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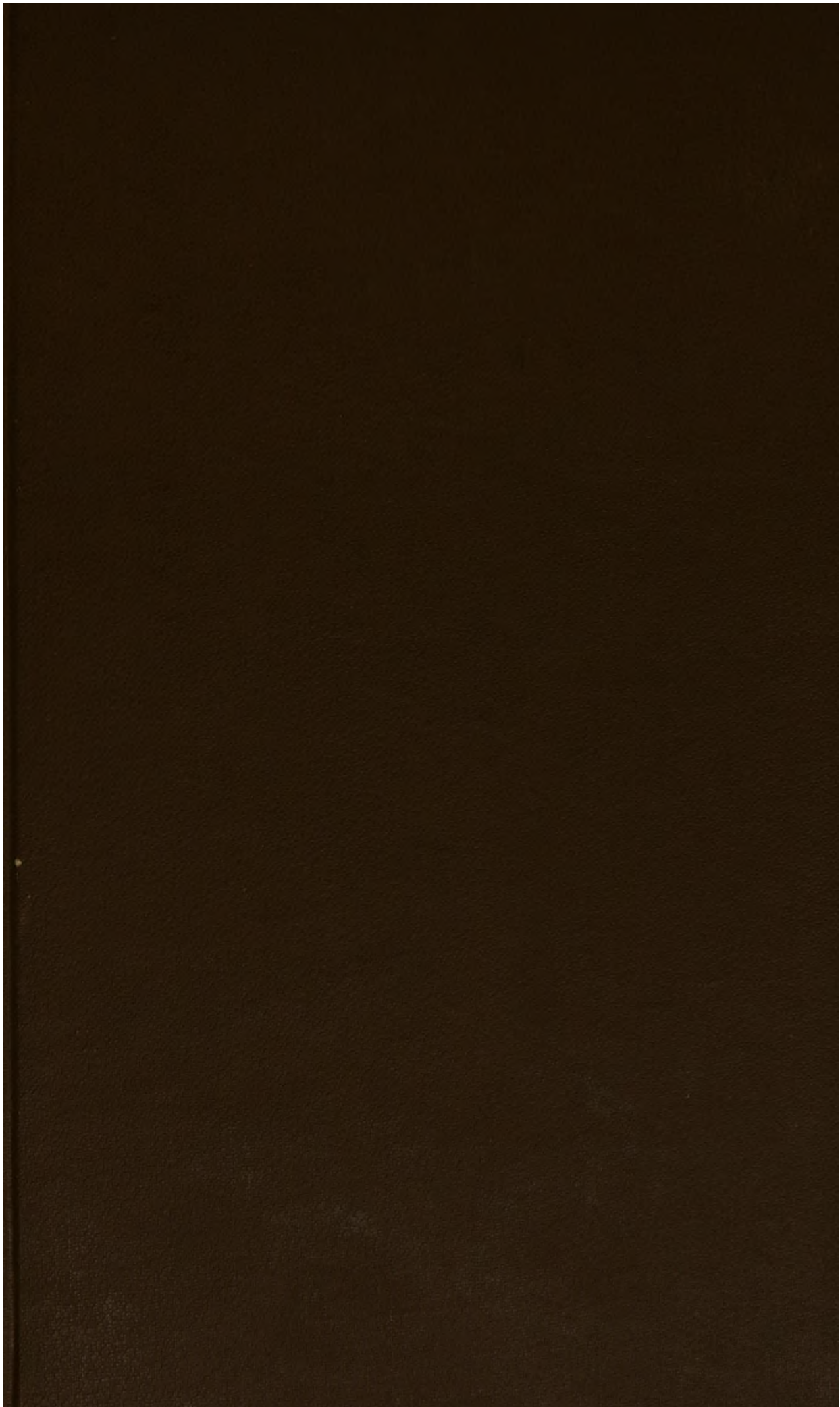
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[Rebound Feb. 1930]

G. Pamph. 1283 (22<sup>b</sup>)

[See note inside cover of 22<sup>a</sup>.]





T W O  
IMITATIONS  
O F  
CHAUCER.

VIZ.



I. *SUSANNAH* and the  
Two *ELDERS*.

II. Earl *ROBERT*'s Mice.

---

By *MATTHEW PRIOR*, Esq;

---

L O N D O N:

Printed in the Year M.DCC.XII.

22<sup>6.</sup>  
21.

Handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is extremely faint and illegible due to low contrast and significant noise. It appears to be organized into several paragraphs or sections, but the specific content cannot be discerned.

