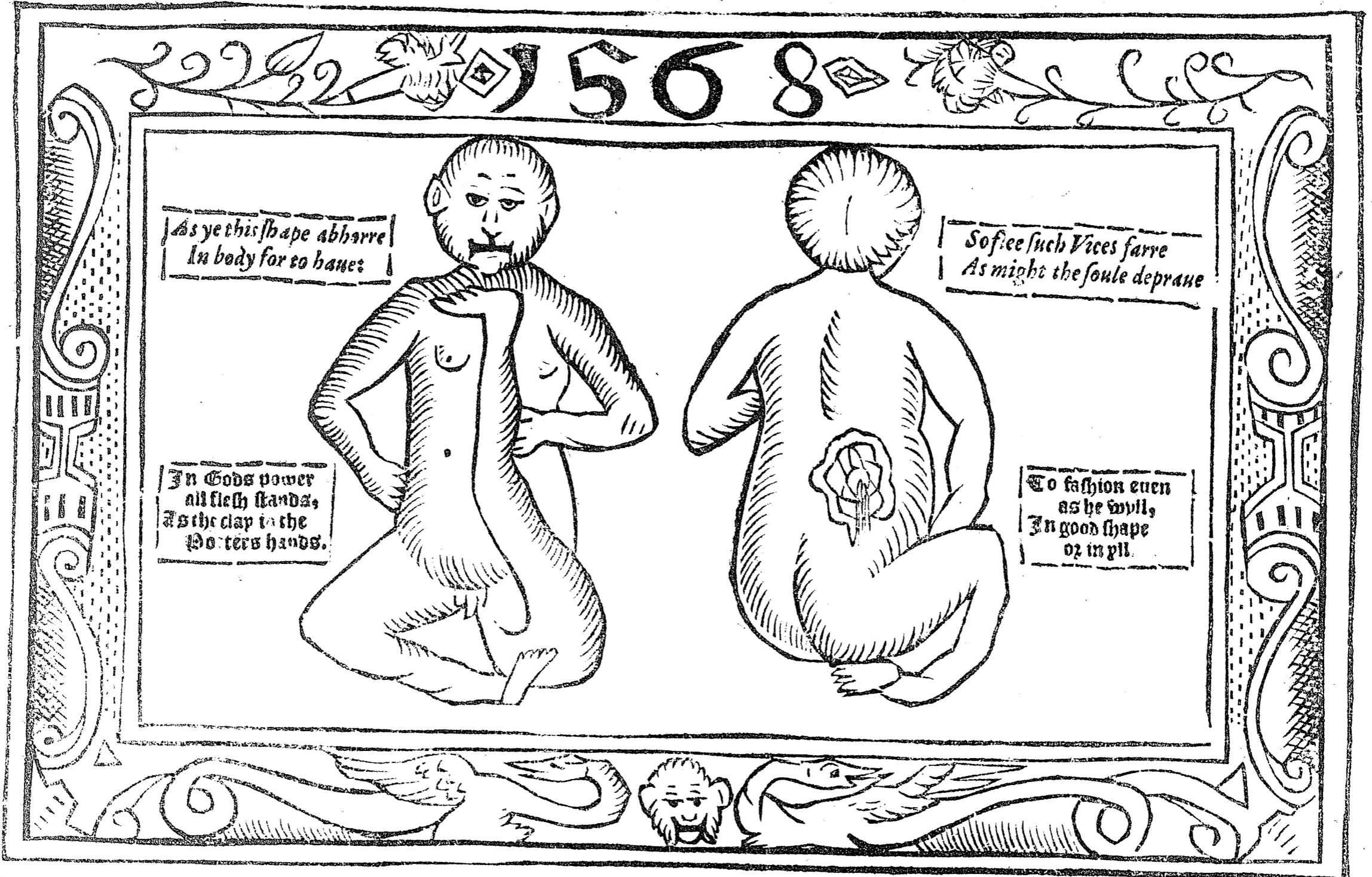


The forme and shape of a Monstrous Child / borne at Baydstone in Kent, the .xxiiij. of October. 1568.



At Baydstone in Kent there was one Marget Here, Daughter to Richard Here of the sayd Colne of Baydstone, who being vnmarrjed, played the naughty packe, and was gotten with childe, being deliuered of the same childe the .xxiiij. daye of October last past, in the yeare of our Lord. 1568. at .vij. of the clocke in the after noone of the same day being Sondag. which child being a man child, had first the mouth slitted on the right side like a Libardes mouth, terrible to behold, the left arme lying vpon the brest, fast cherto ioyned, hauing as it were stumps on the handes, the left leg growing vppward toward the head, and the ryght leg bending toward the left leg, the foote thereof growing into the buttocke of the sayd left leg. In the myddest of the backe there was a broade lump of flesh in fashion lyke a Rose, in the myddest whereof was a hole, which boyded like an Issue. Thys sayd Chilbe was borne alyue, and lyued .xxiiij. houres, and then departed this lyfe. which may be a terrour as well to all such workers of filthynes & iniquity, as to thole vngodly liuers. who (if in them any feare of God be) may mooue them to repentance and amendement of lyfe. which God for Christes sake graunt both to them and vs. Amen. witnesses hereof were these, William Plomer, John Squier Glasier, John Sadler Goldsmith, besides diuers other credible persons both men and women.

A warning to England.

This monstrous shape to thee England
Playn shewes thy monstrous vice.
If thou ech part wylt vnderstand,
And take thereby aduice.

For waying first the gaspyng mouth,
It doth full well declare:
What rauine and oppression both
Is vsed wyth greedy care.

For, for the backe and gorging paunch,
To lyue in wealth and ease:
Such toylnen take that none may haunch
Their greedy minde, nor please.

For in such sort, their mouthes they infect,
With lying othes, and slaightes:
Blaspheming God, and Prince relect,
As they were brutish beastes.

Their filthy talke, and poysoned speech,
Disfigures so the mouth:
That some wold think ther stooch y bzeech
Such filthy it breatheth forth.

The hands which haue no fingers right
But stumps sit for no vie:
Doth well set forth the idle plight,
Which we in these daies chuse.

For rich and poore, for age and youth,
Eche one wold labour flye:
few seeke to do the deedes of truth,
To helpe others thereby.

The leg so clyming to the head,
What meaneth it but this:
That some do seeke not to be lead,
But for to leade amis.

And as this makes it most monstrous,
For foote to clyme to head:
So thole Subjects be most vicious,
That refuse to be lead.

The hinder part doth shew vs playne,
Our close and hidden vice,
Which doth behind vs run amayne,
In byle and shameful wyse.

Wherefore to ech in England now,
Let this Monster them teach:
To mend the monstrous life they how,
Least endles death them reach.

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