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1625

New-England or A Briefe Enarration of the Ayre,
Earth, Water, Fish and Fowles of That Country.
With a Description of the Natures, Orders, Habits,
and Religion of the Natives; in Latine and English
Verse

William Morrell

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New-England or A Briefe
Enarration of the Ayre, Earth,
Water, Fish and Fowles of That
Country. With a Description of
the Natures, Orders, Habits,
and Religion of the Natives;
in Latine and English Verse.

(London, 1625)

By William Morrell



Edited by Andrew Gaudio

This text, a Latin poem in dactylic hexameter with an accompanying English translation in heroic verse stands as the earliest surviving work of poetry about New England and the second oldest poem whose origins can be traced directly to the British American colonies. Only two copies of the original 1625 edition are known to survive; one is held at the Huntington Library in San Marino, California, and the other is housed at the British Museum. The Latin portion comprises 309 lines and praises the geographic features, flora and fauna of New England, and spends a majority of its verses describing the Native Americans with awe and curiosity. The English version contains 366 lines, frequently uses obscure terminology, and departs too drastically from the original to be of any assistance for discerning the Latin. The author is William Morrell, (ca. 1590-after 1626) who received his Bachelors of Arts from Magdalene College, Cambridge in 1615. On May 23 and 24, 1619 Morrell was ordained as a deacon and priest respectively at Peterborough. Several years later in 1623, after receiving a commission by the ecclesiastical court to oversee and administer any churches which were already or might be instituted in the new colonies, Morrell accompanied English navy Captain Robert Gorges to New England, who was tasked with assisting the establishment of the short-lived Wessagusset Colony in present-day Weymouth. The colony was abandoned in the spring of 1624 due to financial difficulties and tensions with the Natives. Robert Gorges served as Governor-General of New

England between 1623 and 1624. Gorges returned to England in 1624, but Morrell remained behind in Plymouth for one year to learn more about New England. These two poems are the fruits of his observations. They were published in 1625 in London by John Dawson. These writings make it clear that Morrell was an able classical scholar. He frequently peppers his English with Latin maxims reminiscent of Virgil and Apuleius and he employs numerous references to classical mythological figures and events.

A Note on the Orthography

In the Early Modern English period, roughly corresponding to 1500-1650, “i” and “j” were not yet considered to be two separate letters, but two different ways to write the same letter. All instances where “j” would be used today would have been written using “i” with one exception: when a Latin word or Roman numeral ended in “ii”, the final “i” was frequently written as a “j”. Thus, Roman numeral ii would be represented as ij, iii as iij, and so on.

Similarly, “v” and “u” were not seen as distinct either. The general practice during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries was that if a word began with a “u” or “v”, the “v” form was always used. If a “u” or “v” was employed in the middle of a word, “u” was used. As such, we find “loue” for “love”, and “vs” for “us”, etc.. Additionally, “w” was oftentimes represented in printed texts as two “v” letters: vv or VV.

The f or long s was frequently employed during the Early Modern English period. This form of the letter “s” was only used in the lower case and could occur anywhere in a word except as its final letter.


In the Latin text, there is oftentimes a semicolon following the letter “q”. This was a common abbreviation used in medieval manuscripts which was preserved in printed texts until the eighteenth century. When a semicolon occurs after a “q” as in “atq;”, the semicolon represents the letters “ue”, rendering “atq;” as “atque”.

The double “s” ligature “ß”, which is still used in German, occurred in English during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. With Morrell however, its use is primarily confined to Latin with only a few instances of it in the English portion, where we find that “ff” is more commonly used.

Andrew Gaudio
Library of Congress
June, 2019

Contents

1625 London edition title page	F
New-England. Or a Briefe Enarration, etc.	G
The Epistle Dedicatorie	i
Understanding Reader	iii
<i>Lectori</i>	iv
Nova Anglia	1
“ <i>New-England</i> fo nam’d ...”	11
“If <i>thou</i> Apollo ...”	12
New-England	13
Postscript	25
Bibliography	27
Notes	28

 New-England.

O R

A B R I E F F E
E N A R R A T I O N
O F T H E A Y R E,
Earth, Water, Fish and
Fowles of that Country.

W I T H

A D E S C R I P T I O N
of the Natures, Orders, Habits,
and Religion of the *Natives*;

I N

Latine and English Verse.

Sat brevè, si sat benè.

L O N D O N,
Imprinted by I. D.
1 6 2 5.

 New-England.

OR

A B R I E F F E
E N A R R A T I O N
O F T H E A Y R E,
Earth, Water, Fish and
Fowles of that Country.

WITH

A D E S C R I P T I O N
of the Natures, Orders, Habits,
and Religion of the *Natives*;

IN

Latine and English Verſe.

Sat brevè, ſi ſat benè.

L O N D O N,
Imprinted by *I. D.*

1 6 2 5.



TO
THE RIGHT
HONOURABLE
THE LORDS, AND THE
Right Worshipfull Knights and
Gentlemen; Adventurers for
NEVV-ENGLAND.



Hat your favourable im-
ployments haue taught me
to obserue, I presume here
briefly to relate I hope it
will be acceptable, because
innocent, though nothing
excellent. *Vera, non mira
cano*, assured that with
your more acurate judgements. *Plus valebit vera
oratio quam carminis candida & maxime compta in
singulos pedes commensuratio*. Censure at the least
would be my best sentence, if I should answer such
service with a *NIHIL DICIT*. When in con-
tempt of Envy, I may present your Councell with

The Epistle Dedicatorie.

an *OMNE BENE*, at least, *Certa spe boni*, if the three noble Mistresses of Monarchies, *Pietas*, *Pecunia*, and *Potentia*, royally vndertake and resolutely continue constant favourers to their well ordered and sweetly scituated *Colonies*. Without these, at least the two latter (I suppose vnder favour) the *Spanyard* and *Hollander* had *ad Græcas callendas* rayfed to such sweet tones their westerne and easterne flourishing Plantations. But *illorum postpono mea serea ludo*. The keys of Kingdomes, judicious Statesmen are best able to open and explicate these closets and secrets of state. I may admire, but scarce without offence obserue such princely attempts and royall secrets. Yet giue me leaue to you worthy favourers of *Colonies*, as in armes and architecture to be your remembrancer, first to accompt, and then to accomplish: so power and abilitie shall crowne your proceedings with happie perfections. Beyond these I presume nothing, onely wishing every person in his severall sphere such happie motion as may crowne him with immortall perfection.

*Your Honors and Worshippes servant, late Preacher with the
Right Wor: Cap: Rob: Gorge late Governour of New-England.*

WILLIAM MORRELL.



VNDERSTANDING READER;

WHen my melancholly leasures first conceived these rude heroicks, my conscious Muse censured them too tender-fighted to be admitted the common light. Induced by some kinde friends, who are truly studious of the publike good, I was vnwillingly willing to adventure them the publike censure, desirous, I ingeniously confesse: (and so I professe my selfe ever) in my best endeavours, to further such royall and religious employments: if my poore iudgement can assuredly obserue pietie to be one prime end of plantation, and the vnder-taking probable to prosper. If (Gentle Reader) these lynes please thee, peruse and vse vs gently: if not, Parce vati. You know that *Ex quolibet ligno non fit Mercurius*. Besides, error in Poesie is lesse blemish than in Historie, Experience cannot plead me ignorant, much lesse innocent, having seene and suffered. I should delude others vana spe, or falso gaudio. What can be expected from false Relations, but unhappie proceedings, to the best intended, and most hopefull Colonies. So that want of provisions, and right information, begets in the distracted planter nothing but mutinies, fearefull execrations, and sometimes miserable interitures. But of all such perchance hereafter. These were at this time beyond my intent. I onely now and ever desire that my best incense may for ever waite vpon all truly zealous and religious planters and adventurers, who seriously endeavour the dilating of Christs kingdome, in the propagating of the Gosbell, and so advisedly undertake so weightie and so worthie a Worke, as that they and theirs may paralell these worthies of the world in all externall, internall, and eternall abundances. Farewell with this one Memento; That the best intended conclusions, without an equivalent abilitie, produce nothing but losse, discontents, opprobries, and imperfections.

