

Autobiographical Tracts

OF

DR. JOHN DEE,

WARDEN OF THE COLLEGE OF MANCHESTER.

EDITED BY

JAMES CROSSLEY, ESQ.

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Geographical Guide

DE JOHN DOE

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PREFACE

TO THE AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL TRACTS.

THE following Tracts having been printed off some time ago, it has been considered desirable to include them as part of the present Volume. The Correspondence of Dr. Dee, with selections from his MSS. and printed works, will form a separate publication, to which will be prefixed a fuller account than has yet been given of the Life and Writings of this most extraordinary person.

The Tracts consist of:

PAGES

- 1 — 45. "The Compendious Rehearsall of John Dee." This exceedingly curious document was only to be found in a printed form in the Appendix to Hearne's *Johannis Glastoniensis Chronica*: Oxon. 1726, 8vo, of which work the number printed being very limited, it is consequently scarce. Hearne's printed copy has been carefully collated for this republication with Ashmole's transcript of the original before it was burnt, now in the Ashmolean Library, through the kindness of J. O. HALLIWELL, Esq., who has contributed so largely to the materials for the Life of Dee, by the publication of his Diary in the Camden series.
- 46 — 47. "Supplication to Queen Mary."

- 48 — 49. "Articles for the recovery and preservation of the ancient monuments." These, which serve to illustrate the "Compendious Rehearsal," are reprinted from Hearne's Appendix to *J. Glastoniensis Chronica*.
- 50 — 67. "A necessary Advertizement." This forms the preface (Δij — E* iiii) to Dee's "General and rare Memorials pertaining to the Perfect Arte of Navigation," Lond. 1577, fol. which is now an excessively rare volume. The "Advertizement" has appeared, but not very accurately, in Beloe's *Anecdotes of Literature and Scarce Books*, vol. ii. p. 263, and is more correctly reprinted in the Collectanea now issued from a copy of the "General and rare Memorials" in my possession. The "unknown freend" who writes this singular "advertizement," it is scarcely necessary to observe, is Dee himself.
- 69 — 84. "A Letter containing a most brief Discourse Apologetical." This Letter, which was sent by Dee to Whitgift, 1594-5, was republished by Meric Casaubon at the end of his preface to the "Relation of what passed between Dr. John Dee and some Spirits," 1659, fol. The present edition is a fac-simile reprint from the scarce 4to of 1604.

J. C.

THE COMPENDIOUS REHEARSALL OF JOHN DEE HIS DUTIFULL
DECLARACION, AND PROOF OF THE COURSE AND RACE
OF HIS STUDIOUS LYFE, FOR THE SPACE OF HALFE AN
HUNDRED YEARES, NOW (BY GOD'S FAVOUR AND HELPE
FULLY SPENT, AND OF THE VERY GREAT INJURIES, DA-
MAGES, AND INDIGNITIES, WHICH FOR THESE LAST NYNE
YEARS HE HATH IN ENGLAND SUSTAINED, (CONTRARY TO
HER MAJESTIES VERY GRACIOUS WILL AND EXPRESS
COMMANDMENT), MADE UNTO THE TWO HONOURABLE
COMMISSIONERS, BY HER MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTIE
THERETO ASSIGNED, ACCORDING TO THE INTENT OF THE
MOST HUMBLE SUPPLICATION OF THE SAID JOHN, EXHI-
BITED TO HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTIE AT HAMPTON-
COURT. ANNO 1592. NOV. 9.

REDDE RATIONEM VILICATIONIS TUE.—LUC. X.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL PRINCIPLES OF THE COURSE AND
INVESTIGATION AND PROOF OF THE COURSE AND
OF HIS STUDIOUS CARE FOR THE WELFARE OF HIS
COUNTRY AND THE PEOPLE OF HIS KINGDOM AND
THEY BEING OF THE VERY GREAT IMPORTANCE
AND IMPORTANCE WHICH FOR THE LAST YEAR
THEY HAVE BEEN IN ENGLAND BUT FOR THE
THE MATTER VERY EARLY WILL AND SHALL
COMMANDINGLY BEING INTO THE TWO HONORABLE
COMMISSIONERS BY THE MOST EXCELLENT MANNER
THEY TO BEING ACCORDING TO THE WISDOM OF THE
MOST EXCELLENT INVESTIGATION OF THE SAID
THEY TO BEING MOST EXCELLENT MANNER THE
GREAT AND GOOD.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL PRINCIPLES OF THE COURSE AND

THE COMPENDIOUS REHEARSAL,

ETC.

THE COPPY OF THE FORESAID SUPPLICATION TO HER MOST EXCELLENT
MA^{TIE}.

Most gracious Quene,

FORASMUCH as the intollerable extremitie of the injuries and indignities, which your most excellent Majesties faithfull and dutifull servant, John Dee, hath for some yeares last past endured, and still endureth, is so great and manifold, as cannot in briefe be unto your Majestie expressed, neither without good proof and testimonie have credit with your Majestie: and because also, without speedy and good redress therein performed, it is to be doubted, that great and incredible inconveniences and griefes may ensue thereof in sundry sorte; (which yet may easily be prevented) your Majesties foresaid most humble and most zealously faithfull servant beseecheth your Majestie, to assign two or mo meete and worthy persons, nobly and vertuously minded, who may and will charitably, indifferently, advisedly, and exactly see, heare, and perceive, at the house of your Majestie's said servant in Mortlake, what just and needeful occasion he hath thus to make most humble supplication unto your Majestie: and so of things their seene, heard, and perceived, to make true and full report and description unto your Majestie. And thus your Majestie's foresaid most dutifull servant beseecheth the Almighty God most mercifully, prosperously, and allwaies to bless and preserve your most excellent Majestie royal. Amen.

A. 1592. Nov. 9.

Be it remembred,

That this Supplication being exhibited unto her Majestie by the honourable Countess of Warwick the 9th of November, and read by her Majestie's selfe; thereupon her Majestie immediately ap-

pointed the honourable Mr. Secretary Wolley, and Sir Thomas Gorge, Knight, Gentleman of her Majestie's Wardrobe, to be the two Commissioners, according to the tenor of this Supplication.

And so, the foresaid two honourable Commissioners came the 22nd day of November, A. 1592, to my house at Mortlake, to see, heare, and perceive some things, according to the intent of the former Supplication. To whome being set at one table in the middle of my late library-roome, and next before them two other great tables, being covered; the one, with very many letters and recordes of fifty years course, and testimonies of my studious lyfe, in and from the most famous places and parties of all Christendome; and the other with such divers books of my making, printed and unprinted, as I had in my foresaid tyme written or devised: then I did begin my declaration, concurring orderly with the text of this booke, purposely and by the Commissioners' advise, in some order of method most briefely and speedely contrived against this day.

A BRIEFE NOTE AND ABSTRACT, IN DIVERS CHAPTERS AND PRINCIPALL POINTS, TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE RACE OF THAT HALFE HUNDRED YEARES, WHICH (WITH THE FAVOUR AND HELPE OF GOD) I HAVE ALREADY RUNN, FOR ATTEYNING OF GOOD LEARNING; SINCE MY FIRST BECOMING A STUDEANT IN CAMBRIDGE AN. 1542, IN NOVEMBER. AND NOW BEING A. 1592, NOVEMBER 22, DOTH PROVE THE RACE TO HAVE BYN OF JUST HALFE AN HUNDRED YEARES.

CHAPTER I.

THE ENTRANCE AND GROUNDPLAT OF MY FIRST STUDIES.

ANNO 1542. I was (in November) sent by my father, Rowland Dee, to the Universitie of Cambridge, there to begin with logick, and so to proceede in the learning of good artes and sciences (for I had before, in London, and at Chelmisford, been metely well fur-

nished with understanding of the Latine tongue): I being then somewhat above fifteene yeares old, as being borne A. 1527, July 13.

In the yeares 1543, 1544, 1545, I was so vehemently bent to studie, that for those yeares I did inviolably keepe this order; only to sleepe four houres every night; to allow to meate and drink (and some refreshing after) two houres every day; and of the other eighteen houres all (except the tyme of going to and being at divine service) was spent in my studies and learning.

After I was Batchellor of Art, I went beyond the seas (anno 1547 in May) to speake and conferr with some learned men, and chiefly mathematicians, as Gemma Frisius, Gerardus Mercator, Gaspar à Mirica, Antonius Gogava, &c. And after some moneths so spent about the Low Countries, I returned home, and brought with me the first astronomer's staff of brass, that was made of Gemma Frisius' devising, the two great globes of Gerardus Mercator's making, and the astronomer's ring of brass, as Gemma Frisius had newly framed it; and they were afterwards by me left to the use of the Fellowes and Schollers of Trinity Colledge: some prooffe hereof may appeare by the letters of Mr. John Chistoferson, who afterwards was Byshop of Chichester elect.

In this yeare of 1547, I began to make observations (very many to the houre and minute) of the heavenly influences and operations actuall in this elementall portion of the world. Of which sort I made some thousands in the yeares then following: as may appeare by my owne writing in my *Ephemerides*, and in sundry other bookes purposely recorded and here lying before your Honor.

