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*THOMAS SYDNEY
WALKER*

A TREATYSE OF FYSSHYNGE
WYTH AN ANGLE BY DAME
JULIANA BERNERS

¶ HERE BEGYNNYTH THE TREATYSE



OF FYSSHYNGE WYTH AN ANGLE

SALAMON IN HIS PARABLYS
sayth that a good spyryte makyth a
flourynge aege, that is a fayre aege &
a longe. And syth it is soo: I aske this
questyon, whiche ben the meanes & the causes
that enduce a man in to a mery spyryte: Truly
to my beste dyscrecion it semeth good dys-
portes & honest gamys in whom a man loyeth
without ony repentannce after. Thenne folow-
yth it that gode dysportes and honest games
ben cause of mannys fayr aege and longe life.
And therefore now woll I chose of foure good
disportes & honeste gamys, that is to wyte; of
huntynge: hawkynge: fyshynge: & foulynge.
The beste to my symple dyscrecion whyche is
fysshynge: callyd Anglynge wyth a rodde: &
a lyne and an hoke. And therof to treate as my
symple wytte may suffyce: both for the sayd
reason of Salamon and also for the reason that
phisyk makyth in this wyse. ¶ Si tibi deficient
medici medici tibi fiant: hec tria mens leta labor
et moderata dieta. ¶ Ye shall understonde that
this is for to saye, Yf a man lacke leche or med-

icyne he shall make thre thynges his leche and medycyne : & he shall nede neuer no moo. The fyrste of theym is a mery thought. The seconde is labour not outrageous. The thyrde is dyete mesurable. Fyrste that yf a man wyll euer more be in mery thoughtes and haue a gladde spyryte : he must eschewe all contraryous company and all places of debate where he myghte haue ony occasyons of malencoly. And yf he wolle haue a labour not outrageous he must thenne ordeyne him to his hertys ease and pleasaunce wythout studye pensyfnesse or traueyle a mery occupacyon whyche maye rejoyce his herte : & in whyche his spyrytes may haue a mery delyte. And yf he wolle be dyetyd mesurably he must eschewe all places of ryotte whyche is cause of surfette and of syknesse. And he must drawe him to places of swete ayre & hungry : And ete nourishable meetes and dyffyable also.

NOW THENNE wolle I dyscryue the sayd dysportes & gamys to fynde the beste of theym as veryly as I can, alle be it that the ryght noble & full worthy prynce the

duke of Yorke late callid mayster of game hath
discryued the myrthes of huntynge lyke as I
thynke to dyscryue of it and of alle the other.
For huntynge as to myn entent is to laboryous,
for the hunter must alwaye renne & folowe his
houndes: traueyllynge and swetyng full sore.
He blowyth tyll his lyppes blyster. And whan
he wenyth it be an hare full oft it is an hegge
hogge. Thus he chafyth & wote not what. He
comyth home at euyn rayn beten pryckyd: & his
clothes torne wete shode all myry Some hounde
loste: some surbat. Suche greues & many other
hapyth unto the hunter, whyche for display-
saunce of theym that loue it I dare not reporte.
Thus trulyme semyth that this is not the beste
dysporte & game of the sayd foure. The dys-
porte and game of hawkyng is laboryous and
noyouse also as me semyth. For often the fawke-
ner leseth his hawkes as the hunter his houndes.
Thenne is his game & his dysporte goon. Full
often cryeth he and whystelyth tyll that he be
ryght euyll a thurste. His hawke taketh a bowe
& lyste not ones on hym rewarde. whan he wold

haue her for to flee : thenne woll she bathe. with
mys fedynge she shall haue the Fronse: the Rye:
the Cray & many other syknesses that brynge
theym to the Sowse. Thus by prouff this is not
the beste dysporte & game of the sayd foure.
The dysporte and game of fowlynge me semyth
moost symple. For in the wynter season the fow-
ler spedyth not but in the moost hardest and
coldest weder : whyche is greuous. For whan he
wolde goo to his gynnes he maye not for colde.
Many a gynne & many a snare he makyth. Yet
soryly dooth he fare. At morn tyde in the dewe
he is weete shode unto his taylle. Many other
suche I cowde tell : but drede of magre makith
me for to leue. Thus me semyth that huntynge
and hawkyng & also fowlyng ben so labor-
ous and greuous that none of theym maye per-
fourme nor bi very meane that enduce a man to a
mery spyryte : whyche is cause of his longe lyfe
acordynge unto the sayd parable of Salamon.
¶ Dowteles thene folowyth it that it must nedes
be the dysporte of fysshynge with an angle. For
all other manere of fysshynge is also laborous

& greuous: often makynge folkes full wete and colde, whyche many tymes hath be seen cause of grete Infirmytees. But the angler maye haue no colde nor no dysease nor angre, but yf he be causer hymself. For he maye not lese at the moost but a lyne or an hoke: of whyche he may haue store plentee of his owne makynge, as this symple treatyse shall teche hym. So thenne his losse is not greuous. & other greysses may be not haue, sauynge but yf ony fische breke away after that he is take on the hoke, or elles that he catche nought: whyche ben not greuous. For yf he faylle of one he maye not faylle of a nother, yf he dooth as this treatyse techyth; but yf there be nought in the water. And yet atte the leest he hath his holsom walke and mery at his ease. a swete ayre of the swete sauoure of the meede floures: that makyth him hungry. He hereth the melodyous armony of fowles. He seeth the yonge swannes: heerons: duckes: cotes & many other foules wyth theyr brodes: whyche me semyth better than alle the noyse of honndys: the blastes of hornys and the scribe

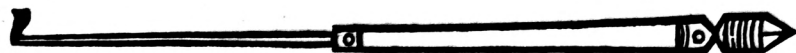
of foulis that hunters : fawkeners & foulers can make. And yf the angler take fysshe : surely thenne is there noo man merier than he is in his spyryte. ¶ Also who soo woll use the game of anglynge : he must ryse erly, whiche thyng is prouffitable to man in this wyse, That is to wyte : moost to the heele of his soule. For it shall cause hym to be holy. and to the heele of his body, For it shall cause him to be hole. Also to the encrease of his goodys. For it shall make hym ryche. As the olde englysshe prouerbe sayth in this wyse. ¶ who soo woll ryse erly shall be holy helthy and zely. ¶ Thus haue I prouyd in myn entent that the dysporte & game of anglynge is the very meane & cause that enducith a man in to a mery spyryte : Whyche after the sayd parable of Salomon and the sayd doctryne of phisyk makyth a flouryng aeye & a longe. And therefore to al you that ben vertuous : gentyll : & free borne I wryte & make this symple treatyse folowyng : by whyche ye may haue the full crafte of anglynge to dysport you at your luste : to the entent that your aeye maye

the more floure and the more lenger to endure.

