

THE DESCRIPTION OF THE WORLD A BEAUTIFUL MIRACLE

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Church and the holy body saw that that idolater baron had thus had *the Church and* FB those houses filled and that the Christians will have nowhere to lodge they had great vexation at it and pray him much that he should not do it, *thus to fill the* Z *Church and its houses*. But he that was very cruel and proud *drove them away with* VB *threats and scorn* & listened to none of their prayer but *fulfilled his plan completely,* Z *causing the Church to be filled and all those houses according to his wish and against* Z the wish of the Christians who watch the Church.¹ *The Christians being unable to* VB *prevail against the power of the idolater baron set themselves to pray*. And when this baron had caused all the houses of Saint Thomas to be filled with his rice at which the brothers had so great anger, there happened so great miracle [82d] as I shall tell you. For you may know that the night after that *idolater baron had had those houses* VB filled, Master Saint Thomas the Apostle appeared to him *in a vision* with a fork of VA VB *iron in hand and put it at the throat of the sleeping baron and said to him,* O such P an one, if thou dost not have my houses *which thy rash haste has filled to my hurt* P emptied immediately to lodge my pilgrims, *and in future shalt make my servants pay thee* FB Z *tribute of the trees which they own, thou must be killed by an evil death.*² And while he said this he pressed the throat hard with that fork so that it seemed to the baron that he would have great pain, and it wanted but little that he believed that he was dying. And when Master Saint Thomas had done this he went away. And that baron gets up early in the morning & *immediately did all that the Apostle in the vision had* P *commanded* and has all those houses emptied, and tells *publicly all that happened* P to him from Master Saint Thomas, which was indeed held for a great miracle. *And the king never more for the future took tribute of the trees nor anything from the Christians* Z *who guarded the monastery and Church as he used to take*. And then the Christians have Z great joy about it and great gladness and much they give great thanks and great honour to God and to Master Saint Thomas and much they bless his name. Moreover VA I tell you that other miracles enough *to the honour of the Christian faith* happened P there all the year³ which would indeed be held for great wonders, whoever should hear them told, and especially of healing Christians who are withered and crippled⁴

¹ TA³ makes the baron with his family occupy all the houses, and does not mention the rice.

² *o tel o se tu ne fais . . .* The version, which is supported by Z, V, VA, VL, and S, simply omits the second o. FB: *ou tu feras vuider mes maisons pour herbergier mes pelerins ou tu mouras de male mort* B. therefore reads *O tu fais vuider tantosto mes maisonz o se tu ne fais vuider tantosto mes maisonz il convient . . .*

³ FB: *souuant* LT: *frequenter* L: *continuo* VA: *tuto el di* VB: *continuamente fino al di dancho* R: *tutt'il giorno* TA, V, Z omit.

⁴ *esteperes e gaste* TA: *lebrosi*