I was out of St. John's Colledge chosen to be Fellow of Trinity Colledge, at the first erection thereof by King Henry the Eight. I was also assigned there to be the Under-Reader of the Greeke tongue, Mr. Pember being the chiefe Greeke Reader then in Trinity Colledge. Hereupon I did sett forth (and it was seene of the University) a Greeke comedy of Aristophanes, named in Greeke *Εἰρήνη*, in Latin, *Pax*; with the performance of the *Scarabeus* his flying up to Jupiter's pallace, with a man and his basket of victualls on her back: whereat was great wondring, and many vaine reportes

spread abroad of the meanes how that was effected. In that Colledge also (by my advise and by my endeavors, divers waies used with all the other Colledges) was their Christmas-Magistrate first named and confirmed an *Emperor*. The first was one Mr. Thomas Dunne, a very goodly man of person, stature, and complexion, and well learned also. They, which yet live, and were hearers and beholders, they can testifie more, then is meete here to be written of these my boyish attemptes and exploites scholasticall.

Anno 1548. I was made Master of Arte, as may appeare by the Universitie's testimonie under their seale, lying here on the table.

In the yeare 1548, I went over beyond the seas againe, and never after that was I any more studient in Cambridge: as may appeare by the whole course of my lyfe after that, manifestly testified by the letters and other recordes here before you.

I became a student at Lovayne A. 1548, at midsomer, and there I made aboad, till the 15 of July A^o. 1550; as appeareth by the notes of my *Ephemeredes*, and divers letters sent to me from divers partes, as being knowne to be at Lovayn then.

CHAPTER II.

HEREUPON FOLLOVED MY GOOD ESTIMATION AND CREDIT IN MATTERS OF GOOD LEARNING, BOTH ABROAD AND AT HOME IN ENGLAND.

ABROAD AS FOLLOWETH.

BEYOND the seas, far and neere, was a good opinion conceived of my studies philosophicall and mathematicall. First, from Lovayne did the favourable fame of my skill in good literature so spread, that thereupon divers noblemen (Spaniardes, Italians, and others) came from the Emperour Charles the Vth, his court at Bruxelles to visit me at Lovayne, and to have some prooffe of me by their owne judgements: so came the Duke of Mantua to me: so came Don Luys de la Cerda, afterwardes Duke de Medina Cœli in Spaine, unto me: so came to me, after them, from the Emperour's court at

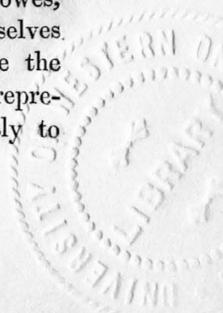
Bruxells, the honourable Sir William Pykering, Knight, and there with me remained some tyme, and of me was instructed in logick, rhetorick, arithmetick, in the use of the astronomer's staff, the use of the astronomer's ringe, the astralabe, in the use of both globes, &c.

Thither came some out of Bohemia unto me, with strange and no vulgar opinion, settled in their imaginations, of my skill, as may appear by the Record of some part of the History in my *Ephemerides* noted.

Thither came some out of Denmarke unto me, as Mathias Hacus, Danus, Regis Daniae Mathematicus; Joannes Capito, Medicus Regis Daniae, and a good mathematician also; as by letters lying on the table is evident.

There I did, for recreation, look into the method of the civile law, and profited therein so much, that in antimonys, imagined to be in the law, I had good hap to finde out (well allowed of) their agreementes; and also to enter into a plaine and due understanding of divers civill lawes, accounted very intricate and darke. Of that my study in the law your honor hath on the table the testimonie of the University of Lovayne; and by other letters unto me about that time it may appear.

From Lovayne I tooke my journey towardes Paris A. 1550, the 15 day of July, and came to Paris the 20 day of that moneth. Where, within a few daies after (at the request of some English gentlemen, made unto me to doe somewhat there for the honour of my country) I did undertake to read freely and publicquely Euclide's Elements Geometricall, *Mathematicè, Physicè, et Pythagoricè*; a thing never done publicquely in any University of Christendome. My auditory in Rhemes Colledge was so great, and the most part elder then my selfe, that the mathematicall schooles could not hold them; for many were faine, without the schooles at the windowes, to be auditors and spectators, as they best could helpe themselves thereto. I did also dictate upon every proposition, beside the first exposition. And by the first foure principall definitions representing to the eyes (which by imagination onely are exactly to



be conceived), a greater wonder arose among the beholders, than of my Aristophanes *Scarabeus* mounting up to the top of Trinity-hall in Cambridge *ut supra*. Of this mathematical reading very many testimonies lye here before you.

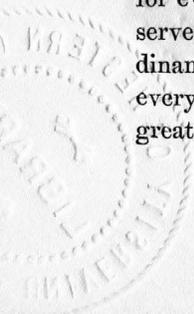
In that University of Paris, were at that tyme above forty thousand accounted studentes; some out of every quarter of Christendome being there. Among these very many of all estates and professions were desirous of my acquaintance and conference, as Orontius, Mizaldus, Petrus Montareus, Ranconetus, Danesius, Jacobus Sylvius, Jacobus Goupylus, Turnebus, Straselius, Vicomercatus, Paschasius Hamelius, Petrus Ramus, Gulielmus Postellus, Fernelius, Jo. Magnionus, Johannes à Pena, &c. as by letters lying on the table may partly appeare.

There I refused to be one of the French kinge's mathematicall readers, with 200 French crownes yearely stipend offred me, if I would stay for it; I refused likewayes a good stipend of Monsieur Babeu; and a better than that, of Monsieur de Rohan; and a better than that, of Monsieur de Monluc, who was then sent ambassadour to the Great Turk.

And not only in Lovayne and Paris Universities hath God sent me good credit and estimation with the favour and love of very many (noble lovers of good learning, or well learned themselves), but also in Orleans, Collen, Hædelberg, Strasburg, Verona, Padoa, Ferrara, Bononia, Urbino, Roma, and (to conclude herein) in many other universities, cities, and townes of Christendome; as may appeare by the multitude of letters and other recordes lying here to be seene and perused in this case; from anno 1547 till and in this present yeare of 1592.

To be most briefe therefore as concerning my forraine credit, it may suffice me, a poore studious gentleman, for my forraine credit for ever; that in this tract of my studious race I might have served five Christian Emperors; namely, Charles the Fifth, Ferdinand, Maximilian, this Rodulph, and this present Moschovite: of every one their stipendes directly or indirectly offered, amounting greater each, then other; as from 500 dollars yearely stipend to a

A sufficient
proof of my
great forraine
credit.



1000, 2000, 3000; and lastly, by a Messenger from this Russian or Moscovite Emperor, purposely sent, with a very rich present, unto me at Trebona castle, and with provision for the whole journey (being about 1200 myles from the castle, where I lay) of my coming to his court at Moskow (with my wife, children, and my whole family) there to enjoy at his Imperial handes £2000 sterling yearely stipende; aud of his protector yearely a thousand rubbles; with my diet also to be allowed me free out of the Emperour's owne kitchin: and to be in dignity with authority amongst the highest sort of the nobility there, and of his privy-councillors, &c. Of this last great preferment offered, many Englishmen, yet living, and in this kingdome, be witnesses: the Landgrave of Hesse-Cassell his letter is ready to be shewed, and other letters of men of credit can be sufficient testimonie; besides the forerunner to seek me, and the embassadours or messengers, their owne writings thereof here lyes.

Note, the Commissioners jointly read two of the testimonies of the Moscovite's great offers and promise.

CHAPTER III.

MY CREDIT AND ESTIMATION IN ENGLAND, FOR THE MOST PART OF THE FORMER WHOLE RACE.

THAT may also appeare evidently even from the beginning and originalls of it, with the encrease thereof ensuing:

As first, A. 1547, by the letters of Mr. John Christopherson, afterwards Byshop of Chichester, elect.

2. A. 1548, by the Universitie of Cambridge their letters testimonial, with their seale annexed.

3. By Mr. Cheke (afterwardes knight, and one of King Edward the Sixtes schoolemasters) whose good liking of me declared to Mr. Secretary Cecill (now the right honourable Lord Treasurer of England) was notified unto me by the letters of Mr. Peter Osborne, late Remembrancer of the Exchequer; and by the same I was sent for to come to the speech of the said Mr. Secretary anno 1551, 12 Dec. which I did, and yet I remember whereof his discourse with me then.

4. By King Edward his voluntary giuft of a pension of an hundred crownes yearly; and after that, bettering that pension with bestowing on me (as it were by exchange) the rectory of Upton upon Severn; a sufficient testimonie of his Majestie's presenting me to that rectory lyeth here, with an authentick seale annex to it. A. 1553, 19 Maii.

5. Mr. Secretary Cecill, now Lord Treasurer, his testimonie by letter of my well bestowing of my tyme beyond the seas A. 1563, 28 May, is here.

6. I must highly esteeme her Majestie's most gracious defending of my credit, in my absence beyond the seas, as concerning my booke, titled *Monas Hieroglyphica* (dedicated to the Emperour Maximilian, A. 1564) against such Universitie-Graduates of high degree, and other gentlemen, who therefore dispraised it, because they understood it not. Whereupon her most excellent Majestie (after my coming home from beyond the seas; when also I brought the Lady Marquess of Northampton from Andwerp by sea to Greenewich) did vouchsafe to read that book *obiter*, with me at Greenewich. A. 1564.

7. Of the University of Oxford, some of the chiefe studentes (Doctors of Divinity and Masters of Art) caused a yearly good stipend to be offered unto me to read the mathematicall sciences there. Mr. Doctor Smith of Oriell Colledge, and Mr. Dr. Bruarne of Christes Church, were chiefly agentes in that cause: A. 1554.

