thus sayed the schene Cytherea fair o face,
and, wi that word, gan her dear child embrace;
and thare the shinin armour forgainst his sicht
unner a bouin aik laid doun fu richt.
Seein sic giftis o this traist goddess,
this gentle knicht rejoicit waux, I guess,
gled that sae gret honour receivit he,
that scarcely couth he satisfyit be
for tae behaud thir armour bricht and schene;
on every piece tae vizzy kest his een,
thareon wunnerin; betwix his haundis twae
and big airmis thaim turnis tae and frae.
The grisly crestit helm he gan behauld,
on fearfu wise spoutin the fir thickfauld;
the fatal swourd, deidly tae mony ane;
the stiff hauberk o steel y-burnished schane,
o huge wecht and bluidy sanguine hue,
that sic a glance[196] and varyin colour shew
as whan the birnin sun's beamis bricht,
the wattery clud piercin wi his licht,
shinin on faur, forgainst the skyis howe[197]
shapes the feigure o the quent rainbow.
The licht leg harness on that ither side,

---

196 glance: flash o licht

197 howe: hollow

wi gowd and burnished latten[198] purified,
graithit and polished weill he did espy;
the spear, and eik the shield sae subtilie
forged, that it wis an untellable thing.
For Vulcanus, o fire the lord and king,
knawin fu weill the airt o prophecie,
and sindry things tae come eik by and by,
the valiant deedis o Italians,
the gret triumphis als o the Romans,
and o Ascanius' stock aa noble knichts,
thair battles aa per order, weir, and fichts,
haed tharein porturate properly and grave.
Amang aa ithers in Mart's gressy cave
the soukin wolf furth streekin breist and udder;
about her pappis, but fear, as thair mither,
the twa twins, smaa men children ying,
sportin fu tyte,[199] gan tae wrabill[200] and hing;
and she her lang round neckbane bouin raith[201]
tae gie thaim souk, and gan thaim culyie[202] baith,
seemin she suld thair bodies by and by
lick wi her tung, and cleanse fu tenderlie.
No faur frae thence Rome ceity eikit he;
whaur, by a new invention wunner slee,
sittin intae a howe valley or slak,[203]
within the listis[204] for the triumph mak,
war Sabine virgins ravished by Romanes,
as that thay war assembelt for the naince
the gret gemmis, *circenses*, for tae see,
whilk joustin or than tournament cleip we.
Wi haisty steerage thare mot[205] thou behauld
the weiris raisit agin Romans bauld,

---

198 latten: a type o copper alloy

199 tyte: willinly

200 wrabill: wriggle

201 raith: promptly

202 culyie: cuddle, cherish

203 slak: howe, depression (atween hills)

204 listis: i.e. joustin lists

205 mot: micht (text haes *most*)

by ageit Tatius and fell Curitans.
Syne the ilk princes and the said Romans,
the weiris ceasit, samen aa infeir
enarmit stad before Jove's alteir,
wi cuppis fu in haun for sacrifice.
Thare micht thou see thaim, efter the auld guise,
the swine sticked, brittent suin and slain,
confirm thair truce and mak peace again.

Chaipter XI

Hou that Vulcanus thare, amang the lave,
stories tae come did in the armour grave.

Frae thyne nocht faur, the chariot thou micht knaw
Mettus Fufetius in sere pieces draw;
albeit thou thocht this cruel, King Albane,
why wad thou nocht at thy promise remain?
Why list thou nocht thy faith observe, and saw?[206]
This faithless wicht's entrails war outdraw,
by command o Tullus Hostilius,
and throu the wuidis harlit, every buss,
while that the thairmis and the bowels rent,
scroggis and breiris aa wi bluid besprent.
Thare micht thou see Tarquinus in exile
furth cast o Rome, and syne, within short while,
by King Porsenna intae battle plain
commandit for tae be received again;
wi that a felloun siege aa Rome about
did umbeset, and closit wi his rout.
The Romans than descendit frae Enee
rush untae wappons for thair liberty.
Thou micht behauden eik this ilk Porsen,
like as he haed dispite, and boastin men,
for that the hardy Cocles, darf[207] and bauld,
durst brek the brig at he purposed tae hauld;
and eik the virgin Cloelia whaur she stuid,
her bandis brast, and swam owre Tiber fluid.
Manlius the knicht abuve intae the shield,
in the defense for Jove's temple beild,
keepin the strenth and castle Tarpeia,
and haudin the heich Capitol alsa,
stuid porturate, near the chymmis calendar,[208]
whase ruifis lately fu roch theekit war
wi strae or gloy[209] by Romulus the wicht.
Thare wis alsae engravit aa at richt