YF ye woll be crafty in anglynge: ye must fyrste lerne to make your barnays, That is to wyte your rodde: your lynes of dyuers colours. After that ye must know how ye shall angle in what place of the water: how depe: & what time of day. For what manere of fysshe: in what wedyr How many impedymentes there ben in fysshynge that is callyd anglynge And in specyall wyth what baytys to euery dyuers fysshe in eche moneth of the yere. How ye shall make your baytes brede where ye shall fynde them: & how ye shall kepe theym. And for the moost crafty thyng how ye shall make youre hokes of stele and of osmonde, Some for the dubbe: and some for the flote; & the grounde. as ye shall here after al thyse fynde expressed openly unto your knowlege. ¶ And how ye shall make your rodde craftly here I shall teche you. Ye shall kytte betwene Myghelmas & Candylmas a fayr staffe of a fadom & an halfe longe: & arme grete of hasyll: wylowe: or aspe. And bethe hym in an hote ouyn: and sette him euyn.

Thenne lete him cole and drye a moneth. Take thenne and frette hym faste wyth a cockeshote corde: and bynde him to a fourme or an euyn square grete tree. Take thenne a plummers wire that is euyn and streyte and sharpe at the one end. And hete the sharpe ende in a charcole fyre tyll it be whyte: & brenne the staffe ther wyth thorough: euer streyte in the pythe at both endes tyll they mete. And after that brenne hym in the nether ende wyth a byrde broche, & wyth other broches eche gretter than other. and euer the grettest the laste: so that ye make your hole aye tapre wexe. Thenne lete hym lye styll and kele two dayes. Unfrette hym thenne and lete hym drye in an hous roof in the smoke tyll he be thugh drye. ¶ In the same season take a fayr yerde of grene hasyll and beth hym euyn and streyghte. and lete it drye with the staffe. And whan they ben drye make the yerde mete unto the hole in the staffe: unto halfe the length of the staffe. And to perfourme that other halfe of the croppe. Take a fayr shote of blacke thorne: crabbe tree: medeler. or of Ienypre

kytte in the same season: & well bethyd and streyghte. And frette them togyder fetely: soo that the crophe maye justly entre all in to the sayd hole. Thenne shaue your staffe and make hym tapre wexe. Thenne vyrell the staffe at bothe endes wyth longe hopis of yron or laton in the clenest wise wyth a pyke in the nether ende fastnyd with a rennyng vye: to take in and oute your crophe. Thenne set your crophe an handfull within the ouer ende of your staffe in suche wise that it be as bigge there as in any other place aboue. Thenne arme your crophe at thouer ende downe to the frette wyth a lyne of vi. heeres. And dubbe the lyne & frette it fast in the toppe wyth a bowe to fasten on your lyne. And thus shall ye make you a rodde soo preuy that ye maye walke therwyth: and there shall noo man wyte where abowte ye goo. It woll be lyghte and full nymbyll to fysshe wyth at your luste. And for the more redynesse loo here a fygyre therof in example.



AFTER that ye haue made thus your rodde: ye must lerne to coloure your lynes of here in this wyse. Fyrste ye must take of a whyte horse taylle the lengest heere & fayrest that ye can fynde. And ever the rounder it be the better it is. Departe it in to vi. partes: and euery parte ye shal colour by hymselfe in dyuers colours. As yelow: grene: browne: tawney: russet. & duske colours. And for to make a good grene colour on your heer ye shall doo thus. ¶ Take smalle ale a quarte & put it in a lytyll panne and put thereto halfe a pounce of alym. And put thereto your heer: and lete it boylle softly half an houre. Thenne take out your heer and lete it drye. Thenne take a potell of water & put it in a panne. And put therein two handfull of ooldys or of wyxen. And presse it with a tyle stone: and lete it boylle softly half an houre. And whan it is yelow on the scume put therein your heer wyth halfe a pounce of coporose betyn in powdre and lete it boylle half a myle waye: and thenne sette it downe: and lete it kele fyve or syxe houres. Then take out the

beer and drye it. And it is thenne the fynest grene that is for the water. And ever the more ye put therto of coporose the better it is. or elles in stede of it vertgrees. ¶ A nother wyse ye maye make more bryghter grene, as thus. Lete woode your heer in an woodefatte a lyght plunket colour. And thenne sethe hym in olde or wyxin lyke as I have sayd : sauynge ye shall not put therto neyther coporose ne vertgrees. ¶ For to make your heer yelow dyght it wyth alym as I haue sayd before. And after that wyth oldys or wyxin wythout coporose or vertgrees. ¶ A nother yelow ye shal make thus. Take smalle ale a potell : & stampe thre handful of walnot leues & put togider : And put in your heer tyll that it be as depe as ye woll haue it. ¶ For to make russet heer. Take stronge lye a pynt and halfe a pounce of sote & a lytyll juce of walnot leuys and a quarte of alym : & put theym alle togyder in a panne and boylle theym well. And whan it is colde put in youre heer tyll it be as derke as ye woll haue it. ¶ For to make a browne colour. Take a pounce of sote & a quarte of ale : and

seth it wyth as many walnut leuys as ye maye. And whan they wexe blacke sette it from the fire. And put therin your heer and lete it lye styll tyll it be as browne as ye woll haue it.