8. Mr. John Wolly his very courteous letters unto me A. 1568, Junii 8, who is now even your honour, the only Secretary for the Latin tongue to her most excellent Majestie, and one of her Majestie's privy-councell; and here this day the chiefe Commissioner in my present most lamentable case of distress.

9. Mr. Secretary Cecill, now Lord Treasurer of England, his honourable offer of his courtly frendship by a letter written with his owne hand. A. 1568, 20 Augusti.

10. The honourable Earle of Oxford his favourable letters A. 1570.

11. Her Majesties very gracious letters of credit for my marriage. Anno 1575.

12. The right honourable Earle of Leicester's letters for the same.

13. Mr. Christopher Hatton (afterward Lord Chancellor of England) his letters for the same.

14. Her Majestie's favourable lycence and pasport, with my two servantes and our geldings: A. 1571.

Two other Kings, their ambassadors (Leidgiers here) their pasports at the same tyme, for free and safe travailing in their Prince's dominions, &c.

15. Sir Henry Sydneys his honourable letters unto me, while he was Lord Deputy in Ireland. Sir Henry Sydneys his letters unto me, when he was Lord President in Wales.

16. The honourable Lady Sydnyes her most courteous and many letters unto me, and inviting me to court, &c. A. 1571.

17. Mr. Doctor Julius Cæsar his letters unto me (who now is Judge of the Admiralty, and one of the Masters of Requests extraordinary) An. 1577.

18. Sir Francis Walsingham his passport for my winter-journey, in her Majestie's weighty affaires, 1578.

Omitting herein very many letters, and other things, testifying my honest credit here in England (with all degrees of the Nobility, Gentlemen, and Universitie-Graduates), in and for the most part of all my studious race, these may suffice.

CHAPTER IV.

OTHER HER MAJESTIE'S SPECIALLY GRACIOUS AND VERY BOUNTIFULL
FAVOURS TOWARDS ME USED.

1. AT her most excellent Majestie's first coming to Somerset house, her Majestie was willing, that, after Dr. Mallet, I should have had the Mastership of St. Katharine's, wherein Dr. Willson politickly prevented me.

2. Her Majestie very gratusly took me to her service, at

Whitehall before her Coronation, being to her Majestie commended by the right honourable Earle of Penbroke, and the Lord Robert, after Earle of Leicester. At which tyme her Majestie used these wordes unto the said Lordes, "Where my brother hath given him a crowne, I will give him a noble."

3. After this some yeares, at the Lady Marquess of Northampton her humble sute for me A. 1564, Dec. 8, her Majestie granted unto me the Deanery of Gloucester, being then voyd: and a caveat was entred on my behalfe; but the same deanery was afterwarde bestowed on one Mr. Man, who was sent into Spaine in her Majestie's service. [And now this Lent 1594, when it became voyd again, I made motion for it, but I came too late; for one, that might spend £400 or £500 a yeare already, had more need of it, then I belike; or else my former guift was but words onely to me, and the fruit ever due to others, that can espie and catch better then I for these thirty-five yeares could doe.]

4. Not long after, the Provostship of Eaton by some my friends in court, was humbly at her Majestie's handes sued for to my behoofe, and favourable answers were given therein.

5. Her Majestie willed Mathew, Lord Archbyshop of Canterbury, to grant me a dispensation for ten yeares, to enjoy the two rectories of Upton and Long-Lednam, and any other within that terme, of me gotten. Which dispensation I enjoyed for onely those two rectories.

6. After my journey into the dukedome of Loraine, A. 1571, in my very dangerous sickness I received chiefe helpe and comfort by her Majestie's great favour towards me, not onely sending carefully and with great speede from Hampton Court unto me Dr. Apsloo and Mr. Balthrop (who faithfully and prosperously did their parts of skill with me), but also in sending the honourable L. Sidney in a manner to tend on me; to discerne, how my health bettered, and to comfort me from her Majestie with divers very pithy speches and gracious, and also with divers rarities to eat, to encrease my health and strength: the most dutifull and thankfull memory whereof shall never dye.

7. Her Majestie's most gracious offer was sent home unto my house by Mistris Blanche à Parry of any whatsoever ecclesiasticall dignity within her kingdome, being then or shortly becoming voyde and vacant, to make me owner : when both byshopricks and deanries were voyde, and more became shortly after voyd : but my most humble and thankfull answer to her Majestie by the same messenger, was, that, *cura animarum annexa* did terrifie me to deale with them.

8. Her Majestie not long after, as your Honour, Mr. Secretary Wolley, can well remember and testefie, for some better maintenance for me, then of those two rectories onely, which I then had, declared her most gracious will and pleasure to be, that I should have of her Majestie's guift other ecclesiasticall livings and revenues, (without cure of soules annexed) as in her Majestie's books are rated at two hundred poundes yearly revenue; of which her Majestie's guift I never as yet had any one penny.

9. Her Majestie (A. 1583, Julii ultimo) being informed by the right honourable Earle of Leicester, that whereas the same day in the morning he had told me, that his Honour and the Lord Laskey would dyne with me within two daies after, I confessed sincerely unto him, that I was not able to prepaire them a convenient dinner, unless I should presently sell some of my plate or some of my pewter for it. Whereupon her Majestie sent unto me very royally within one hour after forty angells of gold, from Syon; whether her Majestie was new come by water from Greenewich.

10. Her Majestie by Mr. Christopher Hatton's letters (afterward Lord Chancellour of England) signified to Edmond, Lord Archbyshop of Canterbury, his good grace (A. 1576) that her pleasure was, "That, in any case, I should, during my lyfe natural, be dispensed with to enjoy those two rectories of Upton and Long-Lednam;" which I then had. Thereupon at length (it is to wete A. 1582) the said Archbyshop performed his part and sett his seale thereto: but when I should have followed the getting out of the great seale unto it, I was wholly imployed (at her Majestie's and the right honourable the Privy Counsellours, their command-

What can better witness her Majesties most gracious goodwill and desire to further my studies in her service than this parcell of her Majesties speech uttered the same day to another, such a one as you may see in the letter itselfe he rote.

The great seale by negligence still wanted; for of course it was

to have been putt
to within a cer-
taine tyme after.

ment) about the Reformation of the Kalender. Which office anciently did appertaine to the byshops, and I would now they had shewed their skill therein then; so would they have made more account now to helpe him up, who fell into the loss of above a thousand poundes synce [The loss of the two Rectories is of more loss in rent due and for tyme of lyfe to come than £1000] for not following his owne buisness, but was occupied to beare their burthen; indeed at her Majestie's commandment, and not at theirs: as also I had small thanks at their handes any way, nay, great hinderance; seeing her Majestie's absolute intent and caveat to my benefitt was no better regarded among them in due tyme.

11. Her Majestie most graciously both for my great credit encreasing and confirming, as well abroad as at home; and also for the better safety of me and myne to come so long and dangerous a journey and voyage in (as from the farthest partes of the Kingdome of Bohemia, hither); sent her most princely and royall letters of safe conduct for me, my companion, and our families to all forraine Princes and Potentates, &c. A. 1588. The cobby whereof I received of your honour, Mr. Secretary Wolley.

12. Since which my last coming home into England, her Majestie a litle before Christmas A. 1590, hearing of my great want of ability to keepe house accordingly, as by all reason might be expected at my handes, did presently declare her most gracious good intent and will to helpe me with one hundred poundes of money out of her Majesties prevy purse: which intent and promise, some once or twice after, as I came in her Majestie's sight, she repeated unto me; and thereupon sent unto me fiftie poundes to keepe my Christmas with that yeare; but what is become of the other fiftie, truly I cannot tell. If her Majestie can, it is sufficient; *Satis citò, modò satis bene*, must I say.

13. And shortly after her Majestie very graciously sent her will and pleasure in the right honourable Lord Treasurer his letters to this present Lord Archbyshop of Canterbury, his good Grace, that he should "take some order for my present mainteynance:" here is the cobby of the very letters, as I had it by my Lord of Canter-

buries commandement : but yet no penny of rent, fee, or revenue is bestowed on me, being now almost two years since. [And now it is more than three years and three moneths since, and not yet any farthing of certaine fee or revenue wilbe found or gotten for me.]

14. Againe, seeing no present helpe was yet come A. 1592, in Aprill last, but want and discredit grew more and more upon me : thereupon my friends devised a suit to her Majestie for me, by obteyning whereof chiefly her Majestie might be found my gracious and very favourable soveraigne Lady : and secondly I thereby might win some credit ; as with all men generally, who should understand of such her Majesties good and gracious favour towardes me, her ancient servant ; and specially with my creditors, who would ween that my present little ability should be much amended thereby. And so it came to pass by her Majesties very bountifull purpose in giving unto the right worshipfull Doctor Awbrey, one of the Masters of Requests, a few advowsons of rectories endowed, with vicarages, in St. David's diocese to my use onely, when any of them shall become vacant ; being indeed onely five of her Majestie's gift, and the yearly valuation of them five in one summe amounting to only 74*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.*, and not so much better at this day, than their said valuation, that they may be accounted worth one hundred poundes to any thriftie occupier of them. And yet some did unduely esteem them to be of greate value ; whereas indeed [to this hour (A. 1594, Ap. 10)] there never came a penny unto me of them ; neither is it certain, whither ever or never they shall ; but of the charges sustained about the writings and seales to them belonging, I am too certain.

