
The doctour of phisyk

J.C. Garvey unearthed an early version of the prologue to Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*.

With us ther was a Doctour of Phisyk,
That took no joie in heling of the syk
Excepten that it be he writen has
Some article or bok upon the cas;
For he cam of that bande of missionours
That hight "The Colledge of Practicionours".
He knew the cure for aigues and eek tyks,
And scorn to usen antibiotyks
In sore throts; they mainly be todey
The viral sort: ther nis namore to sey.
He knew what fats and lypids to avoid.
Wel lerned hadde he the boks of Olde Freud,
But for to use his teching he him stinte,
And follwed much the teching of Balinte.
And thus of "doctour-pacient interaccioun",
And "Clinical audite" and lyk contrapcioun,
He made his speche and parlaunce al the day,
That on coud scarce conne what he say.
From Princes Gate now ycome is he,
This parragoun, this FRCGP,
To doon a week-end cours on "Syncopee",
Allowed under seccion sixty-three.
Therto eek in his company bifor
Ther rood his clerkes twain and typists four,
His practis menager and district nerce
And outhres severall I mot reherce:
The styward that in the pharmacy doth swinke,
The hande-maad that clean the kitchen sinke,
And also his computer programour;
He was a verrey parfit practisour.

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