¶ For to make a nother browne. Take strong ale & sote and tempre them togyder, and put therin your heer two dayes & two nyghtes and it shall be ryght a good colour. ¶ For to make a tawney coloure. Take lyme and water and put theym togyder: and also put your heer therin foure or fyue houres. Thenne take it out & put it in a Tanners ose a day: and it shall be also fyne a tawney colour as nedyth to our purpoos.

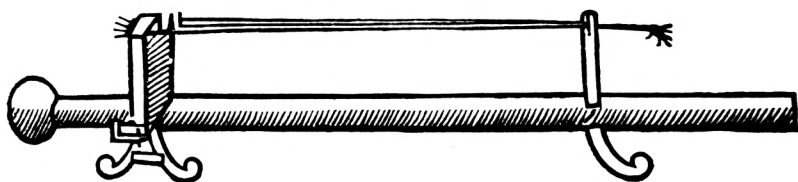
¶ The syxte parte of your heer ye shall kepe styll whyte for lynes for the dubbyd hoke to fysshe for the trougt and graylynge: and for smalle lynes for to rye for the roche & the darse.

WHAN your heer is thus colourid: ye must knowe for whiche waters & for whyche seasons they shall serue. ¶ The grene colour in all clere water from Apryll tyll Septembre. ¶ The yelowc coloure in euery clere water from Septembre tyll Novembre: For it is

lyke ye wedys and other manere grasse whiche growyth in the waters & ryuers whan they ben broken. ¶ The russet colour seruyth all the wynter unto the ende of Apryll. as well in ryuers as in poles or lakys. ¶ The browne colour seruyth for that water that is blacke dedisse in ryuers or in other waters. ¶ The tawney colour for those waters that ben hethy or morysshe.

NOW must ye make youre lynes in this wyse. Fyrste loke that ye haue an Instrument lyke unto this fygyre portrayed folowynge. Thenne take your heer and kytte of the smalle ende an hondfull large or more, For it is neyther stronge nor yet sure. Thenne torne the toppe to the taylle eueryche ylyke moche. And departe it in to thre partyes. Thenne knytte euery parte at the one ende by hymself. And at the other ende knytte all thre togyder : & put the same ende in that other ende of your Instrument that hath but one clyft. And sette that other ende faste wyth the wegge foure fyngers in alle shorter than your heer. Thenne twyne euery warpe one waye & ylyke moche : & fasten

theym in thre clystes ylyke streyghte. Take thenne out that other ende and twyne it that waye that it woll desyre ynough. Thenne streyne it a lytyll: and knytte it for undoyng: & that is good. And for to knowe to make your Instrument: loo here it is in fygure. And it shall be made of tree sauynge the bolte underneath: which shall be of yren.

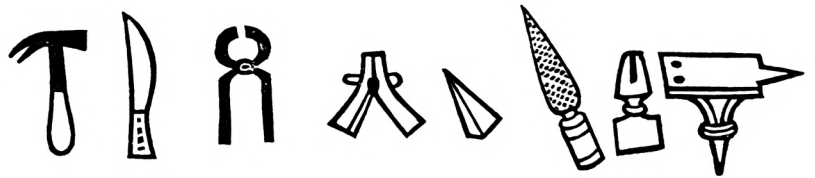


WHAN ye haue as many of the lynkys as ye suppose wol suffyse for the length of a lyne: thenne must ye knytte theym togyder wyth a water knotte or elles a duchys knotte. And whan your knotte is knytte: kytte of the voyde shorte endes a strawe brede for the knotte. Thus shal ye make youre lynes fayr & fyne: & also ryght sure for ony manere fysshe. ¶ And by cause that ye sholde knowe bothe the water knotte and also the duchys knotte: loo theym here in fygure caste unto the lyknesse of the draughte.

YE SHALL understonde that the moost subtyll & hardyste crafte in makynge of your barnays is for to make your hokis. For whoos makynge ye must haue fete fyles, thynn and sharpe and smalle beten: A semy clamp of yren: a bender: a payr of longe and smalle tongys: an harde knyfe somdeale thicke: an anuelde: & a lytyll hamour. ¶ And for smalle fysshe ye shall make your hokes of the smalest quarell nedlys that ye can fynde of stele, & in this wyse. ¶ Ye shall put the quarell in a redde charkcole fyre tyll that it be of the same colour that the fyre is. Thenne take hym out and lete hym kele: & ye shal fynde him well alayd for to fyle. Thenne reyse the berde with your knyfe & make the poynt sharpe. Thenne alaye hym agayn: for elles he woll breke in the bendyng. Thenne bende hym lyke to the bende fygyryd hereafter in example. And greeter hokes ye shall make in the same wyse of gretter nedles: as broderers nedlis: or taylers: or shomakers nedlis spere poyntes & . . . of shomakers nalles in especyall the beste for grete fysshe.

and that they bende atte the poynt whan they
ben assayed, for elles they ben not good.
¶ Whan the hoke is bendyd bete the hynder
ende abroad: & fyle it smothe for fretynge of
thy lyne. Thenne put it in the fyre agayn: and
yeue it an easy redde hete. Thenne sodaynly
quenche it in water: and it woll be harde and
stronge. And for to haue knowlege of your Inst-
rumentes: lo theym here in fygure portrayd.

¶ Hamour. Knyfe. Pynsons. Clampe.



Wegge. Fyle. Wreste. & Anuelde.

WHAN ye haue made thus your hokis:
thenne must ye set theym on your
lynes acordynge in gretnesse & strength in this
wyse. ¶ Ye shall take smalle redde silke. & yf
it be for a grete hoke, thenne double it: not
twynynd. And elles for smale hokys lete it be
syngle: and therwyth frette thycke the lyne

there as the one ende of your hoke shal sytte a strawe brede. Thenne sette there your hoke: and frette hym with the same threde that two partes of the lengthe that shall be frette in all. And whan ye come to the thyrde parte thenne torne the ende of your lyne agayn upon the frette dowble. & frette it so dowble that other thyrde parte. Thenne put your threde in at the hose twys or thries & lete it goo at eche tyme rounde abowte the yerde of your hoke. Thenne wete the hose and drawe it tyll that it be faste. And loke that your lyne lye euermore wythin your hokys: and not without. Thenne kytte of the lynys ende and the threde as nyghe as ye maye: sauynge the frette.