15. By reason hereof in the last years (1591) progress entring at Greenwich, her Majestie was informed by the honourable and very vertuous Countess of Warwick of my great wants still encreasing : and her Majestie was then by the said Countess in most humble manner requested, to grant unto me, upon the next avoyd-ance, the Mastership of St. Crosse's by Winchester, being an office and living of much like quality as St. Katharine's. Whereunto her Majesties most bountifull and provident answer was,

“ that I should have it, if it were a living fitt for me :” with which gracious answer I helde my selfe contented ; knowing, that her Majestie had, or after that might have bishopricks enough vacant ; unto one of which the worshipfull Mr. Doctor Bennet (the present incumbent of the Mastership of St. Crosse’s) might be perswaded to be promoted unto by her Majestie ; especially if the bishoprick be of better living farr, than S. Crosse’s ; or by commendams were holpen to be of better revenue. [It is to be noted, that about twenty years agoe her Majestie had granted me the next roome after Doctor Watson : whereupon I hoped to have had that living long since ; but at length I found that Dr. Bennet came to it by an avowson, better speeding, than my former grant at her Majestie’s hand ; Mistris Blanche à Parry and Mistris Skydamore, now the Lady Skydamore, had obtained her Majesties grant to me so long since.]

16. This year also again (A. 1592, at None-such), the same suite was renewed unto her Majestie by the aforesaid Countess of Warwick : as well in respecte of my incredible want of due maintenance, as for that the most Reverend Father in God, this L. Archbishop of Canterbury, his good Grace, very often times, and to diverse hath affirmed, and still doth affirm, that this Mastership of S. Crosse’s is a living most fitt for me, and I fitt for it. And also the right honourable Lord Treasurer, since that time and very lately at Hampton court, is of the same mind herein, as the Lord Archbishop is ; as his Honour hath very lately to my selfe declared : and with his hand very earnestly smitten on his breast used these verie words* to me, “ By my faith, if her Majestie be moved in it by any other for you, I will do what I can with her Majesty to pleasure you therein, Mr. Dee.” And so I thanked his Honour humbly, and have great confidence in his Honour’s very favourable promise. And the rather seeing her Majesties last answer at Nonesuch was even as the first, “ that I should undoubtedly have it, if it were fitt for me ;” and moreover willed, that a caveat should be entered for me thereupon, as a most gracious Queene, for the more assurance of her poor servantes releife

* Mr. Henry Maynard was by and heard the words at Hampton Court, in my Lord’s own chamber, Nov 6, 1592.

and comfort. Of which her Majesties most gracious answer, the foresaid L. Archbyshop his good Grace being then at the Court at Nonsuch, was made privy presently; and to the right honourable Lord Treasurer I have my selfe declared it lately at Hampton Court.

17. Since whych time I hearing of byshopricks, some voyde, and some shortly to become voyd, and hearing of divers nominated to be promoted unto them; but hearing no speech made of Mr. Doctor Benet, a man very worthy and sufficient to be a byshop, I began to doubt, that her Majestie hitherto hath not been given to understand fully the truth of my present very hard case and incredible distress, through unseemely want of all things necessary for due mainteynance of me and myne, contrary to her Majestie's will.

Hereupon on Wednesday was a sevensight the honourable Countess of Warwick prefered my former supplication (set in the begining of this litle booke) unto her Majestie, who very graciously did read it over herselfe, and granted the petition thereof; and so straight way nominated your Honor, Mr. Secretary Wolley, and you, Sir Thomas Gorge Knight, Gentleman of her Majestie's Wardrobe, as being very worthy and sufficient men, right nobly minded, to be the Commissioners, charitably, advisedly, and exactly to heare and see what I have to say or shew unto you, needefull to be considered of; so as speedy and sufficient redress and help may be had thereupon.

The Queens Majestie with her most honourable Privy Councill, and other her lordes and nobility, came purposely to have visited my library; but finding that my wife was within four houres before buried out of the house, her Majestie refused to come in; but willed me to fetch my glass so famous, and to shew unto her some of the properties of it, which I did; her Majestie being taken downe from her horse (by the Earle of Leicester, Master of the horse, by the Church wall of Mortlack), did see some of the properties of that glass, to her Majestie's great contentment and delight, and so in most gracious manner did thank me, &c.

A. 1580.
Sept. 17.

The Queenes Majestie came from Richmond in her coach the higher way of Mortlack field, and when she came right against the Church, she turned downe toward my house; and when she was against my garden in the felde, her Majestie staid there a good while, and then came into the street at the great gate of the field, where her Majestie espied me at my dore, making reverent and dutifull obeysance unto her; and with her hand her Majestie beckoned for me to come to her, and I came to her coach side; her Majestie then very speedely pulled off her glove and gave me her hand to kiss; and to be short, her Majestie willed me to resort oftner to her Court, and by some of her Privy Chamber to give her Majestie to weete, when I am there, &c.

1580. Oct. 3. About a 11. of the clock before noone I delivered my two Rolls of the Queenes Majesties title to herselfe in the garden at Richmond; when her Majestie very graciously accepting of my endeavor and labour therein, appointed after dinner to heare further of the matter. Therefore betweene one and two in the afternoon, I was sent for into her Highness Privy Chamber, and whether the Lord Treasurer was also come before. Then, upon her Majesties rehearsing with his Honor my endeavors to satisfie her Majestie's desire to understand somewhat effectually of the title to foreine countryes, and of my paines taken in those great Rolls penning downe, required the Lord Treasurer to consider of the matter, the recordes, testimonies, and argumentes by me there sett downe. But though the Lord Treasurer did seeme at first to doubt of the value of the worke, or pithyness thereof, her Majestie wished his Honor to peruse the whole thing accordingly, and to make report to her Majestie, what he findeth therein, &c. The comandement I received from her Majestie for me to certifie my knowledge herein, may appear by this letter.

1580. Oct. 10. The Queenes Majestie to my great comfort (*horá quintá*) came with her traine from the Court, and at my dore graciously calling me unto her, on horsback exhorted me briefly to take my mother's death patiently: and with all told me, that the Lord Treasurer had greatly commended my doings for her title

royall, which he had to examine. The which title in two rolls of velome parchment his Honour had some houres before brought home, and delivered to Mr. Hudson for me to receive at my coming from my mothers buriall at church. Her Majestie remembred also then, how at my wives buriall it was her fortune likewise to call upon me at my house, as before is noted.

1568. *more Astronomico*, Jan. 11. The right honourable Earle of Penbroke did present my booke of *Propædeumata Aphoristica* to her Majestie in my behalfe, as I was so advised to doe by the honourable Mr. Secretary Cecill, now Lord Treasurer, to whome I had humbly given one of them the day before; and likewise one to the said Earle to use or give away at his pleasure, and likewise one to the said earle. Within three dayes after the said Earle told me of her Majesties gracious accepting and well liking of the said book; and he gave me very bountifully in his owne behalfe xx *lib.* to requite such my reverent regard of his Honour.

1568. (*more Astron.*) Feb. 16. Her Majestie had very gracious talke with me in her Gallery at Westminster (*hora 2. vel circiter*) as concerning the great secret for my sake to be disclosed unto her Majestie by Nicolaus Grudius Nicolai, sometye one of the Secretaries to the Emperour Charles the Fifth, &c. What was the hinderance of the perfecting of that purpose on all sides, God best knoweth.

1564. *Junii* 14. After my retorne from the Emperour's court, her Majestie very graciously vouchsafed to account herselfe my schollar in my booke, written to the Emperour Maximilian, intituled, *Monas Hieroglyphica*; and said, whereas I had prefixed in the forefront of the book: *Qui non intelligit, aut taceat, aut discat*: if I would disclose unto her the secretes of that booke, she would *et discere et facere*; whereupon her Majestie had a litle perusin of the same with me, and then in most heroicall and princely wise did comfort me and encourage me in my studies philosophicall and mathematicall, &c.

CHAPTER V.

SOME MY DUTIFULL SERVICES DONE UNTO HER MAJESTIE IN THE SPACE
OF THIRTY-FOUR YEARES AND MORE.

1. BEFORE her Majesties coming to the crowne, I did shew my dutifull good will in some travailes for her Majesties behalfe, to the comfort of her Majesties favourers then, and some of her principall servantes, at Woodstock, and at Milton by Oxford, with Sir Thomas Bendger (then Auditor unto her Majestic), and at London; as Mr. Richard Strange and Mr. John Asheley, now Master of her Majesties Jewell house, might have testified, and as I could have brought to their remembrance.

Upon suspicion of which my service then, and upon the false information given in by one George Ferrys and Prideaux, that I endeavored by enchantmentes to destroy Queene Mary, I was prisoner at Hampton Court, even in the weeke next before the same Whitsontide, that her Majestic was there prisoner also. I remained long prisoner, and all doores of my lodgings in London sealed up; and with other circumstances of grieffe, loss, and discredit for a while endured under the keeping of diverse overseers: as first in Court under Sir John Bourne, Secretary: while by writing I answered first four articles, and thereupon eighteen other, administred unto me by the right honourable the Privy Councill. Then from thence I was sent on Whitesun-even with the guard by water to London to the Lord Broke, Justice of the Common Pleas; from thence at length to the Star Chamber: where I was discharged of the suspicion of treason, and was sent to the examining and custody of Byshop Bonner for religious matters. Where also I was prisoner long, and bedfellow with Barthlet Grene, who was burnt: and at length upon the King and Queenes clemency and justice, I was (A. 1555, Augusti 19) enlarged by the Councill's letters; being notwithstanding first bound in recognizance for ready appearance and the good abearing for about some four moneths after; which letter of the Councells is in print here to be seene: as the

forepart of this narration may be seen in the records of the Councill Chamber of that yeare, month, and day, if they be extant.

