AN OLDER FORM OF THE TREATYSE OF FYSSHYNGE WYTH AN ANGLE

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An older form of the Treatyse of Fysshynge wyth an angle by Various

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VARIOUS

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AN OLDER FORM

OF THE

Treatyse of Fysshynge wyth an angle

ATTRIBUTED TO

DAME JULIANA BARNES.

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Printed from a MS. in the possession of Alfred Denison, Esq.

WITH

PREFACE AND GLOSSARY BY THOMAS SATCHELL.

Fondon: W. SATCHELL & CO.,

19, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.

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of the

Treatyse of Fysshynge wyth an angle.

Demy Octavo. 400 Copies.

This edition is printed solely for presentation to the Members of the English Dialect Society and others, who will please to accept of copies with the best respects of the Editor.

Downshire Hill, Hampstead, N.W. October 8, 1883.

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PREFACE.

written on five sheets of paper folded in quarto form. The leaves have been slightly cut and now measure seven and a half inches by five and a half. The paper is water-marked with a hand or glove, to the middle finger of which a six pointed star is attached by a short line. Each page contains from 22 to 25 lines closely written in a correspondence hand of the earlier half of the 15th century.

The manuscript is now in the possession of Mr. Denison of Albemarle-street and is regarded as one of the most interesting relics in his famous angling collection. To him it came from the library of Mr. Jesse at the dispersal of which by auction in November, 1868, it was sold for 45s.

The following note by Mr. Joseph Haslewood, giving its previous history as far as is known, is

now bound up with the original, and a transcript in the handwriting of the same gentleman:

"Of this volume. The following 20 pages is the fragment of a manuscript of the earlier part of the xvth century and forms a considerable portion of the 'little pamphlet' first printed in the Book of St. Albans. This is the same manuscript as is noticed in the Introduction to the reprint of that volume (p. 63) as formerly in the possession of the typographical historian William Herbert who transcribed same, and that copy is there referred to as then possessed by the late Mr. Townley. The original, here preserved, passed from the possession of Herbert to Mr. Brand, and from him to the late George Isted, Esq., who presented it to me a few months before he died. It was bound with other manuscripts of less interest and value. A paginary transcript was added for the convenience of reading, wherein it will be found the letter y is occasionally substituted for the Saxon compound character p,

At the reference here given to the reprint in 1810 of the treatise attributed to Dame Juliana Barnes, Mr. Haslewood says:

"It extends to the instructions respecting the trout, and stops with the bait to be used in September. There is the customary difference in orthography; and three instances occur of variations in the introductory matter, which may here be preserved." (p. 63)

He then quotes the passage on our third page beginning, "Many a gyn & many a snayr he maket"; the addition on page four of the words: "and sum tyme death"; while the third variation is given as follows:

"Also whoso wol vse ye game & disporte of anglyng, he must take hede to thys sentence of the olde pube yt is thise vsus

Surge miser mane sq noli surger, vane Sanctificat sanat dicat quoq surger, mane " This passage will be found (with a difference) on our fifth page.

The "Advertisement" to Mr. Pickering's reprint of the "Treatyse of fysshynge" published in 1827, also makes mention of the manuscript and in these terms:

"The only MS. of the Treatyse which is known to be extant, is a fragment now in the possession of Joseph Haslewood, Esq., and which formerly belonged to Mr. William Herbert. It does not extend farther than the instructions relating to the bait for trout; and the different readings between it and the printed copies, which are very few and unimportant, are minutely given by that accurate and indefatigable reviver of old English literature in his reprint of the Boke of St. Albans."

We are unaware of any other printed reference to the manuscript.