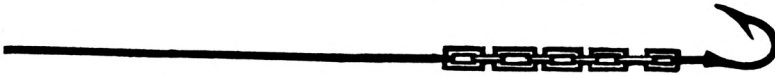
NOW ye knowe wyth how grete hokys ye shall angle to euery fysshe: now I woll tell you wyth how many heeres ye shall to euery manere of fissue. ¶ For the menow wyth a lyne of one heere. For the waxyng roche: the bleke and the gogyn & the ruffe wyth a lyne of two heeris. For the darse and the grete roche wyth a lyne of thre heeres. For the perche: the floun-

der & bremet with foure heeres. For the cheuen chubbe : the breme : the tenche & the ele wyth vi. heeres. For the troughte : graylynge : barbyll and the grete cheuyn wyth ix. heeres. For the grete troughte wyth xii. heeres : For the samon wyth xv. heeres. And for the pyke wyth a chalke lyne made browne with your browne colour aforsayd : armyd with a wyre. as ye shal here hereafter whan I speke of the pyke. ¶ Your lynes must be plumbid wyth lede. And ye shall wyte that the nexte plumbe unto the hoke shall be therfro a large fote and more, And euery plumbe of a quantyte to the gretnes of the lyne. There be thre manere of plumbis for a grounde lyne rennyng. And for the flote set upon the grounde lyne lyenge x. plumbes joynynge all togider. On the grounde lyne rennyng ix. or x. smalle. The flote plumbe shall be so heuy that the leest plucke of ony fysshe maye pull it downe in to the water. And make your plumbis rounde & smothe that they stycke not on stonys or on wedys. And for the more understandynge lo theym here in fygure.

The grounde lyne rennynge



The grounde lyne lyenge



The flote lyne



The lyne for perche or tenche

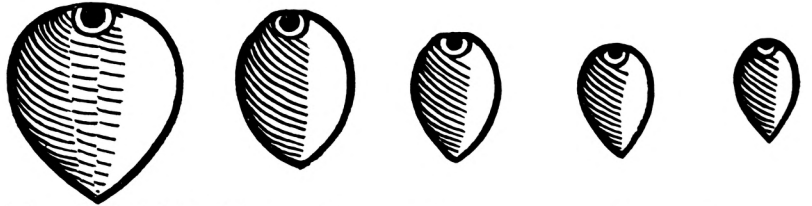


The lyne for a pyke: ¶ Plumbe: Corke
armyd wyth wyre



THENNE shall ye make your flotys in this wyse. Take a fayr corke that is clene without many holes. & bore it thugh wyth a smalle bote yren: And putt therin a penne juste and streyghte. Ever the more flote the gretter penne and the greter hole. Thenne shape it grete in the myddis & smalle at bothe endys. and spe-

cyally sharpe in the nether ende, and lyke unto the fygyres followynge. And make theym smothe on a gryndyng stone : or on a tyle stone. ¶ And loke that the flote for one heer be no more than a pese. For two heeres : as a beene. for twelue heeres : as a walnot. And soo euery lyne after the proporcion. ¶ All manere lynes that ben not for the grounde must haue flotes. And the rennyng grounde lyne must haue a flote. The lyenge grounde lyne wythout flote.



NOW I haue lernyd you to make all your barnays. Here I woll tell you how ye shall angle. ¶ Ye shall angle : understonde that there is vi. manere of anglyng. That one is at the grounde for the troughte and other fissue. A nother is at the grounde at an arche, or at a stange where it ebbyth and flowyth : for bleke : roche . & darse. The thyrde is wyth a flote for all manere of fysshe. The fourth with a menow

for the troughte wythout plumbe or flote. The
fyfth is rennyng in the same wyse for roche &
darse wyth one or two heeres and a flye. The
syxte is wyth a dubbyd hoke for the troughte
& graylyng. ¶ And for the fyrste and pryncy-
pall poynt in anglyng, kepe it euer fro the water
fro the sighte of the fysshe : other ferre on the
londe ; or ellys behynde a busshe that the fysshe
se you not. For yf they doo they woll not bite.
¶ Also loke that ye shadow not the water as
moche as ye may. For it is that thyng that woll
soone fraye the fysshe. And yf a fysshe be
afrayed he woll not bite longe after. For alle
manere fysshe that fede by the grounde ye shall
angle for theim to the botom. soo that your
hokys shall renne or lye on the grounde. And
for alle other fysshe that fede aboue ye shall
angle to theym in the myddes of the water or
somedeaile aboue. For ever the gretter fisshe the
nerer he lyeth the botom of the water. And euer
the smaller fysshe the more he swymmyth
aboue. ¶ The thyrde good poynt is whan the
fysshe bytyth that ye be not to hasty to smyte

nor to late, For ye must abide tyll ye suppose that the bayte be ferre in the mouth of the fysshe and thenne abyde noo longer. And this is for the grounde. ¶ And for the flote whan ye se it pullyd softly under the water : or elles caryed upon the water softly : thenne smyte. And loke that ye neuer ouersmyte the strengthe of your lyne for brekyng. ¶ And yf it fortune you to smyte a grete fysshe with a small barnays, thenne ye must lede hym in the water & labour him there tyll he be drownyd and ouercome. Thenne take hym as well as ye can or maye. And euer be waar that ye holde not ouer the strengthe of your lyne. And as moche as ye may lete hym not come out of your lynes ende streyghte from you : But kepe hym euer under the rodde, and euermore holde hym streyghte: soo that your lyne may susteyne and beere his lepys and his plungys wyth the helpe of your cropp : & of your honde.