Thine if thy owne ;

W. M.



¶ *Lectori.*

Candide si placidum dederis Philomufæ Camoenæ

Intuitum: trifti dulce levamen erit.

Optima mellifluis modulari carmina nervis

Illud Apollineis cantibus euge melos.

Mellea cœleftæ eft effundere carmina munus,

Frufta de ficco pumice quæris aquam,

Dicere mufa probe, breviter, fimul, ordine, perge:

Gloria fumma tibi dicere vera: Vale.

Gul: M.

Perlege : pars ultima, prima.



¶ NOVA ANGLIA.

H *Actenus ignotam populis ego carmine primus,
 Te Nova, de veteri cui contigit Anglia nomen,
 Aggredior trepidus pingui celebrare Minervâ,
 Fer mihi numen opem, cupienti singula pleçtro
 Pandere veridico, quae nuper vidimus ipsi:
 Vt breviter vereq; sonent modulamina nostra,
 Temperiem cæli, vim terræ, munera ponti,
 Et varios gentis mores, velamina, cultus.
 Anglia fælici meritò Nova nomine gaudens,
 Sævos nativi mores pertæsa Coloni,
 Indigni penitus populi tellure feraci,
 Mæsta superfufis attollit fletibus ora,
 Antiquos precibus flectens ardentibus Anglos,
 Numinis æterni fælicem lumine gentem
 Efficere: æternis quæ nunc peritura tenebris.
 Gratum opus hoc Indis, dignumq; pijs opus Anglis,
 Angelicæ quibus est naturæ nomen in umbra:
 Calica ut extremis dispergant semina terris.
 Est locus occiduo procul hinc spatiosus in orbe,
 Plurima regna tenens, populisq; incognitus ipsis:
 Fælix frugiferis sulcis, simul æquore fælix:
 Prædis perdives varijs, & flumine dives,
 Axe satis calidus, rigidoq; a frigore tutus.
 Proximus æthereo socius volitabilis igni
 Aer, natali saliens levitate; calore
 Temperieq; satis fælicibus, humidus ante*

Nova-Anglia.

*Omnia principia, innata virtute coactus
 Sistere difficile in propria regione, volenti
 Alterius motu penetrans loca, inania complens
 Vi tenuj: fœtæ regio quæ proximæ terræ
 Solis ab igne, poli motu, terræq; vaporum,
 Vndeq; attractu calet hinc, hinc humida restat,
 Hinc fit temperies: fit & hâc Nova terra beata:
 Est aliquando tamen rapidis subiecta procellis,
 Quæ sceleri subitoq; solumq; salumq; minantur,
 Flamine corripere, & terras diffundere caelis:
 Mox tamen Æolio compressis carcere ventis
 Omnia continuo remanent sub sidere tuta.
 Inde suis vicibus luçtantes murmure venti
 Qua data porta ruunt, quatientes turbine terras.
 Magna parens tellus, reram communis alumna,
 Frigida sicca gravis subsidens vallibus imis,
 Montibus extendens nemerosa cacumina celsis
 Longius intuitu nautis pergrata: seraci
 Irriguoq; solo lætanti messibus aequis
 Optima frugiferis mandantes semina fulcis.
 Agricolis quam terra ferax, quæ grata ministrat
 Assiduis alimenta viris: nulloq; serenti
 Dulcia dat variæ naturæ mora nuceq;
 Dissimales, placidas tumidasq; in vitibus vuas
 Innumeris, mixtas redolentes floribus herbas
 Multigenis, morbo læsos medicare potentes
 Artus, radices similis virtutis amaenas.
 Dimine gramineo nux subterranea suavis
 Serpit humi, tenui flavo sub cortice, pingui
 Et placido nucleo nivei candoris ab intra,
 Melliflua parcos hilarans dulcedine gburstus,
 Donec in æstivum Phæbus conscenderit axem.*

*His nucleis laute versutus vescitur Indus:
 His exempta fames segnis nostratibus omni:
 Dulcibus his vires revocantur victibus almæ.
 Arboribus dives vernantibus, est quoq; tellus
 Cedris, & fagis, Iuglandibus & Iovis alta
 Arbore, fraxinea, gummosis pinibus, alnis,
 Iuniperis, multisq; alijs tum gramine & herbis,
 Pascua quæ prebent animalibus, vnde fugaces
 Pinguescunt cervi, vulpes vrsiq; lupiq;
 Linces, & fibri, musci, lutraq; politæ
 Pellibus eximij pretij, volucresq; saporis
 Perplacidi variæ, pelliq; gruesq; palumbes,
 Megulus & Phasianus, anas, cignus Iovis ales,
 Penelopesq;, columbæ, perdix, accipitresq;,
 Et capitolij aves variæ tum carne sapura,
 Tum pennis placide decorantibus arte canautas:
 E quibus ornatu capitis, fit plumula digna
 Vertice sublimi, quibus ad renovanda levanda,
 Languida perplacidum completur membra cubile.
 Intima frugiferæ vix cognita viscera terræ
 Prætereo: artifices gremium serutentur opimum.
 Dulce solum cælumq; vides en terra serenis,
 Perßicuis, placidis, levibus, liquidisq; beata
 Fontibus, & fluvijs facili quærentibus Eurum
 Motu, præcipiti cursu post flumina nimbos
 In mare decurrunt stagnisq; paludibus Indis,
 Aucupio placidis bene, piscatuq; colonis.
 Grata solum, cælumq; viris alimonia præbent.
 Devia quam dives regio hæc? benediçta sereno
 Aere, fecundis glebis, fælicibus vndis.
 Prospera tranquillus contingit littora portus
 Altus, apertus, vbi valeant se condere naves*

Nova-Anglia.

Invitis. ventis, securæ, rupe & arena
Æquora multiplices præbent tranquilla marinas
Temporibus solitis prædas utentibus hamis:
Halices, fagros, scombroscancrosq; locustas,
Ostrea curvatis conchis, conchasq; trigones
Cete etiam rhombos, fargos, cum squatina afellos.
His naves vastas onerat piscator honestus:
His mercator opes cumulat venerabilis almas,
His pius ampla satis faciat sibi lucra colonus:
Deniq; divitibus quibus intima cura suorum
Divitiæ & pietas, licet hisce beare colonos.
Digna viris patria endignis, ubi mænia digna.
Principibus claris facile est fabricare columnis
Exceßis, eheu nunc tota cupidinis antrum.
Sunt etenim populi minimi sermonis, & oris
Aufteri, risusq; parum saviq; superbi,
Constricto nodis hirsuto crine sinistro,
Imparibus formis tondentes ordine villos,
Mollia magnanimæ peragentes otia gentes,
Arte sagittifera pollentes, cursibus, armis
Astutæ, recto, robusto corpore & alto,
Pellibus indultæ cervinis, frigora contra
Aspera, cum placeant conversis flamina pelles
Obvia ut impellant, calefacto pelle lacerto
Dextro, quo facilis sit flexile sumere cornu,
Omnia ut extinguant subito in surgentia, & ipsos
Salvos defendant, inducto tergore corpus
Villoso, leviter miris se singula formis
Texta ligant, molles cingunt genitalia pelles,
Grande femur caligæ cervinæ curaq; longa
Exornant, plantas conservat calceus aptus,
Hos tamen exutos curant aliunde reversi

*Depositosq; suos calamos, arcusq; sonantes,
Fessaq; constrato sua stramine membra soluti
Tectis instar haræ, dextre loca verna petentes,
Adveniente hiemis glaciali tempore sævæ,
Inq; suam patriam redeuntes sole benigno
Calfaciente leves artus fervore, revisa
Vt pereant inimica, soloq; nocentia, frugem
Detq; solum solitam, rutilis dant ignibus arva.
Horum nonnulli regali nomine gaudent,
Et consorte tori prognata sanguine tali,
Regibus unde pari fuerit virtute propago,
Rectores faciens regali prole parentes:
Inferiore sibi capientes stirpe maritas,
Progeniem timidam credunt, cordisq; socordis
Nec solij, sceptrive sui fore posse capacem.
Rex tenet imperium, pœnas & præmia cunctis
Constituit, dat iura; senes, viduasq; pupillos
Et miseros curat, peregrinos moliter omnes
Excipit hospitio semper, tamen inde (tributi
Nomine) primitias rerum partemq; priorem,
Venatu captæ prædæ capit, atq; requirit.
Cingitur obsequio regis plebs omnis, & ultro
Arma capit, fortiq; facit sua pralia dextra
Pallida lethiferis, faciens præcordia telis
Hostium, & expugnans sceleratis fata sagittis.
Insuper ornavit quorum Bellona corolla
Tempera, præsidio, vita, virtute virili,
Regibus incedunt comites tutamine certo.
His reges capiunt consultis cautius arma;
Cautius exactis faciunt his fœdera bellis:
Eloquijs horum concedere regibus omnis
Subsidium, quodcunq; valet, plebs alma movetur,*

Nova-Anglia.