---

206 saw: whit wis sayed

207 darf: brave

208 calendar: pertainin tae the proclamation o the calends (only here)

209 gloy: strae

the siller gander, flichterin wi loud skry,
warnin aa ready the gilt entry by,
hou the Frenchmen did the yett assail.
Thare micht thou see the French airmy aahaill
haste throu the busses tae the Capitol,
some unnerminin the grund wi a hole,
sae that aamaist thay wan the forteress.
Gret help thaim made the close nicht's mirkness;
thair hairis shane as daes the bricht gowd wire,
and aa o gowd wrocht wis thair rich attire;
thair purpour robes begaryit[210] shinin bricht,
and in thair haun withhaudin,[211] every knicht,
twa javelin spearis, or than gissarn[212] staves,
forged in the muntains aa sic mainer glaves,[213]
thair bodies aa wi lang targes owreheild.
Syne yonder mair wis shapen in the field
the dancin priestis, cleipit Salii,
hoppin and singin wunner merrily;
and Pan's priests, nakit Lupercanes;
the tappit hats whaur the wool threid remains,
and bouit bucklers faain frae the sky.
Thare micht be seen, forgit maist craftilie,
the chaste matronis throu the ceity all
in saft chairis thair gemmis festival
leadin, and playin wi mirthis and solace.
A faur wey thence fu weill engravit was
the ugly hellish saet Tartariane,
the deep dungeon whaur Pluto daes remain,
and o the wickit people aa the pyne.
Thare wis thou merkit, cursit Catiline,
hingin out-owre a schorin[214] heuch or brae,
and trimmlin for the fearfu dreid and wae,
tae see the furious grisly sisters' faces,
that wi thair scourges wickit people chases.
The richtwise fowks that leivit devotely,

---

210 begaryit: decoratit in a variety o colours

211 withhaudin: keepin in possession

212 gissarn: pike

213 glaves: swords

214 schorin: threitenin

frae thaim war pairtit in a place faur bye,
and the wyce man, censorious Cato,
giein thair just rewardis til aa tho.
Midwey betwix the ither stories sere,
the swellin seais feigure o gowd clear
went flowein, but the lipperin wawis white
war poudert fu o faemy froth milk-white;
the dolphin fishes, wrocht o siller schene,
in circle sweepin fast throu fluidis green,
souchin[215] swiftly saut streamis whaur thay fare;
upstraik thair tailis the stour here and thare.

[215] souchin: plooin, furrowin

Chaipter XII

Eneas mervels o the stories sere
wrocht by Vulcanus in his armour clear.

Amid the seas micht be perceivit weill
the weirly shippis wi thair snouts o steel,
the Actian battles, seemin as wha did see
the Munt Leucata staunin by the sea,
for hosts arrayit glowein as the gleid.
O glitterin gowd shane aa the fluid on breid.
On that ae partie,[216] thare micht thou behauld
Caesar August Octavian the bauld,
movin tae battle the Italians;
wi him senators and worthy people Romans,
and gods domestic, whilk Penates hait,
wi aa the gret goddis o mair estate.
Heich in the forestem staun he micht be seen,
frae his blythe brouis brent and aither een
the fire twinklin, and his faither's star
shew frae his helm's tap shinin on far.
The big and stout Agrippa, his frein dear,
his navy led at haun weill by near,
as he that in his help and succours finnds
the prosper favours baith o gods and winds;
whase foreheid shane o a proud sign o weirs,
a croun wi stemmis sic as shippis beirs.
Marcus Antonius comes thaim agains
wi haill suppouel[217] o barbarians,
as noble victor and chief conquerour,
cairryin wi him o Orient the flouer –
diverse airmies and peoples for melée,
frae Pers, Egypt and coasts o the Red Sea;
the pouer aa assembelt in his flote,
a huge rout and multitude, God wot;
the yondermaist people, cleiped Bactrians,
whilk near the east pairt o the warld remains.
Him follaes tae the field, a shame tae say,
his spous Egyptian, Queen Cleopatrae.