HERE I woll declare unto you in what place of the water ye shall angle. Ye shall angle in a pole or in a stondinge water in euery place where it is ony thyng depe. There is not

grete choyse of ony places where it is ony
thyng depe in a pole. For it is but a pryson to
fyshe. & they lyve for the more parte in hun-
gre lyke prisoners: and therfore it is the lesse
maystry to take theym. But in a ryuer ye shall
angle in euery place where it is depe and clere
by the grounde: as grauell or claye wythout
mudde or wedys. And in especyall yf that there
be a manere whyrlyng of water or a couert.
As an holow banke: or grete rotys of trees: or
longe wedys fletyng aboue in the water where
the fysshe maye couere and hyde theymsel at
certayn tymes whan they lyst. Also it is good
for to angle in depe styffe stremys, and also in
fallys of waters & weares, and in flood gatys
and mylle pyttes. And it is good for to angle
where as the water restyth by the banke: and
where the streame rennyth nyghe there by: and
is depe & clere by the grounde and in ony other
placys where ye may se ony fyssh houe or haue
ony fedyng.

NOW ye shall wyte what tyme of the daye
ye shall angle. ¶ From the begynnyng
of May untill it be Septembre the bytyng tyme

is erly by the morowe from foure of the clocke unto eyghte of the clocke. And at after none from foure of the clocke unto eyghte of the clocke: but not soo good as in the mornynge. And yf it be a colde whystelyng wynde and a derke lowrynge daye. For a derke daye is moche better to angle in than a clere daye. ¶ From the begynnyng of Septembre unto the ende of Apryll spare noo tyme of the daye:

¶ Also many pole fysshes woll byte beste in the none tyde.

¶ And yf ye se ony tyme of the daye the troughe or graylynge lepe: angle to hym wyth a dubbe acordynge to the same month And where the water ebbyth and flowyth the fysshe woll byte in some place at the ebbe: & in some place at the flood. After that they haue restynge behynde stangnys & archys of brydgys & other suche manere places.

HERE ye shall wyte in what weder ye shall angle. as I sayd before in a derke lowrynge daye whanne the wynde blowyth softly. And in somer season whan it is brenn-

ynge hote thenne it is nought. ¶ From Septembre unto Apryll in a fayr sonny daye is ryght good to angle. And yf the wynde in that season haue ony parte of the Oryent: the wedyr thenne is nought. And whan it is a grete wynde. And whan it snowith reynyth or hayllyth. or is a grete tempeste, as thondyr, or lightenyng: or a swoly hote weder: thenne it is noughte for to angle.

NOW shall ye wyte that there ben twelue manere of ympedymentes whyche cause a man to take noo fysshe. with out other comyn that maye casuelly happe. The fyrst is yf your barnays be not mete nor fetly made. The seconde is yf your baytes be not good nor fyne. The thyrde is yf that ye angle not in bytyng tyme. The fourth is yf that the fysshe be frayed with the syghte of a man. The fyfth yf the water be very thycke: whyte or redde of ony floode late fallen. The syxte yf the fysshe styre not for colde. The seuenth yf that the wedyr be hote. The eyght yf it rayne. The nynthe if it hayll or snow falle. The tenth is yf it be a tem-

peste. The enleuenth is yf it be a grete wynde. The twelfyfth yf the wynde be in the Eest, and that is worste For comynly neyther wynter nor somer the fysshe woll not byte thenne. The weste and northe wyndes ben good but the south is beste.

AND now I haue tolde you how to make your barnays: and how ye shall fysshe therwyth in al poyntes. Reason woll that ye knowe wyth what baytes ye shall angle to euery moneth of the yere, whyche is all the effecte of the crafte. And wythout whyche baytes knownen well by you all your other crafte here toforn auayllyth you not to purpose. For ye can not brynge an hoke in to a fyssh mouth wythout a bayte. Whiche baytes for euery manere of fyssh and for euery moneth here folowyth in this wyse.

FOR by cause that the Samon is the moost statefully fyssh that ony man maye angle to in fresh water. Therefore I purpose to begynn at hym. ¶ The samon is a gentyll fysshe: but he is comborous for to take. For comynly he is

but in depe places of grete ryuers. And for the more parte he holdyth the myddys of it: that a man maye not come at hym. And he is in season from Marche unto Myghelmas. ¶ In whyche season ye shall angle to hym wyth thyse baytes whan ye maye gete theym. Fyrste wyth a redde worme in the begynnyng & endyng of the season. And also wyth a bobbe that bredyth in a dunghyll & specyally with a souerayn bayte that bredyth on a water docke. ¶ And he bytith not at the grounde: but at the flore. Also ye may take hym: but it is seldom seen with a dubbe at suche tyme as whan he lepyth in lyke fourme and manere as ye doo take a troughte or a gryalyng. And thyse baytes ben well prouyd baytes for the samon.

THE troughte for by cause he is a right deyntous fyssh and also a right feruente byter we shall speke nexte of hym. He is in season from Marche unto Myghelmas. He is on clene grauely grounde and in a streame. Ye may angle to hym all tymes wyth a grounde lyne lyenge or rennyng: sauynge in lepyng tyme. &

thenne with a dubbe. And erly wyth a rennyng
grounde lyne. & forth in the daye wyth a flote
lyne. ¶ Ye shall angle to hym in Marche wyth
a menew hangyd on your hoke by the nether
nesse wythout flote or plumbe: drawynge up
& downe in the streame tyll ye fele hym faste.
¶ In the same tyme angle to hym with a grounde
lyne with a redde worme for the moost sure.
¶ In Aprill take the same baytes: & also Inneba
other wyse namyd vii. eyes. Also the canker
that bredyth in a grete tree & the redde snayll.
¶ In May take the stone flye & the bobbe under
the cowe torde and the sylke worme: and the
bayte that bredyth on a ferne leyf. In Iuyn take
a redde worme & nyppe of the heed: & put on
thyn hoke a codworme byforn. ¶ In Iuyll take
the grete redde worme & the codworme togy-
der. ¶ In August take a flesshe flye & the grete
redde worme and the fatte of the bakon: and
bynde abowte thy hoke. ¶ In Septembre take
the redde worme & the menew. ¶ In Octobre
take the same: for they ben specyall for the
trought all tymes of the yere. From Aprill tyll

Septembre the trough lepyth. thenne angle to hym with a dubbyd hoke accordynge to the moneth, whych dubbyd hokys ye shall fynde in thende of this treatyse: and the monethys wyth them.