2. Before her Majesties coronacion I wrote at large, and delivered it for her Majesties use by commandement of the Lord Robert, after Earle of Leicester, what in my judgment the ancient astrologers would determine of the election day of such a tyme, as was appointed for her Majestie to be crowned in. Which writing, if it be extant and to be had, wilbe a testimony of my dutifull and carefull endeavour performed in that, which in her Majesties name was enjoyned me: A. 1558.

3. Her Majestie tooke pleasure to heare my opinion of the comet appearing A. 1577: whereas the judgment of some had unduly bred great feare and doubt in many of the Court; being men of no small account. This was at Windsore, where her Majestie most graciously, for three* divers daies, did use me; and, among other pointes, her most excellent Majestie promised unto me great security against any of her kingedome, that would, by reason of any my rare studies and philosophicall exercises, unduly seeke my overthrow. Whereupon I againe to her Majestie made a very faithfull and inviolable promise of great importance. The first part whereof, God is my witnes, I have truly and sincerely performed; though it be not yet evident, how truly, or of what incredible value: The second part by God his great mercyes and helps may in due tyme be performed, if my plat for the meanes be not misused or defaced.

* Of these three daies at Windsor Mrs. Skydamor, now Lady Skydamor, hath some remembrance.

4. My carefull and faithfull endeavours was with great speede required (as by divers messages sent unto me one after another in one morning) to prevent the mischiefe, which divers of her Majesties Privy Councill suspected to be intended against her Majesties person, by meanes of a certaine image of wax, with a great pin stuck into it about the brest of it, found in Lincolnes Inn fields, &c., wherein I did satisfie her Majesties desire, and the Lords of the honourable Privy Councill within few houres, in godly and artificiall manner: as the honourable Mr. Secretary Willson, whome, at the least, I required, to have by me a witnes of

the proceedings: which his Honor before me declared to her Majestic, then sitting without the Privy Garden by the landing place at Richmond: the honorable Earle of Leicester being also by.

5. My dutifull service was done, in the diligent conference, which, by her Majesties commandment, I had with Mr. Dr. Bayly, her Majesties Physitian, about her Majesties grievous pangs and paines by reason of toothake and the rheume, &c. A. 1578, October.

6. My very painefull and dangerous winter journey, about a thousand five hundred myles by sea and land, was undertaken and performed to consult with the learned physitians and philosophers beyond the seas for her Majesties health-recovering and preserving; having by the right honourable Earle of Leicester, and Mr. Secretary Walsingham but one hundred dayes allowed unto me to goe and come againe in, A. 1578. My pas-port here may somewhat give evidence, and the journall litle book of every dayes journey or abode for those hundred dayes account may suffice.

7. My great, faithfull, and carefull attendance about the Lady Marquess of Northampton (A. 1564) both beyond the seas, on the seas, and here in England, was performed with her Majesties good will and well liking of. Whereupon her Majestic was the more willing, at the suite of the said Lady Marquiss, to give unto me, for some recompence, the deanery of Glocester; but I was disappointed, as I have before specified, of the enjoying of it.

8. My faithfull diligence and earnest labour, with some cost, was bestowed, by her Majesties commandment, to set down in writing, with hydrographical and geographical description, what I then had to shew or say, as concerning her Majesties title royall to any forreine countries. Whereof, the two parchment great rolls full writtin, of about xii whole velome-skinns, are good wittnes here before you. For cobby whereof I have refused an hundred poundes in money offred by some subjectes of this kingdome: but it was not meete for me to take it.

9. My dutifull labour, commanded by her Majestic, upon the Gregorian publishing of a Reformation of the vulgar Julian yeare, may here appeare unto you in these two written bookes, having

ben read and examined by learned mathematicians (therto assigned by the honourable Lords of the Councell) and by their skyls also warranted; and by the Lords of the Councell and by the Barons of the Exchequer well liked off, for the manner of execution of it without any publique cumber or damage, &c. A. 1582.

10. I sent very dutifully, humbly, and faithfully out of Bohemia (A. 1585) letters unto her sacred Majestie, requesting an expert, discreet, and trusty man to be sent unto me into Bohemia, to heare and see, what God had sent unto me and my friendes there at that tyme; at which tyme, and till which tyme, I was chief governour of our philosophicall proceedings; and by both our concentes, there was somewhat prepared and determined upon to have ben sent unto her Majestie, if the required messenger had been sent by her Majestie unto us. But not long after (so soone as it was perceived, that my faithfull letters were not regarded therein) by lithe and lithe I became hindered and crossed to performe my dutifull and chiefe desire; and that, by the fyne and most subtill devises and plotts laid, first by the Bohemians, and somewhat by Italians, and lastly by some of my owne countrymen. God best knoweth how I was very ungodly dealt withall, when I meant all truth, sincerity, fidelity, and piety towards God, and my Queene and country.

And so to conclude this chapter: if in any other pointes, besides the forehearsed, I have done my dutifull service any way to her Majesties well liking and gracious accepting, I am greatly bound to thanke Almighty God, and during my lyfe to frame the best of my little skill to doe my bounden duty to her most excellent Majestie.

Her sacred Majestie best knoweth my sincere, zealous, constant, and dutifull fidelity towards her.

CHAPTER VI.

MY LABORS AND PAINES BESTOWED AT DIVERS TYMES TO PLEASURE MY NATIVE COUNTRY BY WRITING OF DIVERS BOOKES AND TREATISES; SOME IN LATINE, SOME IN ENGLISH, AND SOME OF THEM WRITTEN AT HER MAJESTIES COMMANDEMENT.

OF which bookes and treatises some are printed, and some unprinted.

The printed Bookes and Treatises are these following :

1. *Propædeumata Aphoristica, de præstantioribus quibusdam naturæ virtutibus Aphorismi* 120. Impr. Londini anno 1558 et anno 1567.
2. *Monas Hieroglyphica*, ad Regem Romanorum Maximilianum : Antverpiæ. 1564.
3. *Epistola ad eximium Ducis Urbini Mathematicum, Fredericum Commandinum*, præfixa libello Machometi Bagdedini de *superficierum divisionibus*, edito operâ meâ et ejusdem Commandini Urbinatis: Pisauri A°. 1570.
4. *The British Monarchi*, otherwise named, *The petie Navy Royall*—A. 1576.
5. *The English Euclids Preface Mathematicall*; wherein are many arts of me wholly invented (by name, difinition, and propriety, or use) more than either the Græcian or Roman mathematicians have left to our knowledge. A. 1570.
6. My divers and many *Annotations and Inventions* dispersed and added in and after the tenth booke of the aforesaid English Euclid. A. 1570.
7. *Epistola mea præfixa Ephemeridibus Joannis Feldi* A. 1557, cui rationem declaraveram Ephemerides conscribendi.
8. *Paralacticæ Commentationis praxeosque Nucleus quidam* : A. 1573, impress. Londini.

The unprinted bookes and treatises are these, some perfectly finished, and some unfinished yet.

1. *The great Volume of famous and rich discoveries*; wherein

also is the History of King Salomon, every three yeares, his Ophirian voyage, with divers other rarities—written A. 1576.

2. *The British Complement of the perfect art of Navigation.* A great booke, in which are contained our Queene Elisabeth her tables gubernautick for longitudes and latitudes finding most easily and speedily, yea, if neede be, without sight of sun, moon, or star: with many other new and needefull inventions gubernautik.—A. 1576.

3. *Her Majesties title Royall to many forraigne countreys, kingdomes, and provinces:* in 12 Velam skins of parchement, faire written for her Majesties use, and by her Majesties commandment.—A. 1578.

4. *De imperatoris nomine, autoritate, et potentia:* dedicated to her Majestie in English.—A. 1579.

5. *De triangulorum arcibus libri demonstrati* 3.—A. 1560.

6. *De speculis comburentibus libri* 6.—A. 1557.

7. *De usu Globi Cœlestis:* ad Regem Edoardum Sextum A. 1550.

8. *Περὶ ἀναβιβασμῶν θεολογικῶν,* lib. 3. A. 1558.

9. *Prolegomena et dictata Parisiensia in Euclidis Elementorum Geometricorum librum primum et secundum in Collegio Rhemensi.*—A. 1550.

10. *De Trigono, circinoque analogico.* Opusculum Mathematicum et Mechanicum lib. 4.—A. 1565.

11. *De stella admiranda in Cassiopeia Asterismo, cœlitus demissa ad orbem usque Veneris, iterumque in cœli penetrabilia perpendicularitèr retracta.* Lib. 3. A. 1573.

12. *Hipparchus redivivus,* tractatulus. 1573.

13. *De Acribologia Mathematica;* opus magnum lib. 16, anno 1555.

14. *Hemisphærii Borealis Geographica atque Hydrographica descriptio;* longè a vulgatis chartis diversa: Anglis quibusdam versus Atlantidis septentrionalia litora navigationem instituentibus dono data A. 1583.

15. *Navigationis ad Cathayum per septentrionalia Scythice et Tartaricæ litora delineatio Hydrographica:* Arthuro Pitt et Carolo Jackmanno versus illas partes navigaturis in manus tradita.—A. 1580.

