

with alle the melodye that thei can devyse. And whan thei han don hire craft, than thei bryngen before the emperour, lyouns, libardes and other dyverse bestes; and egles and veutours, and other dyverse foules; and fissesches, and serpentes; for to don him reverence. And than comen jogulours and enchauntoures, that don many marvayles: for thei maken to come in the ayr, the sonne and the mone, be semyng, to every mannes sight. And afre thei maken the day to come azen, fair and plesant with bright sonne, to every mannes sight. And than thei bryngen in daunces of the faireste damyselles of the world, and richest arrayed. And afre thei maken to come in, other damyselles, bryngyng coupes of gold, fulle of mylk of dyverse bestes, and zeven drynke to lordes and to ladyes. And than thei make knyghtes to jousten in armes fulle lustyly; and thei rennen to gidre a gret randoum; and thei frusschen to gidre fulle fiercely; and thei broken here speres so rudely, that the tronchouns fien in sprotes and peeces alle aboute the halle. And than thei make to come in huntynge, for the hert and for the boor, with houndes rennyng with open mouthes. And many other thinges thei don, be craft of hire enchauntementes; that it is marveyle for to see. And suche pleyes of desport thei make, til the takynge up of the boordes.

This gret Chan hathe fulle gret peple for to serve him, as I have told you before. For he hathe of mynstralles the nombre of 13 cumanez: but thei abyde not alle weys with hym. For alle the mynstrelle that comen before hym, of what nacyoun that thei ben of, thei ben withholden with him, as of his houshold, and entred in his bokes, as for his owne men. And afre that, where that evere thei gon, ever more thei cleymen for mynstralle of the grete Chane: and undre that tytyle, alle kynges and lordes, cherisschen hem the more with ziftes and alle thing. And therefore he hathe so gret multytude of hem. And he hathe of certeyn men, as thoughe thei were zomen, that kepen bryddes, as ostryeches, gerfacouns, sparchaukes, fukons gentyls, lanyeres, sacres, sacrettes, papyngayes wel spekyng, and briddes syngyng. And also of wylde bestes, as of olifauntz, tame and othere, babewynes, apes, marmesettes, and othere dyverse bestes; the mountance of 15 cumanez of zomen. And of Phisicyens Cristene, he hathe 200. And of leches, that ben Cristene, he hathe 210. And of leches and Phisicyens, that ben Sarrazines 20: but he trustethe more in the Cristene leches, than in the Sarazines. And his other comoun household is with outen nombre: and thei alle han alle necessities,