THE grayllynge by a nother name callyd umbre is a delycyous fysshe to mannys mouthe. And ye maye take hym lyke as ye doo the trougt. And thyse ben his baytes. ¶ In Marche and in Apryll the redde worme. ¶ In May the grene worme: a lytyll breyled worme: the docke canker. and the hawthorn worme. ¶ In Iune the bayte that bredyth betwene the tree and the barke of an oke. ¶ In Iuyll a bayte that bredyth on a ferne leyf: & the grete redde worme. And nyppe of the hede: and put on your hoke a codworme before. ¶ In August the redde worme: and a docke worme. And al the yere after a redde worme.

THE barbyll is a swete fysshe, but it is a quasy meete and a peryllous for mannys body. For comynly he yeuyth an introduccion to the Febres. And yf he be eten rawe: he maye be

cause of mannys dethe: whyche hath oft be
seen. Thyse be his baytes. ¶ In Marche and in
Apryll take fayr fresshe chese: and lay it on a
borde & kytte it in small square pecys of the
lengthe of your hoke. Take thenne a candyl &
brenne it on the ende at the poynt of your hoke
tyll it be yelow. And thenne bynde it on your
hoke with fletchers sylke: and make it rough
lyke a welbede. This bayte is good all the som-
er season. ¶ In May & Iune take the hawthorne
worme and the grete redde worme. and nyppe
of the heed. And put on your hoke a codworme
before. and that is a good bayte. In Iuyll take
the redde worme for cheyf & the hawthorne
worme togyd. Also the water docke leyf worme
and the hornet worme togyder. ¶ In August
& for all the yere take the talowe of a shepe &
softe chese of eche ylyke moche: and a lytyll
hony & grynde or stampe theym togyd longe.
and tempre it tyll it be tough. And put therto
floure a lytyll and make it on smalle pellettys.
And it is a good bayte to angle wyth at
the grounde And loke that it synke in the

water. or ellys it is not good to this purpoos.

THE carpe is a deyntous fysshe: but there ben but fewe in Englonde. And therfore I wryte the lasse of hym. He is an euyll fysshe to take. For he is soo stronge enarmyd in the mouthe that there maye noo weke harnays holde hym. And as touchynge his baytes I haue but lytyll knowlege of it And me were loth to wryte more than I knowe and haue provyd. But well I wote that the redde worme & the menow been good batrys for hym at all tymes as I haue herde saye of persones credyble & also founde wryten in bokes of credence.

THE cheuyn is a stately fysshe: and his heed is a deyty morsell. There is noo fysshe so strongly enarmyd wyth scalys on the body. And bi cause he is a stronge byter he hathe the more baytes, which ben thyse. ¶ In Marche the redde worme at the grounde: For comynly thenne he woll byte there at all tymes of the yere yf he be ony thinge hungry. ¶ In Apryll the dyche canker that bredith in the tree. A worme that bredith betwene the rynde

and the tree of an oke. The redde worme : and the yonge frosshys whan the fete ben kyt of. Also the stone flye the bobbe under the cowe torde : the redde snaylle. ¶ In May the bayte that bredyth on the osyer leyf and the docke canker togyder upon your hoke. Also a bayte that bredyth on a fern leyf, the codworme and a bayte that bredyth on an hawthorn. And a bayte that bredyth on an oke leyf & a sylke worme & a codworme togyder. ¶ In June take the creket and the dorre and also a red worme : the heed kytte of and a codworme before : and put theym on the hoke. Also a bayte in the osyer leyf : yonge frosshys the three fete kitte of by the body : & the fourth by the knee. The bayte on the hawthorn & the codworme togyder and a grubbe that bredyth in a dunghyll : & a grete greshop. ¶ In Juyl the greshop & the humbylbee in the medow. Also yonge bees and yonge hornettes. Also a grete brended flye that bredith in pathes of medowes and the flye that is amonge pysmeers hyllys. ¶ In August take wortwormes and magotes unto Myghelmas.

¶ In Septembre the redde worme : & also take the baytes whan ye may gete theym : that is to wyte, Cheryes : yonge myce not heryd : and the house combe.

THE breeme is a noble fysshe and a deyn-
tous. And ye shall angle for hym from Marche unto August wyth a redde worme : & thenne wyth a butter flye and a grene flye, and with a bayte that bredyth amonge grene rede : and a bayte that bredyth in the barke of a dede tree. ¶ And for bremettis take maggotes. ¶ And fro that tyme forth all the yere after take the red worme : and in the ryuer browne breede. Moo baytes there ben but they ben not easy & therfore I lete theym passe over.

ATENCHE is a good fyssh, and heelith all manere of other fysshe that ben hurte yf they maye come to hym. He is the most parte of the yere in the mudde. And he styryth moost in June & July : and in other seasons but lytyll. He is an euyll byter. his baytes ben thyse. For all the yere browne breede tostyde wyth hony in lyknesse of a butteryd loof : and the grete

redde worme. And as for cheyf take the blacke blood in the herte of a shepe & floure & hony. And tempre theym all togyder somdeall softer than paast: and anoynt therwyth the redde worme: bothe for this fysshe and for other. And they woll byte moche the better therat at all times.

¶ The perche is a daynteuous fysshe & passyng holson and a free bytyng. This ben his baytes. In Marche the redde worme. In Aprill the bobbe under the cove torde. In Maye the slothorn worme and the codworme. In June the bayte that bredith in an olde fallen oke and the grete canker. In Juyll the bayte that bredyth on the osyer leyf & the bobbe that bredeth on the dung hyll: & the hawthorn worme & the codworme. In August the redde worme and maggotes. All the yere after the red worme as for the beste.

¶ The roche is an easy fysshe to take: And yf he be fatte & pennyd thenne is he good meete. and thyse ben his baytes. In Marche the most redy bayte is the red worme. In Apryll the

bobbe under the cowe torde. In May the bayte that bredyth on the oke leyf and the bobbe in the dunghyll. In June the bayte that bredith on the osyer & the codworme. In Juyll hous flyes, and the bayte that bredith on an oke, and the notworme & mathewes & maggotes tyll Myghelmas. And after that the fatte of bakon.