16. *Atlantidis, vulgariter Indiæ Occidentalis nominatæ, emendatior descriptio, quam adhuc est evulgata.*—A. 1580.

17. *De modo Evangelii Jesu Christi publicandi, propagandi, stabiliendi inter Infideles Atlanticos.* Volumen magnum lib. 4, (anno 1581), quorum primus spectat ad Reginam nostram potentissimam; secundus ad sui Privati Concilii Senatores; tertius ad Regem Hispanicæ; Quartus ad Pontificem Romanum.

18. *Mercurius cælestis* lib. 24. A. 1550. Lovanii script.

19. *De nubium, solis, lunæ, ac reliquorum planetarum, immo ipsius stelliferi cæli, ab infimo terræ centro, distantis, mutisque intervallis, et eorundem omnium magnitudine.* Liber ἀποδεικτικός ad Edoardum VI. Angliæ Regem. A. 1551.

20. *Aphorismi Astrologici* 300. A. 1553.

21. *De itinere subterraneo* lib. 2. A. 1560.

22. *De perspectivâ illâ, quâ peritissimi utuntur Pictores.* A. 1557.

23. *De tertiâ et præcipuâ Perspectivæ parte, quæ de radiorum fractione tractat, libri tres demonstrati.* A. 1559.

24. *Speculum unitatis* A. 1557, sive *Apologia pro fratre Rogero Bachone.*

25. *De annuli Astronomici multiplici usu* lib. 2.—1557.

26. *Inventum mechanicum paradoxum de novâ ratione delineandi circumferentiam circularem; unde valdè rara alia dependent inventa.* lib. 1. A. 1556.

27. *Trochilica inventa mea* lib. 2. A. 1558.

28. *De unico Mago, et triplici Herode, eoque Antichristiano* lib. 1. A. 1570.

29. *Cabbalæ Hebraicæ compendiosa tabella.* A. 1562.

30. *De hominis corpore, spiritu, et animâ—libellus.*—A. 1591.

31. *Reipublicæ Britannicæ Synopsis—*in English.—A. 1565.

32. *My Hieroglyphical and Philosophical blason of the crest or cognisance, lawfully confirmed to my antient armes* lib. 1, 1574.

33. *An advice and discourse for her Majestie about the Reformation of the vulgar Julian year, by her Majesties and the right honourable Council their commandment,* lib. 2.—A. 1582.

34. *Certain considerations and conferrings together of these three*

(*anciently accounted*) *Oracles, Nosce teipsum, Homo homini Deus, Homo homini lupus.*

35. *The compendious rehearsall of John Dee his dutifull declaration* A. 1592.

36. *An Appendix of two years time and more*, which belongs to this treatise.

With many other bookes, pamphlets, discourses, inventions, and conclusions in divers arts and matters, whose names neede not in this abstract to be notified. The most part of all these here specified lye here before your Honours on the table on your left hand: but by other books and writings of an other sort (if God grant me health and life thereto of some ten or twelve years) I may hereafter make plain and without doubt this sentence to be true, *Plura latent, quam patent.* Mark and remember.

And these bookes and treatises here noted are neither noted by order of yeares, or as they were written; or in any method here set downe one after the other; but as (upon this suddaine occasion, to make the truth herein manifest to your Honours eyes) they came next to my hand out of divers chests and baggs, wherein they lay.

CHAPTER VII.

A BRIEFE NOTE AND SOME REMEMBRANCE OF MY LATE SPOYLED MORTLAKE LIBRARY. A. 1583.

THE divers bookes of my late library, printed and anciently written, bownd and unbound, were in all neere 4000: the fourth part of which were the written bookes. The value of all which bookes, by the estimation of men skillfull in the arts, whereof the bookes did and doe intreat, and that in divers languages, was well £2000. And, to make this valuacion probable unto your Honour, behold yet here these foure written bookes, one in Greeke, this great volume; two in French; and this in High Dutch. They cost me and my friends for me £533, as may appeare by the writings and

remembrances here written on them. What is then to be thought of the value of some one hundred of the best of all the other written bookes, of which some were the *autographia* of excellent and seldome heard-of authors? The furniture of the said library was of my getting together in above forty yeares tyme from divers places beyond the seas, and some by my great search and labour gotten here in England.

To my library were also apperteyning, certaine rare and exquisitely made instruments mathematicall. Among which was one excellent, strong, and faire quadrant (first made by that famous Richard Chancellor), of five foote semidiameter: wherewith he and I made sundry observations meridian of the sun's height; as partly may appere by our writings in my *Ephemerides*, A.1554, et A°.1555. And after his tyme many yeares, the same instrument was new trymmed, and the divisions in divers exact manners thereon designed; and so cost my friend 20 *lib.* (the right worshipfull Mr. Bromfield, late Lieutenant of the ordinances, at whose handes I had it) but now I finde it most barbarously spoyled and with hammers smitt in peeces.

There was also an excellent *radius Astronomicus* of ten foot longe, having the staff and cross very curiously divided into parts equall, after Richard Chancellour's Quadrante-manner. The great instrument was in such a frame placed and layd, that it might most easily be weilded of any man to any position for practise in heavenly observations or mensurations on earth.

Two globes of Gerardus Mercators best making; on which were my divers reformations, both geographicall and celestiall: and on the celestiall with my hand were set downe divers comettes, their places, and motions, as of me they had been observed.

There were also divers other instrumentes, as the theorick of the eighth spheare, the nynth and tenth, with an horizon and meridian of copper, of Gerhardus Mercator his owne making for me purposely.

There were sea-compasses of divers sorts and for variation. And there was a magnes-stone, commonly called a load stone, of great vertue, which was sold out of the library but for v shill. and

for it afterwards (yea peece-meal divided) was more than xx *lib.* given in money and value.

There was also an excellent watch-clock made by one Dibbley, a notable workman, long since dead, by which clock the tyme might sensibly be measured in the seconds of an houre, that is, not to faile the 360th part of an houre. The use of this clock was very great, more then vulgar.

To my library likewayes was a very necessary appendix, which was a great case or frame of boxes, wherein some hundreds of very rare evidences of divers Irelandish territories, provinces, and lands were layd up. Which territories, provinces, and lands were therein notified to have been in the hands of some of the ancient Irish Princes. Then, their submissions and tributes agreed upon, with seales appendant to the litle writings thereof in parchent: and after by some of those evidences did it appeare, how some of those lands came to be the Lascies, the Mortuomars, the Burghes, the Clares, &c.

There were also divers evidences antient of some Welsh princes and noblemen, their great giftes of lands to the foundations or enrichings of sundry houses of religious men. Some also were there the like of the Normans donations and gifts about and some yeares after the conquest. The former sundry sort of evidences each had their peculiar titles noted on the fore part of the boxes with chalk only, which on the poore boxes remaineth; better to be seen now, then the evidences, which before had remained to be seene so many hundred yeares; but now by undue meanes imbeziled away every one of them: which is a loss of great value in sundry respects, as antiquaries can testifie for their part; and noble heralds can tell, for their skill: and as her Majesties officers for her interest and titles royall may think in their consideration, &c.

But your honors may also understand, that by this box stood another, far less (as of about 2 foot long, and a foot and a halfe high), wherein were only ancient seales of arms, belonging sometye to ancient evidences: about some of which the prince, nobleman, or gentleman his name was to be seene, to whome it did appertaine.

Which box is quite carried out of the place unto which it was fitted, and so embeziled from me.

The truth of this part of my declaration to your Honours, before my last going over beyond the seas, was well knowne to divers, who had skyl, and were of office to deale with such monimentes; as were divers of her Majesties heralds, who saw them, and tooke some notes out of them: other of the Clerks of the Records in the Tower satt whole dayes at my house in Mortlake, in gathering rarities to their liking out of them: some antiquaries likewise had view of them.

Unto the Tower I had vowed these my hardly gotten moniments (as in manner out of a dunghill, in the corner of a church, wherein very many were utterly spoyled by rotting, through the raine continually for many yeares before falling on them, through the decayed roofe of that church, lying desolate and wast at this houre): but truly well deserve they the imprisonment of the Tower, that will now still keepe them, if any publique warning by her Majestie or her right honorable Councill were given for restitution of them to the office in the Tower.

Of other rarities, left in my chiefe and open library, I will not make here any further rehearsall; but whosoever came by one great bladder with about four pound weight, of a very sweetish thing, like a brownish gum in it, artificially prepared by thirty tymes purifying of it, hath more then I could well afford him for one hundred crownes; as may be proved by witnesses yet living, &c.

To my foresaid library and studies, may my three laboratories, serving for *Pyrotechnia*, be justly accounted an appendix practical. The furniture of which and of all the storehouses, chambers, and garrets, belonging and replenished with chemical stuff, was (for above twenty years) of my getting together, farr and neere, with great paines, costs and danger; as partly Mr. Powell, her Majesties servant at this present, can testifie for one journey, wherein he tooke paines with me, into the dukedom of Lorraine: (A. 1571) and we brought from thence one great cart lading of purposely made vessells, &c. Your honors may easily believe me, that partly the

building of new, and ordering of former buildings to my purposes herein, with all the foresaid furniture of vessells (some of earth, some of mettall, some of glass, and some of mixt stuff) with materialls to be used or prepared in divers sorts, cost me first and last above £200. All which furniture and provision, and many things already prepared, is unduly made away from me by sundry meanes, and a few spoiled or broken vessells remaine, hardly worth forty shillings.