*Mundi acie tantum semel vnde profecta reversa.
 Nec prius excercet crudelia paruulus arma,
 Quam patiens armorum vt fit sibi pectus, amaram
 Herbis compositam peramaris sorbiat vndam,
 Vsq; in sanguineum vertatur lymphæ colorem,
 Vndiq; sanguinea ex vomitu rebibenda tenellis.
 Vsq; valent maribus: sic fit natura parata
 Omnia dura pati: puer hæc cui potio grata
 Pectore fit valido cuncta expugnare pericla.
 Magnanimis medici comites virtute periti
 Artibus empericis, diro contaminate, tactu,
 Fletu, sudore, & percussio pectore palmis
 Duriter expansis proprio, pallentia eorum
 Corpora restituunt facili medicamine sana:
 Vulnere sanandi si nulla potentia verbis,
 Artibus aut herbis, confestim spiritus illis,
 Impius humana specie respondet iniquis
 Reddidit iratus Deus artus morte solutos
 Moribus: unde dolor nullis medicabilis herbis.
 Deniq; sunt populi fungentes munere iussu,
 Instar servorum, quacunq; subire parati
 Ardua, consilij subiecti, foemina, fumus,
 Indicus ad certos inhibetur, & omnibus annos.
 Postea liberior concessa potentia cunctis,
 Connubio multas sibi coniunxisse maritas:
 Ditiore est plures nuptas qui duxerit omnis,
 Viribus, & natis: nati quia summa parentum
 Gaudia, descessus quorum (nam mortis hiatu
 Compressos lacrimis decorant) longoq; graviq;
 Commemorant luctu, tumulisq; cadivera mandant.
 A genibus subrepta cavis pallentia cuncta;
 Impositis opibus tumulis, Titanis ad ortus,*

*Attollunt facies, ad quem post tempora longa
 Venturos credunt omnes, vbi præmia digna
 Imposita accipient, fuerintq; salutis ad hortos
 Elysios vecti, mirandaq; gaudia, summis
 Exornata bonis: hæc spes post funera gentis.
 Est alia utilitas, multis vxoribus arva,
 Valde onerata tenent Cerealibus, omnis eorum
 Nocte dieq; cibo gaudet quasi natus vt omnes
 Illico consumat fruges, sua granaq; (Marte
 Aripiente manu penetrantia tela) minutis
 Abdita speluncis tutis, & ab hostibus, hoste
 Decedente suo subito repetenda reponit.
 Artibus Hybernus produxit temporis olim.
 Multum Marte, levis, virsutus, durus, inermis,
 Difficile edomitus donec secreta latebant
 Iudicia, atq; doli taciti: fit & arte superstes.
 Sæpius hac Indus, victoris victor & ingens,
 Fæmina præterea vultu plerumq; venusto,
 Multos irridens risus, linguamq; loquacem;
 Iudicioq; gravi, genio placidoq; virili
 Pectore, perrecta corpus per & omne statura;
 Nervis conexas validis, manibusq; tenellis,
 Pollice pergracili, digitis feliciter altis.
 Inclita diversis faciendo est gramine corbes
 Contextos formis, varioq; colore tapetum.
 Stramine compositum tenui, mirisq; figuris.
 His decor eximius color est contrarius albo:
 Orbitibus vnde suis per totum candidus artus
 Et piceo facies est obfucata colore.
 Consuetudo tamen populis his fæmina vt omnis,
 Omnia perficiat duri mandata laboris:
 Arva fodit manibus, committit semina terris,*

Nova-Anglia.

*Vtq; seges crescit levibus fulcitur ab illa,
 Continuo terris, segitem sarritq; resarit,
 Tergore portat onus, victumq; labore paratum,
 Et breviter peragit mulier conamine prompto,
 Omnia ad humanam spectantia munera vitam.
 Hinc Anglos Indi stolidos dixere maritos,
 Cum videant operis ferventes omnibus illos,
 Attamen uxores omnem deducere vitam
 Molli, vel nullo fungendi munere dextra.
 Quamlibet ob noxam manet alta mente reposita
 Invidia & dirum gelido sub pectore vulnus.
 Vnde fugit sceleri pede fortia fortis in arma
 Hostis, & inde sui letans fit sponsa cubilis.
 Præda satis felix; hinc victa iniuria mentis,
 Deniq; cuiusdam cultores numinis omnes
 Sunt, cui primitias reddunt, quotiesq; necesse,
 Fortia discruciat miserabile pectora, luctu
 Acriq; horrendis clamoribus æthera complent.
 Omnia principio fecisse agnoscitur illis,
 Vnum principium, primos crevisse parentes,
 Vnum terrarum dominum, consorte; duobus
 His mortale genus divam sumpsisse figuram:
 Quorum progenies illi, quoq; stirpe racemi.
 Insuper hunc dominum dominis posuisse creatis,
 Optima iustitiæ sacræ præcepta docenda,
 Sacro perpetuis ætatibus omnia iussu.
 Hactenus est omnis longævæ litera genti
 Vix audita, viris penitusq; incognita cunctis.
 Fas, non quid fasti: falsum non, fœdera curant:
 Lumine naturæ summi sunt iuris amantes
 Promissiq; dati; tanti sunt fœdera genti.
 Nulla fides populis tamen est capiente sagittas,*

*Marte feras, fueris nisi sævis fortior armis.
 Litera cuncta licet latet hos, modulamina quædam
 Fistulae disparibus calamis facit, est & agrestis
 Musica vocis ijs, minime iucundi, sonoris
 Obtusiq; sonis oblectans pectora, sensus,
 Atq; suas aures, artis sublimis inanes.
 Omnes, præsertim multos proventus in annos,
 Indus, quid cæli, cursus, quid sidera, vires
 Sunt, bene concipiunt animis, cælumq; futurum:
 Qua mihi notitia latet, aut quo numine certo.
 Festa tamen gens nulla nisi Cerealiam servat:
 Genti nulla dies sancto discrimine nota:
 Annus & ignotus, notus tamen est bene mensis,
 Nam sua lunari distinguunt tempora motu,
 Non quot Phæbus habet cursus, sed quot sua coniux
 Expletos vicibus convertat Cynthia cursus:
 Noctibus enumerant sua tempora, nulla diebus,
 Mosq; dijs Indis est inservire duobus,
 Quorum mollis, amans, bona dans, inimica repellens.
 Vnus, amore bonum venerantur: at invidus alter
 Dires effundens cum turbine, fulgura, nimbos,
 Afficiensq; malis varijs, morbisq; nefandis,
 Et violentis: hunc gelida formidine adorant.
 Naturæ gens luce suæ sublimia tentat,
 Agnoscens præcepta dei pia singula summi,
 Excepto de ducendis vxoribus vno,
 Affectis etenim morbis vxoribus illis,
 Vel gravidis, alijs opus est vxoribus illis.
 Heu quam dissimilis naturæ, gratia vera,
 Humana & ratio. Sublimia gratia vite
 Afficit æternæ fidei bonitate potita:
 Enervata suis ratio at virtutibus æquis.*

Nova-Anglia.

