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# A Cryptogram in Bodley 572

## Introduction

This note employs a basic vowel cypher: wherever a consonant occurs in a vowel position, replace it with the vowel that precedes it in the alphabet; thus *f* becomes *e* while *k* becomes *i*. This sort of cypher occurs fairly commonly in brief notes, serving sometimes as a childish riddle of the type “c4n y0u r34d th1\$,” sometimes to sign one’s name without drawing too much attention to it; thus a commentator named Coleman repeatedly signed his name “Cplfmbn” (e.g. on p. 142 of [CCCC 162](#)).

## Manuscript

Oxford, Bodleian Library, MS Bodley 572, fol. 40r.

## Text

Is ðks frfgfn sflkc þkngc tp rædfnf.