CHAPTER VIII.

SOME OF MY DAMAGES AND LOSSES UNDUELY SUSTAINED IN ENGLAND WITHIN THE SPACE OF THESE NINE YEARES LAST PAST, AND THAT CONTRARY TO HER MAJESTIES MOST GRACIOUS CAVEAT AND EXPRESSE COMMANDMENT IN THE MOST PART OF IT.

FIRST, the taking of my two rectories from me (I mean both the rents of these nine* years now past, and also the title and right, which I had to enjoy them during my lyfe) they yielding unto me yearly £80, causeth the damage susteyned in rent only to be £720, and in the value of them for my lyfe tyme ensuing, by common estimation rated of five years continuance, maketh the damage to be lawfully and reasonably estimated at £400 more. And so in total sum, by the one means and the other, the damage to be of - - - - - *£1120

* Now ten years and more, and so £800.

Some of my other losses may thus be specified; first the loss of all my household stuff here left, and committed to Nicholas Fromonds his safe custody for me, till my retorne or sending to him, intended to be within one yeare and eight moneths; and so writings and covenants thereupon made, sealed and delivered, and here to be shewed yet. But he unduely sold it presently upon my departure, or caused it to be carried away. And the value thereof may appear by these true inventories to have been more worth than one hundred pounds - - - - - £100

* Of £1200 for the said ten years and my lyfe tyme after common opinion.

The loss and spoil of my furniture of Laboratories - £100

For by their own estimation, recorded in Inventorie, they set downe the value thereof fourscore pounds save one.

The loss by bookes of my foresaid library, yet wanting, and not restored according to the order, taken by the four Commissioners assigned by the right honourable privy Councell therein (whereupon there is a thousand marks forfeited unto me of a debtor insufficient to pay), the bookes being above 500, I meane of such, as may be gotten for money, and so their value known; for some wanting are not to be gotten for money at any mart, or in any stationer's shop, they being very rare and excellent good bookes; the value of this loss is evident to be above £150 - - - £150

The loss of my Mathematicall Instruments; as of the Quadrant of five foot semidiameter, the paire of Gerardus Mercator his best Globes, the Theorick of the eighth speare, and the Astronomer's staff - - - - - £30

The watch clock so truly shewing not only the minutes, but also the seconds of an houre, the excellent Magnes-stone and divers sea compasses and chartes geographically - - - - - £10

Of this second sort of losses the totall sum amounteth to £390

Both which totall sums of damages and losses being added together make *summam summarum totalem* - - - - - £1510

These last nine
years damages
and loses £1510.

CHAPTER IX.

THE CHARGES OF MY LAST RETORNE FROM BEYOND THE SEAS, A. 1589,
BEING FAVOURABLY CALLED HOME BY HER MAJESTIE FROM TREBON
CASTLE IN BOHEMIA.

My journey of remove homeward from Trebon castle to Staden cost me more than 3000 dollars, which we account at - - - £600

Besides the cost of fifteen horses, wherewith I travelled all that journey; of which the twelve, which drew my three coaches, were very good and young Hungarian horses, and the other three were Wallachees for the saddle; which fifteen cost one with the another - - - - - £120

The three new coaches made purposely for my foresaid journey, with the furniture for the twelve coach horses and with the saddles and bridles for the rest, cost more than threescore pounds - £60

The charge of waines to carry my goods from Trebon to Staden, they being sometyms two, and sometyms three (for more easy and light passage in some places), cost above an hundred and ten pounds: which I account (for an hundred of it) under the former som of £600.

Under which £600 also I doe account the charges of the twenty-four soldiers well appointed, which, by vertue of the Emperor's pasport, I tooke up in my way from Diepholt, and againe from Oldenborgh: the charges of the six harquebusiers and musquetiers, which the Earle of Oldenburgh lent me out of his owne garrison there: I gave to one with another a doler a man for the day, and their meat and drinke free. For the first, eighteen enemies horsemen well appointed from Lingen and Wilshusen had laine five dayes attending thereabouts to have set upon me and myne: and at Oldeborch, a Scot (one of the garrison) gave me warning of an ill minded company, lying and hovering for me in the way, which I was to pass, as by his letter may appeare here present. Of the former danger the Lantgrave of Hess his letters unto me may give some evidence.

The charges of the foure Swart-Ruiters, very well mounted and appointed to attend on me to Staden from Breame, being honourably and very carefully sent unto me by the noble consuls and senators of Breme, and that with a friendly farewell (delivered unto me by the speech of one of their secretaries at my lodgings), neede not be specified here what it was. For their going with me in two daies to Staden, their abode there, and as much homeward, being in all five dayes charges - - - 30 dolars.

This was a very dangerous tyme to ride abroad in thereabouts, as the merchants of Staden can well remember. 1589, in November.

The excellent learned theologien, the Superintendent of Breme, Mr. Dr. Christopher Pezelius his verses, printed the night before

that my going from Breme, and the morning of my departure openly delivered to me partly, and partly distributed to the company of students and citizens attending about us to see us sett forth, and to bid us farewell, may be a memorial of some of my good credit grown in that city, and of the day of my coming from it.

I will not enlarge mo lines to specife, what other charges I was at to further some of her Majesties services at my lying at Breme, as 70 dolars given or lent to one Conradus Justus Newbrenner, and about 40 given to gett some letters of great importance brought over to our Sovereigns right honourable Privy Council in due tyme.

The charge of my fraught and passage from Staden to London ; for my goods, my selfe, my wife, children and servants - £10

So that the total summe of money spent and layd out in and for my remove from Trebone to London doth amount to - £796

2510	}	Whereby the whole summe of the former	£
796		damages and losses - - -	1510
		And the removing charges - - -	796
<hr/>			<hr/>
2306		doth amount, (with the least,) to - - -	2306

Besides the 110 dolars disbursed at Breame for dutifull love of Queene and Country.

CHAPTER X.

THE HARD MAKING OF PROVISION FOR SOME HUNDRED POUNDS, FOR THE NEEDEFUL MAINTENANCE OF ME, MY WIFE, OUR CHILDREN, AND FAMILY, FOR THESE THREE LAST YEARES, AND THAT BUT WITH A MEANE DYET AND SIMPLE APPARELL : I HAVING NOT ONE PENY OF CERTAINE FEE, REVENUE, STIPEND, OR PENSION, EITHER LEFT ME, OR RESTORED UNTO ME, OR OF ANY YET BESTOWED ON ME.

BEING, by the favour, protection, and helpe of Almighty God, now come home into my native country, just three yeares since, and finding my selfe barred, and, contrary to her Majesties very

gracious commandment, cut off from all receipt of rents for my two rectories, Upton and Long-Ledman for ever, and wanting yet the yearely large allowance, promised me, during my lyfe, out of Bohemia, and neither hearing nor perceiving here of any certaine help or releife coming or likely to come to me speedely, and still continuing along (as for these thirty four years, I have already done) in good hope and confidence reposed in the bountifull promises and grants of her sacred Majestie: I found it needefull to use the favour and helpe of God in trying some of my old friends and acquaintance, and to use some other meanes to save us from hunger starving, till her Majesties bountifull blessing might at the length, one tyme or another, be fruitfully assured unto me. And in that assay I found my first helpers and releivers, even two of those, who before my last going over, had used me otherwise then justly or friendly.

34 years suit for
mainteynance.

After that good beginning, other my friends, one after another, as they understood of my slender ability (or rather great want) for our very needfull mainteynance, they put to their helping hands in divers manners; whereby, within the space of these three years last, I have received of them in money towards some of my charges-bearing the som of £500 and more: and that notwithstanding I have been constrained now and then to send parcells of my little furniture of plate to pawne upon usury; and that did I soe oft, till no more could be sent. After the same manner went my wive's jewells of gold, rings, braceletts, chaines, and other our rarities, under the thraldome of the usurer's gripes: till *non plus* was written upon the boxes at home. 3. Besides these meanes I was forced to borrow some good somms of money upon bonds with sureties, *ita tamen ut nummus nummum pareret* to my creditor. 4. I found some few of other friends, of which some upon my owne bill only, others upon my word and promise only, have very charitably lent me some pretty soms of money in this undue distress. And 5. Upon another kinde of credit; as upon remembrances kept by skore, talley, shop-booke, or other note-bookes, I am become debtor of no small sommes. The total somme of all

which money, either to me given, or in any manner of the former waies by me borrowed, or upon skore, tally, shop-booke, or other note-booke credited, amounteth to £833. Of which somme whatsoever is more than the £500 given, remaineth at this present day due debt, which is £333.

The particular true accounts of all these gifts, loanes, and debts upon skore, talley, or booke, are here before your Honours; which I beseech you to looke over, and to consider of them especially, how the usury devoureth me, and how the skore, talley, and booke debts doe dayly put me to shame in many places and with many men; some of them having been required of me, or at my house, very often tymes within these four moneths. What can I answer to such without shame or great grieve of minde? But where the fault lyeth, God Almighty he knoweth, and he cheifely can redress it.