*Illi nulla manet veræ scintilla salutis,
 Talia quis fando lachrimas non fundit amaras,
 Divinæ lucis, virtutis visq; capacem
 Gentem, cœlestis veræ pietatis inanem.
 Flebilis ardentem mitti Phlegetontis in undas.
 Aßicis effigiem terræ, levis ætheris, vndæ:
 Aßicis antiquæ mores, velamina, gentis:
 Aßicis optatos, hilarantia littora, portus:
 Aßicis his modicum fæliciter (Ente faventi
 Cœlesti cæptis) letantia singula votum.
 Si mea Barbaricæ prosint conamina genti:
 Si valet Anglicanis incompta placere poesis:
 Et sibi perfaciles hac reddere gente potentes,
 Aßiduosq; pios sibi persuadere Colonos:
 Si doceat primi vitam victumq; parentis:
 Angli si fuerint Indis exempla beate
 Vivendi, capiant quibus ardua limina cœli:
 Omnia succedunt votis: modulamina spero
 Hæc mea sublimis fuerint præfagia regni.*



New-England so nam'd by your Princely *Grace*,
Dread Sovereigne, now, most humbly fues to see
 Your *Royall Highnes* in your *Regall* place,
 Wishing *your Grace* all peace, bliffe, soveraignty,
 Trusting *your Goodnesse* will her state and fame
 Support, w^{ch} *goodnesse* once vouchsaf'd her
 (name.





*If thou Apollo hold'st thy Scepter forth,
 To these harsh numbers that's thy Royall worth.
 Vaine is all search in these to search that vaine,
 Whose stately style is great Apolloes straine,
 Minerva ne're distil'd into my Muse
 Her sacred droppes, my pumesse wants all iuce.
 My Muse is plaine concise her fam's to tell
 In truth, and method, Loue, or leaue: Farewell.*





NEVV – ENGLAND

FEare not poore Muse, 'cause first to sing her fame,
 That's yet scarce known, vnlesse by Map or name;
 A Grand-childe to earths Paradize is borne,
 Well lim'd, well nerv'd, faire, rich, sweete, yet forlorne.
 Thou blest director so direct my Verse,
 That it may winne her people, friends commerce;
 Whilst her sweet ayre, rich soile, blest, seases my penne
 Shall blaze, and tell the natures of her men.
New-England, happie in her new true stile,
 Wearie of her cause she's to sad exile
 Expos'd by her's vnworthy of her Land,
 Intreats with teares *Great Brittain* to command
 Her Empire, and to make her know the time,
 Whose act and knowledge onely makes divine.
 A Royall worke well worthy *Englands* King,
 These Natiues to true truth and grace to bring.
 A Noble worke for all these Noble Peares
 Which guide this State in their superiour spheres.
 You holy *Aarons* let your Sensors nere
 Cease burning, till these men *Iehovah* feare.
 Westward a thousand leagues a spatiuous land,
 If made vnknowne to them that it command.
 Of fruitfull mould, and no lesse fruitlesse maine
 Inrich with springs and prey high-land and plaine.
 The light well tempred, humid ayre, whose breath
 Fils full all concaues betwixt heaven and earth,

So that the Region of the ayre is blest
 With what Earths mortals wish to be posselt.
 Great *Titan* dartes on her his heavenly rayes,
 Whereby extreames he quells, and overfwaves.
 Blest is this ayre with what the ayre can bleffe;
 Yet frequent ghusts doe much this place distresse:
 Here vnseene ghusts doe instant on-set giue,
 As heaven and earth they would together driue.
 An instant power doth surprize their rage,
 In their vast prifon, and their force affwage.
 Thus in exchange a day or two is spent,
 In smiles and frownes: in great yet no content.
 The earth grand-parent to all things on earth,
 Cold, dry, and heavie, and the next beneath
 The ayre by Natures arme with low difcents,
 Is as it were intrencht; againe ascents
 Mount vp to heaven by *Ioues* omnipotence,
 Whose looming greenesse ioyes the Sea-mans fence.
 Invites him to a land if he can see,
 Worthy the Thrones of stately soveraigntie.
 The fruitfull and well watered earth doth glad
 All hearts; when *Flora's* with her spangles clad,
 And yeelds an hundred fold for one,
 To feede the Bee and to invite the drone.
 O happie Planter if you knew the height
 Of Planters honours where ther's such delight;
 There Natures bounties though not planted are,
 Great store and sorts of berries great and faire:
 The Filberd, Cherry, and the fruitfull Vine,
 Which cheares the heart and makes it more divine.
 Earths spangled beauties pleasing smell and sight;
 Objects for gallant choyce and chiefe delight.

A ground-Nut there runnes on a graffie threed,
Along the fhallow earth, as in a bed,
Yealow without, thin, filmd, fweete, lilly white,
Of ftrength to feede and cheare the appetite.
From thefe our natures may haue great content,
And good fubfiftance when our meanes is fpent.
With thefe the Natiues doe their ftrength maintaine
The Winter feafon, which time they retaine
Their pleafant vertue, but if once the Spring
Returne, they are not worth the gathering.
All ore that Maine the Vernant trees abound,
Where Cedar, Cypres, Spruce, and Beech are found.
Afh, Oake, and Wal-nut, Pines and Iunipere;
The Hafel, Palme, and hundred more are there.
Ther's graffe and hearbs contenting man and beaft,
On which both Deare, and Beares, and Wolues do feaft.
Foxes both gray and blacke, (though blacke I never
Beheld,) with Mufcats, Lynces, Otter, Bever;
With many other which I here omit,
Fit for to warme vs, and to feede vs fit.
The Fowles that in thofe Bayes and Harbours feede,
Though in their feafons they doe elf-where breede,
Are Swans and Geefe, Herne, Phefants, Duck & Crane,
Culvers and Divers all along the Maine:
The Turtle, Eagle, Partridge, and the Quaile,
Knot, Plover, Pigeons, which doe never faile,
Till Sommers heate commands them to retire,
And Winters cold begets their old defire.
With thefe fweete dainties man is fweetly fed,
With thefe rich feathers Ladies plume their head;
Here's flefh and feathers both for vfe and eafe,
To feede, adorne, and reft thee if thou pleafe.

The treafures got, on earth, by *Titans* beames,
 They beft may search that haue beft art and meanes.
 The ayre and earth if good, are bleffings rare,
 But when with thefe the waters bleffed are,
 The place is compleat, here each pleafant ſpring,
 Is like thoſe fountaines where the *Mufes* ſing.
 The eaſie channels gliding to the Eaſt,
 Vnleſſe oreflowed, then poſt to be releaſt,
 The Ponds and places where the waters ſtay,
 Content the Fowler with all pleafant prey.
 Thus ayre and earth and water giue content,
 And highly honour this rich Continent.
 As Nature hath this Soile bleſt, ſo each port
 Abounds with bliſſe, abounding all report.
 The carefull Naucleare may a-farre diſcry
 The land by ſmell, aft' loomes below the ſkie.
 The prudent Maſter there his Ship may more,
 Paſt winde and weather, then his God adore,
 Man forth each Shalop with three men to Sea,
 Which oft returne with wondrous ſtore of prey;
 As Oyſters, Cra-fiſh, Crab, and Lobſters great,
 In great abundance when the Seaes retreat:
 Torteiſe, and Herring, Turbut, Hacke and Baſe,
 With other ſmall fiſh, and freſh bleeding Place;
 The mightie Whale doth in theſe Harbours lye,
 Whoſe Oyle the carefull Merchant deare will buy.
 Befides all theſe and others in this Maine:
 The coſtly Codd doth march with his rich traine:
 With which the Sea-man fraughts his merry Ship:
 With which the Merchant doth much riches get:
 With which Plantations richly may ſubſiſt,
 And pay their Merchants debt and intereſt:

Thus ayre and earth, both land and Sea yeelds store
Of Natures dainties both to rich and poore;
To whom if heavens a holy *Vice-roy* giue,
The state and people may most richly liue:
And there erect a *Pyramy* of estate,
Which onely finne and Heaven can ruinate.
Let deepe discretion this great worke attend,
What's well begun for th' most part well doth end:
So may our people peace and plentie finde,
And kill the Dragon that would kill mankinde.
Thofe well seene Natiues in graue Natures hefts,
All clofe designs conceale in their deepe brefts:
What strange attempts so ere they doe intend,
Are fairely vsher'd in, till their last ende.
Their well advised talke evenly conveys
Their acts to their intents, and nere displays
Their secret projects, by high words or light,
Till they conclude their end by fraud or might.
No former friendship they in minde retaine,
If you offend once, or your loue detaine:
They're wondrous cruell, strangely base and vile,
Quickly displeas'd, and hardly reconcild;
Stately and great, as read in Rules of state:
Incens'd, not caring what they perpetrate.
Whose hayre is cut with greeces, yet a locke
Is left; the left side bound vp in a knott:
Their males small labour but great pleasure know,
Who nimbly and expertly draw the bow;
Traind vp to suffer cruell heate and cold,
Or what attempt so ere may make them bold;
Of body straight, tall, strong, mantled in skin
Of Deare or Bever, with the hayre-side in:

An Otter skin their right armes doth keepe warme,
 To keepe them fit for vse, and free from harme;
 A Girdle fet with formes of birds or beafts,
 Begirts their waste, which gently giues them ease.
 Each one doth modestly binde vp his shame,
 And Deare-skin Start-vps reach vp to the fame;
 A kinde of *Pinsen* keeps their feete from cold,
 Which after travels they put off, vp-fold,
 Themselues they warme, their vngirt limbes they rest
 In straw, and houses, like to sties: distrest
 With Winters cruell blafts, a hotter clime
 They quickly march to, when that extreame time
 Is over, then contented they retire
 To their old homes, burning vp all with fire.
 Thus they their ground from all things quickly cleare,
 And make it apt great store of Corne to beare.
 Each people hath his orders, state, and head,
 By which they'r rul'd, taught, ordered, and lead.
 The first is by discent their Lord and King,
 Pleas'd in his name likewise and governing:
 The confort of his bed must be of blood
 Coequall, when an of-spring comes as good,
 And highly bred in all high parts of state,
 As their Commanders of whom they'rs prognate.
 If they vnequall loues at hymens hand
 Should take, that vulgar feede would nere command
 In such high dread, great state and deepe decrees
 Their Kingdomes, as their Kings of high degrees:
 Their Kings giue lawes, rewards to those they giue,
 That in good order, and high service liue.
 The aged Widow and the Orphanes all,
 Their Kings maintaine, and strangers when they call,

They entertaine with kinde ſalute for which,
In homage, they haue part of what's moſt rich.
Theſe heads are guarded with their ſtouteſt men,
By whoſe advice and ſkill, how, where, and when,
They enterprize all acts of conſequence,
Whether offenſiue or for ſafe defence.
Theſe Potents doe invite all once a yeare,
To giue a kinde of tribute to their peere.
And here obſerue thou how each childe is traind,
To make him fit for Armes he is conſtraind
To drinke a potion made of hearbs moſt bitter,
Till turnd to blood with caſting, whence he's fitter,
Induring that to vnder-goe the worſt
Of hard attempts, or what may hurt him moſt.
The next in order are their well ſeene men
In herbes, and rootes, and plants, for medicen,
With which by touch, with clamors, teares, and ſweat,
With their curſt Magicke, as themſelues they beat,
They quickly eaſe: but when they cannot ſaue,
But are by death ſurprizd, then with the graue
The diuell tells them he could not diſpence;
For God hath kild them for ſome great offence.
The loweſt people are as ſervants are,
Which doe themſelues for each command prepare:
They may not marry nor Tobacco uſe,
Tell certaine yeares, leaſt they themſelues abuſe.
At which yeares to each one is granted leaue,
A wife, or two, or more, for to receiue;
By having many wiues, two things they haue,
Firſt, children, which before all things to ſaue
They covet, 'cauſe by them their Kingdomes ſild,
When as by fate or Armes their liues are ſpild.

Whose death as all that dye they fore lament,
 And fill the skies with cries: impatient
 Of nothing more then pale and fearefull death,
 Which old and young bereaues of vitall breath;
 Their dead wrapt vp in Mats to th' graue they giue,
 Vpright from th knees, with goods whilst they did liue,
 Which they best lou'd: their eyes turn'd to the East,
 To which after much time, to be releast
 They all must March, where all shall all things haue
 That heart can wish, or they themselues can craue.
 A second profit which by many wiues
 They haue, is Corne, the staffe of all their liues.
 All are great eaters, he's most rich whose bed
 Affords him children, profit, pleasure, bread.
 But if fierce *Mars*, begins his bow to bend,
 Each King stands on his guard, seekes to defend
 Himselfe, and his, and therefore hides his graine
 In earths close concaues, to be fetch'd againe
 If he suruiues: thus saving of himselfe,
 He acts much mischief, and retains his wealth.
 By this deepe wyle, the *Irish* long withstood
 The *English* power, whilst they kept their food,
 Their strength of life their Corne; that lost, they long
 Could not withstand this Nation, wise, stout, strong.
 By this one Art, these Natiues oft suruiue
 Their great'st opponents, and in honour thriue.
 Besides, their women, which for th'most part are
 Of comely formes, not blacke, nor very faire:
 Whose beautie is a beauteous blacke laid on
 Their paler cheeke, which they most doat vpon.
 For they by Nature are both faire and white,
 Inricht with gracefull presence, and delight;

Deriding laughter, and all prating, and
Of sober aspect, graft with graue command:
Of man-like courage, stature tall and straight,
Well neru'd, with hands and fingers small and right.
Their slender fingers on a grassie twyne,
Make well form'd Baskets wrought with art and lyne;
A kinde of Arras, or Straw-hangings, wrought
With divers formes, and colours, all about.
These gentle pleasures, their fine fingers fit,
Which Nature seem'd to frame rather to fit.
Rare Stories, Princes, people, Kingdomes, Towers,
In curious finger-worke, or Parchment flowers:
Yet are these hands to labours all intent,
And what so ere without doores, giue content.
These hands doe digge the earth, and in it lay
Their faire choyce Corne, and take the weeds away
As they doe grow, rayfing with earth each hill,
As *Ceres* prospers to support it still.
Thus all worke-women doe, whilst men in play,
In hunting, Armes, and pleasures, end the day.
The *Indians* whilst our *Englishmen* they see
In all things seruire exercis'd to be:
And all our women freed, from labour all
Vnlesse what's easie: vs much fooles they call,
'Cause men doe all things; but our women liue
In that content which God to man did giue:
Each female likewise long reteines deepe wrath,
And s nere appeas'd till wrongs reueng'd shee hath:
For they when forraigne Princes Armes vp take
Against their Leige, quickly themselues betake
To th' aduerse Armie, where they're entertaind
With kinde salutes, and presently are daign'de

Worthy faire *Hymens* favours: thus offence
 Obtaines by them an equall recompence.
 Lastly, though they no lynes, nor Altars know,
 Yet to an vnknowne God these people bow;
 All feare some God, some God they worship all,
 On whom in trouble and distresse they call;
 To whom of all things they giue sacrifice,
 Filling the ayre with her shrill shrikes and cries.
 The knowledge of this God they say they haue
 From their forefathers, wondrous wise and graue;
 Who told them of one God, which did create
 All things at first, himselfe though increate:
 He our first parents made, yet made but two,
 One man one woman, from which stocke did grow
 Royall mankinde, of whom they also came
 And tooke beginning, being, forme and frame:
 Who gaue them holy lawes, for aye to last,
 Which each must teach his childe till time be past:
 Their grosse fed bodies yet no Letters know,
 No bonds nor bills they value, but their vow.
 Thus without Arts bright lampe, by Natures eye,
 They keepe iust promise, and loue equitie.
 But if once discord his fierce ensigne weare,
 Expect no promise vnle'ft be for feare:
 And, though these men no Letters know, yet their
Pans harfher numbers we may some where heare:
 And vocall odes which vs affect with griefe;
 Though to their mindes perchance they giue reliefe.
 Besides these rude insights in Natures brest,
 Each man by some meanes is with sence posselt
 Of heavens great lights, bright starres and influence,
 But chiefly those of great experience:

Yet they no feasts (that I can learne) obserue,
Besides their *Ceres*, which do'th them preferue.
No dayes by them descern'd from other dayes,
For holy certaine service kept alwayes.
Yet they when extreame heate doth kill their Corne,
Afflict themselues some dayes, as men forelorne.
Their times they count not by the yeare as we,
But by the Moone their times distingui'sht be.
Not by bright *Phæbus*, or his glorious light,
But by his *Phæbe* and her shadowed night.
They now accustom'd are two Gods to serue,
One good, which giues all good, and doth preserue;
This they for loue adore: the other bad,
Which hurts and wounds, yet they for feare are glad
To worship him: see here a people who
Are full of knowledge, yet doe nothing know
Of God aright; yet say his Lawes are good
All, except one, whereby their will's withstood.
In having many wiues, if they but one
Must haue, what must they doe when they haue none.
O how farre short comes Nature of true grace,
Grace sees God here; hereafter face to face:
But Nature quite enerd of all such right,
Reteines not one poore sparcle of true light.
And now what foule dissolues not into teares,
That hell must haue ten thousand thousand heires,
Which haue no true light of that truth diuine,
Or sacred wisedome of th' Eternall Trine.
O blessed *England* farre beyond all fence,
That knowes and loues this Trines omnipotence.
In briefe survey here water, earth, and ayre,
A people proud and what their orders are.