¶ The dace is a gentyll fysshe to take, & yf it be well refet thenne is it good meete. In Marche his bayte is a redde worme. In Apryll the bobbe under the cowe torde. In May the docke canker and the bayte on the slothorne and on the oken leyf. In June the codworme & the bayte on the osyer & the whyte grubbe in the dunghyll. In Juyll take hous flyes & flyes that brede in pysmer hylles: the codworme and maggotes unto Myghelmas. And yf the water be clere ye shall take fysshe whan other take none. And fro that tyme forth doo as ye do for the roche. For comynly theyr bytynge & theyr baytes ben lyke.

¶ The bleke is but a feble fysshe. yet he is hol-som. His baytes from Marche to Myghelmas be the same that I haue wryten before. For the

roche and darse sauynge all the somer season asmoche as ye maye angle for hym wyth an house flye: and in wynter season wyth bakon and other bayte made as ye herafter may know.

¶ The ruf is ryght an holsom fysshe: And ye shall angle to him wyth the same baytes in al seasons of the yere and in the same wise as I haue tolde you of the perche: for they ben lyke in fysshe and fedinge, sauynge the ruf is lesse. And therfore he must haue the smaller bayte.

¶ The flounder is an holsom fysshe & a free, and a subtyll byter in his manere: For comynly whan he soukyth his meete he fedyth at grounde, and therfore ye must angle to hym wyth a grounde lyne lyenge. And he hath but one manere of bayte, and that is a red worme, which is moost cheyf for all manere of fysshe. ¶ The gogen is a good fysshe of the mochenes: & he byteth wel at the grounde. And his baytes for all the yere ben thyse. the red worme: cod-worme: and maggotes. And ye must angle to him wyth a flote. and lete your bayte be nere the botom or ellis on the grounde.

¶ The menow whan he shynith in the water thenne is he bytter. And though his body be lytyll yet he is a rauenous biter & an egre. And ye shall angle to hym wyth the same baytes that ye doo for the gogyn: sauynge they must be smalle.

¶ The ele is a quasy fysshe a rauenour and a devourer of the brode of fysshe. And for the pyke also is a deuourer of fysshe I put them bothe behynde all other to angle. For this ele ye shall fynde an hole in the grounde of the water. And it is blewe blackysshe there put in youre hoke tyll that it be a fote wythin the hole. And your bayte shall be a grete angyll twytch or a menow.

¶ The pyke is a good fysshe: but for he deuouryth so many as well of his owne kynde as of other: I loue hym the lesse. And for to take hym ye shall doo thus. Take a codlynge hoke: and take a roche or a fresshe heering & a wyre wyth an hole in the ende: and put it in at the mouth & out at the taylle downe by the ridge of the fresshe heeryng. Thenne put a plumbe

of lede upon your lyne a yerde longe from youre hoke & a flote in mydwaye betwene: and caste it in a pytte where the pyke usyth. And this is the beste & moost surest crafte of takynge the pyke. ¶ Another manere takynge of hym there is. Take a frosshe and put it on your hoke at the necke bytwene the skynne and the body on the backe half: & put on a flote a yerde therfro: & caste it where the pyke hauntyth & ye shall haue hym. ¶ Another manere. Take the same bayte & put it in Asa fetida and cast it in the water wyth a corde & a corke: and ye shall not fayll of hym. And yf ye lyst to haue a good sporte: thenne tye the corde to a gose fore: & ye shall se god halyng whether the gose or the pyke shall haue the better.

NOW YE wote with what baytes & how ye shall angle to euery manere fysshe. Now I woll tell you how ye shall kepe and fede your quicke baytes. Ye shall fede & kepe them all in generall: but euery manere by hymself wyth suche thyng, in & on whiche they brede. And as longe as they ben quicke & newe they

ben fyne. But whan they ben in a slough or elles deed thenne ben they nought. Oute of thyse ben excepted thre brodes: That is to wyte of hornettys: humbylbees, & waspys. whom ye shall bake in breede & after dyppe theyr heedes in blode and lete them drye. Also excepte maggotes: whyche whan thei ben bredde grete wyth theyr naturell fedynge: ye shall fede theym furthermore wyth shepes talow and wyth a cake made of floure and hony. Thenne woll they be more grete. And when ye haue clensyd theym wyth sonde in a bagge of blanket kepte hote under your gowne or other warme thyng two houres or thre. thenne ben they beste & redy to angle wyth. And of the frosshe kytte the legge by the knee. of the grasshop the leggys and wynges by the body.

¶ Thyse ben baytes made to laste all the yere. Fyrste been floure and lene flesshe of the hepis of a cony or of a catte: virgyn waxe & shepys talowe: & braye theym in a morter: And thenne tempre it at the fyre wyth a lytyll purifyed hony: & soo make it up in lytyll ballys & bayte ther-

wyth your hokys after theyr quantyte. and this is a good bayte for all manere fresshe fysshe. ¶ A nother. take the sewet of a shepe & chese in lyke quantyte: & braye theim togider longe in a mortere: And take thenne floure & tempre it therwyth. and after that alaye it wyth hony and make ballys therof. and that is for the barbyll in especyall.

¶ A nother for darse, and roche & bleke. take whete and sethe it well & thenne put it in blood all a daye & a nyghte. and it is a good bayte.

¶ For baytes for grete fysshe kepe specyally this rule. Whan ye haue take a grete fysshe: undo the mawe. and what ye fynde therin make that your bayte: for it is beste.

¶ Thyse ben the xij. flyes wyth whyche ye shall angle to the trought and grayllyng, and dubbe lyke as ye shall now here me tell. ¶ Marche.

THE DONNE flye the body of the donne woll and the wyngis of the pertryche. A nother doone flye. the body of blacke woll: the wynges of the blackyst drake: & the Jay under the wyng and under the tayll. ¶ Apryll.