SUSANNAH and the Two ELDERS,

IN

Imitation of *CHAUCER*.

---

By Mr. PRIOR.

---

**F**AR SUSAN did her Wifchode  
(Well maintaine,  
Algates assaulted soze by Leachers  
(twaine :  
Now, an' I reade aryghte that auncient  
(Song,  
The Paramours were Olde, the Dame  
(was Yong.

Had thilke same Tale in other guise  
(bene tolde,  
Had they been Yong (parchie) and she bene  
(Olde,  
Sweet Jesu! that had bene much sozer  
(Lypale ;  
Full Harbailous, I wot, were such  
(Denyale!



# SUSANNAH and the TWO ELDERS,

Attempted in a

## MODERN STILE.

WHEN Fair SUSANNAH in a cool retreat  
Of shady Arbours shun'd the Sultry heat.

Two wanton Lechers to her Garden came,  
And, rushing furious, seiz'd the trembling Dame.  
What Female Strength could do, her Arms perform,  
And guarded well the Fort they strove to Storm.  
The Story's ancient, and, if rightly told,  
Young was the Lady, but the Lovers Old.

Had the Reverse been true, had Authors Sung,  
How that the Dame was *Old*, the Lovers *Young*.  
If She had then the blooming Pair deny'd,  
With tempting Youth and Vigour on their side,  
Lord! How the Story would have shock'd my  
(*Creed!*)  
For that had been a Miracle indeed.

*Earl*

---

---

Earl *ROBERT*'s

**M I C E.**

**T**WICE, full Blythe and Ami-  
(cable,  
Batten beside Earl *ROBERT*'s Table.  
Lies there ne Trap their Necks to catch,  
The old black Cat their Steps to watch.  
Their fill they eat of fowl and fish;  
Feast like as heart of House could wish.

As Guests sat Jovial at the Board,  
Forth leap'd the Mice: Eftsoons the Lord  
Of *BOLING*, whilome *JOHN* the *SAINTE*,  
Who maketh oft propose full Quaint;  
Laugh'd Jocund, and aloud he cry'd,  
To *MATTHEW* seated on the other side;  
To

To thee lean Bard it doth pertain  
 To understand these Creatures Twain.  
 Come frame us now some clean Device,  
 Or pleasant Rhyme on yonder Vice.  
 They seem, God shield me, MAT. and  
 (CHARLES,  
 Bad as Sir Topaz \* or Squire Quarles.  
 MATTHEW did for the nonce Reply,  
 At Emblem or Device am I,  
 But could I Chant or Rhyme pardie,  
 Clear as Dan Chaucer, or as Thee,  
 No Verse from me, so God me shrieve,  
 On Housle or any Beast alive.  
 Certes I have these many Days,  
 Sent mine Poetic Herd to graze.  
 No Armed Knight ydred in War,  
 With Lyon fierce Will I compare.  
 No judge unjust, With furred Fox ;  
 Harming in Secret Guise the Flocks.  
 No Priest unworthy Godes Coat,  
 To Swine ydrunk, or filthy Stoat.

---

\* A sort of Ballad Rhymes so call'd by  
 CHAUCER.

Elk Simile farewell for aye,  
From Elephant I trow to Flea.  
Reply'd the friendlike Deer, I weene  
MATTHEW is angered in the Spleen.  
He so, quoth MATT. ne shall be er'e,  
With Wit that falleth all so fair.  
Eftsoons Well Weet ye mine Intent,  
Boweth to your Commaundement.  
If by these Creatures ye have seen,  
Portrayed CHARLES and MATTHEW  
(been :

Behoveth neet to rack my Brain,  
The rest in Order to explain.  
That Cupboard where the Dice disport,  
I liken to St. \*STEPHEN'S Court :  
Therein is Space enough I trow,  
For elke Comrade to come and goe.  
And therein eke may both be fed,  
With Shiber from the Wheaten Bread.  
And whenas these Nine Eyeen survey,  
They cease to Skip, and Squeak and  
, (Play ;

---

\* Exchequer.

Return they may to different Cells,  
 AUDITING One, whilst t'other TELLS.  
 Dear ROBERT, quoth the SAINT, whose  
 (Mind  
 In Bounteous Deed no Mean can bind;  
 Now as I hope to grow devout,  
 I deem this Matter Well made out.  
 Laugh I, whilst thus I serious Pray,  
 Let that be done which MATT. doth say;  
 Yea, quoth the EARL, but not to Day.

FINIS.

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