The fragrant flowers, and the Vernant Groues,
The merry Shores, and Storme-affranting Coues.
In briefe, a briefe of what may make man blest,
If man's content abroad can be posselt.
If these poore lines may winne this Country loue,
Or kinde compassion in the *English* moue;
Perfwade our mightie and renowned State,
This pore-blinde people to comiserate;
Or painefull men to this good Land invite,
Whose holy workes these Natiues may inlight:
If Heavens graunt these, to see here built I trust;
An *English* Kingdome from this *Indian* dust.

F I N I S.



*E*Xcuse this Postscript, perchance more profitable than the Prescript. It may be a necessary Caveat for many who too familiarly doe Serò sapere. The discreet artificer is not onely happie to vnderstand what may fayrely and infallibly further his duly considered designes and determinations: but to discover and remoue what obstacle soever may oppose his well-advised purposes, and probable conclusions. I therefore, desiring that every man may be a Prometheus, not an Epimethius, haue here vnderwritten such impediments as I haue observed wonderfully offensiue to all Plantations; Quæ prodesse quæant & delectare legentem.

First therefore I conceiue that far distance of plantations produce many inconveniences and disabilities of planters, when as severall Colonies consist but of twentie, or thirtie, or about that number, which in a vast vncommanded Continent, makes them liable to many and miserable exigents, which weakens all vnion, and leaues them difficultly to be assisted against a potent or a daily enemy, and dangerously to be commanded; when as some one Bay well fortified would maintaine and enrich some thousands of persons, if it be planted with men, able, ingenious, and laborious, being well furnished with all provisions and necessaries for plantations. Besides, if one Bay be well peopled, its easily defended, surveyed, disciplined, and commanded, be the seasons never so vnseasonable, and all their Forces in few houres readie in Armes, either offensiuely to pursue, or defensiuely to subsist convenient numbers ever at sea, and sufficient ever at home for all service, intelligence and discoverie.

Secondly, Ignorance of seasons, servants, situation, want of people, provisions, supplies, with resolution, courage and patience, in and against all opposition, distresse and affliction.

Vincit patientia durum. *Fishermen, manuell artificers, engeners, and good fowlers are excellent servants, and onely fit for plantations. Let not Gentlemen or Citizens once imagine that I preiudize their reputations, for I speake no word beyond truth, for they are too high, or not patient of such service: though they may be very necessary for Martiall discipline, or excellent, (if pious) for example to the seditious and inconsiderate multitude.*

Boats with all their furniture, as sayles, hookes, and lines, and other appendences, afford the painefull planter both varietie of comfort, and a sufficient competent, and an happie estate. Good mastiues are singular defences to plantations, in the terrifying or pursuing of the light-footed Natiues. Hogs and Goats are easie, present, and abundant profit, living and feeding on the Ile-lands almost without any care or cost.

Plantations cannot possibly, profitably subsist without chateaux and boats, which are the onely meanes for surveying and conveying both our persons and provisions to the well advised scituation. Without these, plantations may with much patience, and well fortified resolution indure but difficultly, though with much time flourish and contentedly subsist. For when men are landed vpon an vnknowne shore, per adventure weake in number and naturall powers, for want of boats and cariages; are compelled to stay where they are first landed, having no meanes to remoue themselues or their goods, be the place never so fruitlesse or inconvenient for planting, building houses, boats, or stages, or the harbours never so vnfit for fishing, fowling, or mooring their boats. Of all which, and many other things necessary for plantation, I purpose to enforme thee hereafter. Wishinge thee in the interim all furtherance, all fortunatenesse.

Farewell.



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Notes

Notes are keyed to the page and line number of the present volume. The line count includes headings, but not ornaments or running heads. Page numbers in parentheses do not appear in the original.

- B.1-5 This text ... colonies.] It is not known whether Morrell actually wrote the Latin poem and English translation in Massachusetts or if he committed his observations to paper upon his return to England. Moreover, the distinction for being the first known poem with a direct connection to British America goes to a short piece written in 1610 called *Newes from Virginia* by R. Rich, a soldier in Virginia. Only 25 copies of the earlier work were printed in London.
- (i).14-15 *Vera, ... cano,*] I sing of true things, not remarkable things. This is reminiscent of the opening line to Virgil's *Aeneid*: *Arma virumque cano.*
- (i).16-18 *Plus ... commensurato.*] True speech will be more worthy than the clear and exceedingly elegant measuring of a verse into individual feet.
- (i).20 *NIHIL DICIT*] Literally "He says nothing"; *i.e.* he will answer with no response.
- (ii).1 *OMNE BENE*] All is well.
- (ii).1 *Certa spe boni,*] With certain hope of something good.
- (ii).2-3 *Pietas, Pecunia, and Potentia*] Piety, money, and power.
- (ii).5 *fcituated*] Archaic spelling of situated.
- (ii).8 *ad Græcas callendas*] Literally at the Greek calends; *i.e.* never; or that something will never occur, since a Greek *calends* did not exist. The *calends* is a date (the first day of each month) only used in the Roman calendar. The English equivalent would be "when pigs fly."

Notes

- (ii).10 Plantations] colonies
- (ii).10-11 *illorum postpono mea ferea ludo.*] Based on “*Posthabui tamen illorum mea seria ludo*” from Virgil’s *Eclogues*. Morrell’s rendition means “I have disregarded my serious endeavors for their pleasure.” “Their” (*illorum*) refers to the English colonies; *serea* is misspelled and should read *seria*.
- (ii).18 to accompt] to make an account or explanation
- (ii).22 feverall] separate
- (ii).22 sphere] Social rank
- (ii).25 Gorge] Robert Gorges was a captain in the English Navy and Governor-General of New England from 1623-1624.
- (iii).3 *heroiks,*] Heroics; the style and meter associated with heroic verse. Classical heroic poetry uses hexameter, while English employs iambic pentameter.
- (iii).6-7 *adventure*] obsolete verb meaning risk
- (iii).7 *them*] Refers to Morrell’s “heroiks”
- (iii).9 *prime end*] important result
- (iii).9 *plantation*] colonization
- (iii).11 *Parce vati*] Spare the poet.
- (iii).12 *Ex ... Mercurius*] “Whithersoever it pleases, Mercury is not made from wood.” The more common rendition is *Ex quo vis lingo non fit Mercurius* which ultimately derives from Apuleius’ *De Magni Oratio*: “*Non enim ex omni ligno, ut Pythagoras dicebat, debet Mercurius exsculpi.*” William Fraser, writing in 1854 asserts that it came to mean: “You cannot make a genius out of a blockhead”.
- (iii).14 *Poesie*] obsolete term for poetry
- (iii).16 *vana spe*] with empty hope
- (iii).16 *falso gaudio*] with false joy
- (iii).17 *Relations,*] reporting
- (iii).19 *planter*] colonist
- (iii).20 *interitures*] deaths, from Latin *intereo, interire, interii, interitus*