¶ The stone flye. the body of blacke wull : and yelow under the wynges. & under the tayle & wynges of the drake. In the begynnyng of May a good flye. the body of roddy wull & lappid abowte wyth blacke sylke : the wynges of the drake & of the redde capons hakyll. ¶ May.

¶ The yelow flye. the body of yelow wull : the wynges of the redde cocke hakyll & of the drake lyttyd yelow. The blacke louter. the body of blacke wull & lappyd abowte wyth the herle of the pecok tayll ; and the wynges of the redde capon wyth a blewe heed. ¶ June.

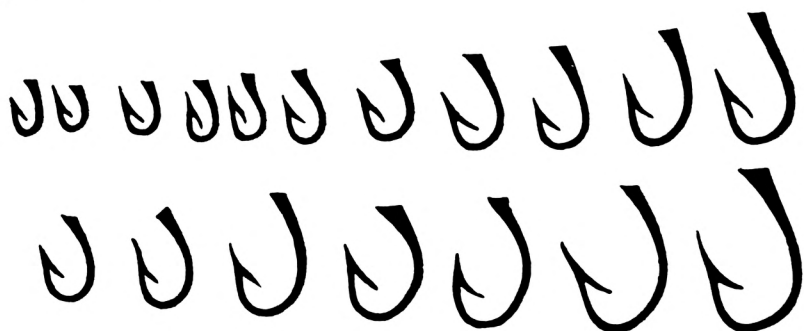
¶ The donne cutte : the body of blacke wull & a yelow lyste after eyther syde : the wynges of the bosarde bounde on with barkyd hembre. The maure flye. the body of doske wull the wynges of the blackest mayle of the wylde drake. The tandy flye at saynt Wylliams daye. the body of tandy wull and the wynges contrary eyther ayenst other of the whitest mayle of the wylde drake. ¶ Juyl.

¶ The waspe flye. the body of blacke wull and lappid abowte wyth yelow threde : the wynges

of the bosarde. The shell flye at saynt Thom-
as daye. the body of grene wull and lappyd
abowte wyth the herle of the pecoks tayll:
wynges of the bosarde. ¶ August.

¶ The drake flye. the body of blacke wull and
lappyd abowte wyth blacke sylke: wynges of
themayle of the blacke drake wyth a blacke heed.

¶ Thyse fygyres are put here in ensample of
your hokes.



¶ Here folowyth the order made to all those
whych shall haue the understondynge of this
forsayd treatyse & use it for theyr pleasures.

YE THAT CAN ANGLE & TAKE
fysshe to your plesures as this forsayd
treatyse techyth and shewyth you: I
charge & requyre you in the name of alle noble
men that ye fysshe not in noo poore mannes
seuerall water: as his ponde: stewe: or other
necessary thynges to kepe fysshe in wythout
his lycence & good wyll. ¶ Nor that ye use not
to breke noo mannys gynnys lyenge in theyr
weares and in other places due unto theym. Ne
to take the fysshe awaye that is taken in theym.
For after a fysshe is taken in a mannys gynne
yf the gynne be layed in the comyn waters: or
elles in suche waters as he hireth, it is his owne
propre goodes. And yf ye take it awaye ye robbe
hym: whyche is a ryght shamfull dede to ony
noble man to do that that theuys & brybours
done: whyche are punysshed for theyr euyll
dedes by the necke and otherwyse whan they
maye be aspyed & taken. And also yf ye doo
in lyke manere as this treatise shewyth you: ye
shal haue no nede to take of other menys: whiles
ye shal haue ynough of your owne takyng yf ye

lyste to labour therfore. whyche shall be to you
a very pleasure to se the fayr bryght shynynge
scalyd fysshes dysceyued by your crafty mean-
es & drawen upon londe. ¶ Also that ye breke
noo mannys heggys in goynge abowte your
dysportes: ne opyn noo mannes gates but that
ye shytte theym agayn. ¶ Also ye shall not use
this forsayd crafty dysporte for no covetysenes
to thencreasyng and sparyng of your money
only, but pryncypally for your solace and to
cause the helthe of your body. & specyally of
your soule. For whanne ye purpoos to goo on
your disportes in fysshynge ye woll not desyre
gretly many persones wyth you. whiche myghte
lette you of your game. And thenne ye maye
serue god deuowtly in sayenge affectuously
youre custumable prayer. And thus doynge ye
shall eschewe & voyde many vices. as ydylnes
whyche is pryncypall cause to enduce man to
many other vices. as it is ryght well knowen.
¶ Also ye shall not be to rauenous in takyng of
your sayd game as to moche at one tyme: whiche
ye maye lyghtly doo yf ye doo in euery poynt

as this present treatyse shewyth you in euery poynt. whyche sholde lyghtly be occasyon to dystroye your owne dysportes & other mennys also. As whan ye haue a suffycient mese ye sholde coueyte nomore as at that tyme. ¶ Also ye shall besye yourselfe to nouryssh the game in all that ye maye: & to dystroye all such thynges as ben deuourers of it. ¶ And all those that done after this rule shall haue the blessinge of god & saynt Petyr, whyche he theym graunte that wyth his precyous blood us boughte.

¶ And for by cause that this present treatyse sholde not come to the hondys of eche ydle persone whyche wolde desire it yf it were em- pryntyd allone by itself & put in a lytyll plaun- flet therfore I haue compylyd it in a greter vol- ume of dyverse bokys concernynge to gentyll & noble men to the entent that the forsayd ydle persones whyche sholde haue but lytyll mesure in the sayd dysporte of fysshynge sholde not by this meane utterly dystroye it.

Here ends The Treatyse of Fysshynge wyth
an Angle, set in type by St John Hornby and
Meysey Turton & printed by the first-named
at the Ashendene Press, Shelley House, Chel-
sea in the year 1903 after the text of the Boke
of St Albans 'enprynted at Westmestre by
Wynkyn the Worde the yere of thyncarnation
of our lorde MCCCClxxxxvi.'

¶ This Edition consists of 150 copies on paper
of which 125 are for sale; and 25 copies on
vellum of which 20 are for sale.



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