---

216 partie: pairt

217 suppouel: assistance

Thay seemit samen rushin aa thegither,
while aa the sea upstouris wi a whidder;[218]
owreweltit[219] wi the bensel o the airs, [220]
fast frae the forestems the fluid swouchs and rairs,
as thay thegither matchit on the deep.
Thou suld hae weenit, wha tharetae teuk keep,
the gret islands, Cyclades, haill uprent,
upo the sea fleetin whaur thay went;
or huge hie hills, concurrin aa at aince,
thegither rush and meet wi ither muntains –
on aither haun wi sae gret force and wecht
the men assails in ship o touer tae fecht.
Thay warp at ither bricht bleezes o fire,
the kennelt lint, and hardis[221] birnin schire;
the kestin darts frae haun tae haun did flee;
slang gads[222] o airn, and stane kest gret plenty.
Neptunus' fields, aa the large fluid,
for new slauchter waux blandit reid o bluid.
Amid the hostis Cleopatra Queen
the routis did assemble tae fecht bedene,
wi tympan sound in guise o her kintrie,
provokin thaim tae move in the melée;
nor yit behaud she nocht the edders twain
behinnd her back, that efter haes her slain.
The monstrous goddis' feigures, o aa kind
that honourit are in Egyp or in Inde,
and eik the barkin statue, Anubis,
agin Neptune, agin Venus, iwis,
and als agin Minerva, porturate stauns
in that bargain, wi wappons in thair hauns.
Amid the field stuid Mars, that felloun sire,
in plate and mail, wuid-brim and fu o ire;
the sorrafu Furies frae the firmament
by the goddis tae tak vengeance war sent;
in went Discord, joyous o that journee,

---

218 whidder: rush

219 owreweltit: thrawn owre

220 bensel o the airs: strainin o the oars

221 hardis: tow

222 gads: rods

wi mantle rent and shorn men micht her see;
wham follaeit Bellona o battell
wi her – kind kizzen – the sherp scourges fell.
Actius Apollo, seein in the sky
o this melée the doutsome victorie,
his bow abuve thair heidis haes he bent,
like for tae shuit his dartis and doun sent;
for dreid o wham aa the Egyptians,
aa thae o Inde, and the Arabians,
and thae o Sabae, turnit back tae flee.
Cleopatra the Queen thare micht thou see
wind sail about, and gang before the wind,
aye mair and mair dreidin pursuit behinnd,
skailin sheets, and haudin room at large,
wi purpour sail abuve her pentit barge.
The michty God o Fire her wrocht and made
fu pale o hue, sorrafu and nocht glaid,
in sign tae come o her smert hasty deid,
amangs deid corpses new o slauchter reid;
and, wi the wast wind and the wawis haw,
frawart the fluid o Nile owre streamis blaw;
whilk Nilus river murnin for thair decease,
his large skirt on breid spreid thaim tae please,
wi aa his habit opent thaim tae caa,
as tho him list receive the vanquished aa
within his wattry bosom, large and rude,
and hide in secret conduit o his fluid.

Within the wallis syne o Rome's ceitie,
Caesar, received wi triumphs three,
thou micht behaud, thare offerin on his guise
til Ital gods immortal sacrifice.
Owre aa the ceity, in maist singular joy,
the blissfu feast thay makken, man and boy;
sae that three hunner ryal temples ding
o riot, rippet,[223] and o revelling
ringis, and o the mirthfu sportis sere
the streetis sounden on solacious[224] manneir.
At every sanctuary and altar upstent,
in carollin the lusty leddies went.

---

223 rippet: houlie

224 solacious: giein solace

Before the altars eik, in circle round,
the brittent beastis strewit aa the ground.
Caesar himsel, seizit[225] in saet ryal,
within the snaw-white stately marble wall
o God Phoebus' temple, thare as he sat
vizzyin the people's giftis, this and that,
and on the proud pillars, in taikenin
o his triumph, made thare be up hing.
The people by him vanquished micht thou knaw
before him passin per order, aa on raw,
in langsome tryne;[226] and hou feil kindis sere
o tungis and o langage men micht hear,
as mony diverse habits wore thay strange;
as feil sortis o armours did thay change.
Vulcanus here the beltless Numidians,
and thae fowkis that in Afric remains,
haed graven weill; and yonder porturate wis
the Lelegans, and the people Caras,
and Gelones, thae people o Scythia,
in archery the whilk are wunner thra.[227]
The meikle fluid Euphrates fast by,
wi stream nou seemit flowe mair soberly;
the Morin people eik, fast by the sea,
o men repute the last extremity;
the forkit fluid o Rhine eik pentit was,
and the undauntit Danes thare did pass;
the fluid Arax o Armenie alsae,
haein disdain a brig owre it suld gae.

Eneas, o his mither's gift wunnering,
owre aa Vulcanus' shield sae mony a sing
wrocht on sic wise, nocht knawin the maiteir,
tae see the feigures o thir stories sere
rejoicit waux, and syne deliverlie
upo his shouther hintis up in hy
the famous honour, and hie renowné,
or glorious gests o his posterity.

---

225 seizit: placed in possession

226 tryne: procession

227 thra: thrawn