Notes

- (iii).22 *incense*] homage
- (iii).24 *dilating*] expansion
- (iii).28 Memento] reminder
- (iii).30 *discontents*] The typeface used for this portion of the work is exceedingly small and oftentimes broken; “disconsents” may also be a possibility here. The typeface is too imprecise to determine for certain.
- (iii).30 *opprobies*] disgrace or poor reputation; from Latin *opprobrium, opprobrii*
- (iv).2 Philomufe Camoenae] Roman goddess of poetry
- (iv).8 Dicere] The version used for this edition is housed in the British Museum which has Dicere in this line. The extant 1625 copy from the Huntington Library in California uses Dicit rather than Dicere. Neither dicit nor dicere corrupt the metrics of the line, but it is likely that Dicere is a printing error. The spelling dicere can represent either the present active infinitive or present passive imperative. Given the sense of the line, an active imperative is preferred. Dicit, the future active imperative satisfies both the meaning and meter. This inconsistency suggests that Dicere was an error during this poem’s printing in 1625, and was subsequently changed before the print run was completed. More evidence to indicate alterations during the printing of this text includes discrepancies in pagination. The Huntington Library version is missing page number 21 while the British Museum text is missing page number 2. Furthermore, in *The American Apollo* published in 1792, there is a reprint of Morrell’s poem. Throughout this late eighteenth century reproduction, an editor who remains anonymous amended the spelling of some words which were originally printed incorrectly and also included Dicit in line 8. It is not clear whether that edition is based on a 1625 copy which had Dicit, or if it was reproduced from an imprint which had Dicere and this alteration was an editorial decision.

Notes

- (iv).9 *dicere*] Here, *dicere* is a complementary infinitive governed by the imperative *perge* in the preceding line. Both 1625 copies have *dicere* in this place.
- 1.26-2.3 *Aer ... complens*] All the nominative adjectives and participles stand in apposition to *Aer*.
- 2.5. *ab igne*] Literally fire but here “rays” is more appropriate.
- 2.11 *Æolio*] Aeolus, mentioned in the *Odyssey* and the *Aeneid* as the Keeper of the Winds.
- 2.17 *nemerosa*] Printing error; should be *nemorosa*.
- 2.18. *intuitu*] supine of *intueor, intueri, intuitus sum* governed by *pergrata*- “very pleasing for the sailors to look at from a distance”
- 2.18 *feraci*] printing error for *feraci*.
- 2.23 *dat*] governs all accusatives until *multigenis*.
- 2.24 *Difsimales*] error for *Dissimiles*
- 2.28 *Dimine*] error for *Vimine*
- 2.31 *gbustus*] *gustus*
- 3.1 *vescitur*] takes the ablative
- 3.2 *omni*] error for *omnis*.
- 3.5-6 *Iovis alta Arbore*] oak tree
- 3.6 *alnis*] alder tree
- 3.10 *musci*] In Classical Latin, *muscus, musci* referred to moss. However, in the late antique period, we find the first reference to musk in Talmud (Berhot 43a) in the fifth century. It is thought that the word originated from Sanskrit मुस्कस् *muṣkā* meaning testicle, and made its way westward to Latin via Middle Persian مرشک *musk*, then Greek μόσχος *moskhos*, and finally Latin *muscus*.
- 3.15 *capitolij aves variæ*] Leo M. Kaiser indicates that the birds here are geese, and the reference to Capitoline Hill reflects the geese whose cackles alerted the Romans to an attack from the Gauls and thus saved the city in 392 B.C.

Notes

- 3.8-16 *vnde fugaces ... canautas:*] The vocabulary used here is obscure and I offer the following notes and translation of the passage: “Whence migrating stags, foxes, bears, wolves, lynxes, beavers and otters with skins suitable for excellent prices, grow fat; and diverse birds of a mild taste and herons, and cranes, and seagulls, and diving birds, and pheasants, ducks, swans, guans, doves, partridges, and hawks, and various birds of the Capitoline Hill not only [used] for tasty meat but also for feathers embellishing the decorations on one’s head in a delicate manner.”
- Morrell uses *sapor, saporis* as a first declension feminine adjective in the ablative modifying *carne* to imply the birds’ use as meat. Based on the sense of this passage, it is evident that the verb *utor, uti, usus sum*, though omitted, is to be understood here.
- Pelli, (pellus/os, pelli)* is a rare term for a heron whose definition is found in the *Thesaurus Linguae Romanae et Britannicae* published in 1565 by bishop and lexicographer Thomas Cooper.
- Moreover, *utor* also takes the ablative case, the case of *carne saporae*. Had Morrell written *carne saporae*, a dative of purpose would be implied. Lastly, the word *canautas* is a very obscure noun rarely encountered. It is first mentioned in the aforementioned *Thesaurus Linguae Romanae et Britannicae* wherein the nominative entry is *canautae* and occurs only in the plural. It is defined as “ornaments of the head.”
- 4.4 *Halices*] Herring; In Classical Latin, there is no h. The word is simply *alex, alicis*.
- 4.4 *fagros*] From the Greek φάγρος- the sea bream. Rendered into Neo-Latin as *pagrus* the name of which currently serves as a label for a genus of sea bream.
- 4.12 *endignis*] There should be a space separating *en* and *dignis*,
- 4.14 *Excessis*] *Excelsis* is the emendation from the 1792 reprint in the Massachusetts Historical Society.
- 4.22 *indultae*] should be *indutae*

Notes

- 4.30 *curaq;*] should be *cruraque*
- 5.2 *foluti*] should be *solutis*
- 5.8 *Detq; solum folitam,*] Here, *solum* is the adverb “only”.
- 5.9 *nomine*] should be *nomini*
- 6.11 *contamine*] should be *cantamine*
- 6.32 *Impositis*] should be *Imposita*
- 7.10 *Aripiente*] should read *Arripiente*
- 7.13 *Hybernus*] Unconventional spelling of *Hibernus*, an Irishman. Here used with a plural sense as the Irish.
- 7.29 *obfuscata*] should read *obfuscata*.
- 8.1 *levibus*] Refers to *arva* (*arvum, arvi*) in the previous line (7.32).
- 8.1 *ab illa*] Refers to *femina* in the previous line (7.32)
- 8.20 *creviffe*] *Creavisse* could also be a possible alternative to *crevisse*. It is unclear whether Morrell used *crevisse* or if the “a” had been omitted by the printer as both words convey a sense of being born.
- 8.29 & 8.31 *faedera*] should read *foedera*
- 9.2 *licet*] used as the conjunction “although”
- 9.16 *Cinthia*] Unconventional spelling of *Cynthia*, an epithet for Artemis and Selena.
- 9.22 *Afficiensq;*] This participle uses an ablative object.
- 10.2. *lachrimas*] Unconventional spelling of *lachrymas*
- 10.19 *fuierint*] Potential subjunctive form of *sum, esse, fui, futurus*.
- 11.2 *Dread Sovereigne*] Revered or held in awe. This sense is now obsolete. It was also used in the 1620 Mayflower Compact: “In the name of God, Amen. We whose names are underwritten, the loyal subjects of our dread sovereign Lord, King James, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith, etc.”
- 11.2 *fues*] follows, ensues

Notes

- 11.6 w^{ch}] abbreviation for “which”
- 12.3-4 *Vaine is all ... ftraine*.] It is futile to seek the quality of Apollo’s verse in these lines of poetry.
- 12.5 *ne’er*] contraction of never
- 12.6 *pumeffe*] pumice stone
- 12.6 *iuce*] juice
- 13.1 ENGLAND] amended from “ENGLNAD” in the original printed text
- 13.8 *bleft, feafes*] “blessed seas”; the comma is misplaced and should occur after “seases”.
- 13.18 *Peares*] peers, refers to peerage
- 13.20 *Aarons*] church leaders or officials
- 13.20 *Senfors*] censers
- 13.27 *concaues*] hollow spaces
- 14.3 *Titan*] Titans were a race of gods descended from Uranus and Gaia. Hyperion was one of their 12 offspring who in turn had a son Helios, the Greek god and personification of the sun. Here, *Titan* refers to Helios.
- 14.4 *overfwayes*] overpowers
- 14.13 *grand-parent to all things on earth*] The phrase stands in apposition to the preceding words “the earth”. The line would read clearer with a comma after the first instance of *earth*.
- 14.21 *doth glad*] gladden
- 14.29 *Filberd*] hazelnut
- 15.1 *ground-Nut*] *Apios americana*, called the groundnut or sometimes potato bean, is a vine that bears edible beans and tubers.
- 15.3 *Yealow without*] yellow on the outside
- 15.11 *All ore that Maine*] all on the edge of the coast
- 15.11 *Vernant*] flourishing
- 15.15 *contenting*] making content

Notes

- 15.18 Mufcats] Obsolete name for any animal that secretes musk. Here Morrell is referring to the muskrat, whose first use in English can be found in Ralph Hamor's *A true discourse of the present estate of Virginia...* (London, 1615).
- 15.18 Lynces] lynxes
- 15.20 Fit ... fit.] Fit to warm us and fit to feed us.
- 15.23 Herne] herons
- 15.24 the Maine] the coast
- 15.26 Knot] The knot, also known as the red knot, is a common shore bird in Europe, but not found in this part of the New World. Morrell is using the name of a European shorebird for the one he is documenting here.
- 15.26 doe never faile] are never absent
- 16.1 *Titans beames*] sun's rays
- 16.8 poft] soon after
- 16.15 Naucleare] from the Latin *nauclerum*, ship captain
- 16.16 aft' loomes] is seen from a distance; "ast" should be "as't"—a contraction of "as it".
- 16.17 more] moor
- 16.19 Shalop] small vessel propelled by oars, a little larger than a dory
- 16.21 Cra-fish] In modern usage, crayfish refers to a freshwater crustacean. In Early Modern English, it was a general term for all large edible crustacea.
- 16.23 Hacke] hake, fish of the cod family
- 16.23 Bafe] The sea bass is a common marine fish native to the shores of Europe. It is unclear what native fish Morrell refers to here.
- 16.28 traine] Archaic term for oil extracted from sea animals, primarily marine mammals; in this instance the reference is to cod liver oil.
- 17.1 ftor] store; *i.e.* a supply
- 17.5 *Pyramy*] archaic spelling of pyramid

Notes

- 17.6 ruinate] destroy
- 17.11 hefts] commands
- 17.30 ere] earlier
- 17.16 nere] obsolete contracted form of *never*
- 17.25 greesces] greces, literally steps or stairs; i.e. cutting the hair
 in an uneven steps or rows
- 17.31 mantled] cloaked
- 18.4 Begirts] surrounds
- 18.5 his flame] genitals
- 18.6 Start-vps] Literally the meaning is a half-boot. In this instance, James Baxter, editor of the three volume work *Sir Ferdinando Gorges and his province of Maine...* indicates that it means leggings.
- 18.7 *Pinfen*] Alternative spelling for the obsolete *pinson*, a thin shoe or slipper, seldom worn after ca. 1600.
- 18.14 burning vp all with fire] referring to their slash-and-burn methods of agriculture
- 18.16 And make ... Corne to beare] And make it fit to supply a great amount of corn
- 18.19 difcent] descent
- 18.21 confort of his bed] wife
- 18.23 highly bred ... ftate] educated or cultivated
- 18.24 they'rs] should read "they're"
- 18.24 prognate] descended
- 18.25-28 If they vnequall ... Their Kingdomes,] *I.e.* Children fathered on consorts of lower standing would not command such high respect.
- 19.3 Thefe heads] refers to their kings
- 19.7 Potents] powerful figures having great authority or influence
- 19.8 their peere] referring to the king they serve
- 19.11-12 To drinke a potion ... casting,] casting: vomiting. In many Native American tribes particularly in the southeast, whenever a council of the chiefdom was held, a ritual

Notes

beverage known as black drink would be consumed by adult men, which was thought to purify and rid the body of toxins and to promote social cohesion. The main ingredient was a type of holly (*Ilex vomitoria*). Black drink is extremely bitter, has high caffeine content, and in large doses serves as an emetic. When consumed in great amounts, this drink can cause projectile vomiting. Morrell is describing an equivalent ceremony among New England's native inhabitants.

- 19.19 eafe:] give themselves relief
19.21 divell] obsolete spelling of devil
19.26 Tell] should be "Till"
19.26 leaft] lest
19.27 leaue] permission
19.31 fild] filled
19.32 are fpild] i.e., are killed
20.12 ftaffe] basis
20.17 and his] his possessions are implied here
20.18 concaues] caves
20.21 wyle] wile, deceit
20.30 doat vpon] dote, admire
21.5 graffie twyne] cord or string of grass
21.6 lyne] cords of plant material
21.7 Arras] tapestry that hangs on a wall
21.12 finger-worke] movement of fingers
21.14 what fo ere] whatsoever
21.18 Ceres] Roman goddess of grain
21.26 content] satisfaction
21.28 And s nere] And is never
21.30 Leige] the superior to whom one owes feudal allegiance and service

Notes

- 21.32 daign'de] esteemed
- 22.1 Worthy faire *Hymens* favours] suitable for marriage or sexual congress
- 22.3 lynes] Bible verses
- 22.27 for aye] forever
- 22.20 bills] documents
- 22.24 vne'ft] contracted form of *unless it*
- 22.26 *Pans* harfher numbers] Pan was the ancient Greek god of nature, rustic music and *impromptus*; this refers to panpipes and by extension the songs of the Indians.
- 23.1 feafst] religious feasts; i.e. feast days
- 23.2 do'th] contraction of doeth; obsolete third person, singular, present, indicative, active of do.
- 23.8 distingui'fht] misplaced apostrophe; should read "distinguish't"
- 23.9 *Phoebus*] Apollo, god of the sun
- 23.10 *Phoebe*] Epithet for Selene, the ancient Greek goddess of the moon; i.e. the moon
- 23.17 aright] proper, in the postpositive sense
- 23.18 withfood] contradicted
- 23.28 Eternall Trine] Holy trinity
- 24.2 affranting] affronting
- 24.6 moue] Literally, the English move to New England
- 24.8 pore-blinde] purblind, partially blind
- 24.11 If Heavens graunt ... truft;] If the heavens grant these things, I trust to see here built
- (25).3 Sero fapere] Literally late to understand, *i.e.* understand too late.
- (25).4 *fayrely*] fairly
- (25).8 Promethius, *not an* Epimethius,] In Greek mythology, Prometheus and Epimetheus were Titan brothers. Prometheus, who is credited with stealing fire from

Notes

- the gods and giving it to mankind is viewed as clever. Epithemeus, who was tasked with bestowing a positive trait to animals, could not think of one to give man and is subsequently seen as foolish and unintelligent.
- (25).9 *offensiuē*] harmful.
- (25).10 *quaeant*] should be “queant”
- (25).10-11 *Quae prodeffe ... legentem.*] Let that which is able to benefit and please the reader.
- (25).15 *number*] Refers to the number of English inhabitants in a particular colony.
- (25).16 *vnion*] harmony
- (25).22 *f one*] should be “if one”
- (25).23-24 *be the seasons ... vnseasonable*] *i.e.* provided that the seasons are not too harsh
- (25).25 *subsift*] maintain
- (26).1 *Vincit patientia durum.*] Patience overcomes hardships.
- (26).1-2 *engeners*] engineers, specifically someone who builds military equipment or someone who constructs public utilities such as bridges, roads, etc.
- (26).4 *preiudize*] prejudice
- (26).5 *patient*] disposed
- (26).7 *inconfiderate*] unruly
- (26).8 *furniture*] provisions
- (26).9 *appendences*] additional supplies
- (26).10 *competent*] means or resources
- (26).11 *estate*] general condition or state
- (26).11 *mastiuēs*] English mastiffs
- (26).11 *singular*] sole or exclusive
- (26).21 *per aduenture*] by chance
- (26).25 *stages*] stagecoaches
- (26).27 *enforme*] inform

COLOPHON

*Composed for the most part in Junicode types,
with occasional resort to IM Fell English, IM Fell DW Pica,
IM Fell Double Pica, IM Fell 3-Line Pica, Fell Flowers,
IFAO Greek Unicode, Deja Vu Sans, and Simplified
Arabic. The page design and layout are based on
the 1625 London edition, and page breaks in
that version are preserved. Ornaments are
reconstructions of those in
the first edition.*