Of which former total summe of £833 your Honour seeth here, how much hath been paid in extraordinary debts and expenses, as one hundred pounds to enjoy my house in quiet (as before tyme) by the order: £40 my debt at Breme: £20 already for usury, &c., and soe in all £267, which being deducted from the £833, leaveth the ordinary charges of house keeping for these three yeares last, to have been £566, and that with great parsimony used. And hereunto must be added the value of many gifts and helps for our house keeping sent to me by good friends; as vessells of wine, whole brawnes, sheepe, wheat, pepper, nutmegg, ginger, sugar, &c., and other things for the apparell of me, my wife, and our children. The value of all which to be rated in mony, may well be judged to have been above £50, which added to the former £566, yeeldeth the total summe of the charges of house keeping to have been £616. Whereof undoubtedly the £600 hath been spent in meate, drinke, and fuell, and the other 16 odd pounds may be allowed for the apparell stuff, bestowed on us by guift.

Thus your honours most briefly do perceive, how mercifully our God hath been unto us, and bountifull in his provision hitherto, by preparing and enclining the charitable hearts and ready hands of some true Christians, her Majesties loving subjects, to cloath the

naked, and to feede the hungry, &c. Of which charitable points and some more I and myne have tasted in these three last yeares: wherein the Almighty hath tryed our faith and trust in him and in his word. And even he hath now opened the eyes and eares of her most gracious Majestie, and inclined her most mercifull heart to see, heare, and grant the most humble supplication of her true, faithfull, dutifull, and obedient servant: to whose most bountifull and most gracious speedy succour and reliefe, both the almighty God for his part, and I for myne, doe committ the whole cause at this present, upon your honours convenient report made therein unto her most excellent Majestie.

CHAPTER XI.

MY LAMENTABLE AND FINALL COMPLAINT, AND MOST FERVENT PETITION.

SEEING therefore by God his most secret providence and purpose, with his helping hand, I have (very patiently and with good hope) used and enjoyed the five former honest and lawfull means of provision makeing to preserve my selfe, my wife, our children, and family from hunger-sterving and nakednes the space of these whole and just three* yeares last past; and that notwithstanding have in the meane space very often made declaration to our superiours of the great distress and incredible want, unto which I was unduely brought; and partly by reason, that her most gracious Majesties favour towards me and her express commandment royall for my sufficient mainteynance and reliefe-enjoying, hath not hitherto byn so regarded, as any fruit, or one penny yearely revenue is thereby assured unto me yet:

And seeing noe one way of all the five former manners of remedies (which I have been forced to use for these three yeares, for the most needefull mainteynance of me, my wife, children, and family); seeing no one, no one (I say the third tyme) of those five waies doth now remain any longer to be enjoyed by any seemely order to our knowledge, and that my onely house is left to be sold

* and now 4
yeares and 5
moneths last
past.

And even now
am constrained
to mortgage my

house for £400
onely, to pay
presently my
debts, grown on
me forcibly
within these 4
last yeares only.

outright, and that for halfe the money it cost me, wherewith to pay some of my debts and not all: what, I beseech your Honors, may I doe or shall I doe lawfully henceforward; whereby I may prevent, that I and myne shall not be registered in chronicles or annalls to the posterity of true studients for a warning not to follow my steps; and thereby to be soe unjustly, unchristianly, and unnaturally so long forced and driven to such very disgracefull shifts and full of indignities (as they may full well be termed, if my former declaration be duly considered); yea, at length to be left remediless of such inconvenient shifts also, and to be brought even to the very next instant of stepping out of dores (my house being sold) I and myne, with botles and wallets furnished to become wanderers as homish vagabonds; or, as banished men to forsake the kingdome?

But if a number, accounted studients in this kingdome, who can spend yearely by ecclesiasticall livings four hundred pounds in value or revenue, as for reward of their well doing, or for maintenance of their studies, should be constrain'd to leese those their four hundred pound revenues to me; unless they could with six daies warning ballance downe the pith of this dayes my declaration, with a better of theirs in all respects, undoubtedly then should I not be long destitute of sufficient ability and mainteynance for me and myne.

Therefore seeing the blinded lady, Fortune, doth not governe in this commonwealth, but *justitia* and *prudencia*, and that in better order, then in Tullie's *Republica* or bookes of Offices they are laied forth to be followed and performed, most reverently and earnestly (yea, in manner with bloody teares of heart), I and my wife, our seaven children, and our servants (seaventeene of us in all), do this day make our petition unto your Honors, that upon all godly, charitable, and just respects had of all that, which this day you have seene, heard, and perceived, you will make such report unto her most excellent Majestie (with humble request for speedy reliefe), that we be not constrained to do or suffer otherwise, then becometh Christians, and true, faithfull, and obedient subjects to doe or suffer; and all for want of due mainteynance.

Mark I pray
you.

CHAPTER XII.

THE RESOLUTION FOR GENERALL, VERY EASY, AND SPEEDY REMEDY, IN
THIS RARE AND LAMENTABLE CASE.

UNDOUBTEDLY, her most excellent Majesties gracious grant by word of mouth, yea four times within these three last yeares already pronounced in my behalfe of the Mastership of St. Crosses, or of the Wardenship of Winchester, or Provostship of Eaton, or Mastership of Sherborn, or such like, being speedily performed and assured unto me, and of me enjoyed, may be a sufficient remedy against all inconveniences, otherwise most likely to ensue: the extreame pinch of all manner of want for meat, drinke, fewell, cloth, &c., incredibly tormenting me and myne at this present, after three yeares continuall my very hard getting and making of provision for our most needeful mainteynance, even to the uttermost and last meanes used therein: alwaies notwithstanding with great good hope (from moneth to moneth) that, in respect of her most excellent Majesties very great favour towards me; and in respect of her most gracious and expresse commandement divers tymes by word of mouth and letter declared therein; I should ere this have been otherwise and more charitably regarded: and so some sufficient and certaine reliefe and mainteynance should have been bestowed on me ere this.

CHAPTER XIII.

SUNDRY GOOD REASONS, WHY I RATHER DESIRE SAINT CROSSE'S, THAN ANY
OTHER LIVING, FEE, OR DIGNITY OF LIKE VALUE TO BE
HAD IN ANY OTHER PLACE.

1. BECAUSE I would faine retyre my selfe for some yeares ensuing from the multitude and haunt of my common friends, and other, who visit me. Which thing without offense, and loss, or breach of some folkes friendship, cannot be conveniently performed, while

I continually am at my house at Mortlake; the passage and way to my house there is so easy, neere, and of light cost from London or court.

2. The glasshouses of Sussex and other (which may be found, or made very serviceable to some needfull my exercises in perspective and other works philosophicall) are farr neerer there, than they are to Mortlacke. By reason whereof I can myselfe soe oversee the workemen and workemanship, for better matter and shape of glass works and instruments-making, and that with more speede, and also with better order taking for secreting some rarities therein from vulgar sophisters eyes or tongues, then I can so easily and conveniently doe, while I remain in Mortlake.

3. Fuell, coales, brick, and certaine other necessary furniture for my purposes, I may have thereabouts better cheape, and more conveniently as I hope, then where I now remaine.

4. The store of roomes and lodgings, which St. Crosses house may yeeld, are most necessary for divers my purposes of my dutifull service performing in due tyme to her Majestie and thes my native country. As 1. For our learned men to be entertained and lodged in, in far better manner, than I could doe in *Mortlacensi Hospitali Philosophorum peregrinantium* in tymes past; and so for me to have conference with them and their helpe. 2. For lodging conveniently several mechanicall servants in. 3. For a printing house to be set up in for divers good, rare, and antient bookes in Greeke and Latine, and some of my owne to be printed with my owne ordering and oversight, &c.

5. I desire that living, in respect of the sufficiency of victuals, which that living may yeeld for such a company, as I desire, and shall have neede of, if I may have my will. And the easy manner of coming by those victualls there is very needfull for true and earnest students.

6. The respect I have of the good order of divine service there to be mainteyned, doth very greatly move me to desire to enjoy such an oppertunity within my own house to traine up and inure my owne children and family with that most Christian exercise of prayer.

7. By the meanes of that living in my use, I shall become of better ability and credit, and so be better able to allure and win unto me rare and excellent men from all parts of Christendome (and perhaps some out of farder regions); especially when they shall by me understand, that with me now and in such a solitary and commodious place, they may dwell in freedome, security, and quietnes, under her Majesties unviolable protection by her sacred vow and promise to God warranted, and under her Majesties great seal, to me and my assistants and servantes, during my life, and a year and a day after, to all and every one of them authentically and royally confirmed.

8. I desire that living and in that place, chiefly in respect of the south sea-coast of England, not farr of; and thereby to enjoy the commodious sending over into divers places beyond the seas for things and men very necessary; and for to have the more commodious place for the secret arrival of special men to come unto me there at St. Crosses: some of which men would be loath to be seene or heard of publickly in court or city.

And to conclude, though more might be said (as in respect of Winchester schoole at hand for my four sons to become grammariens in, and for my some helpe-having among the good Greek and Latin grammarians, and faire writers in that schoole, for some bookes copying out for her Majestie, &c.) yet these former eight generall reasons, being sincerely, truly, and advisedly alleadged, may suffice; especially when the favour, good-will, and grant thereto of her most excellent Majestie are already herein very graciously declared; and the well liking of the Lord Archbyshop of Canterbury his good Grace, and of the right honourable the Lord Treasurer also are to me by their Honours words and promises to myselfe herein assured.

CHAPTER XIV.

SOME GOOD FRUITE LIKELY TO ENSUE OF THE FORESAID SPEEDY AND SUFFICIENT MY RELIEFE AND MAINTEYNANCE.

1. By this meanes her Majestie shall highly please the eternall and almighty God, in executing for him and in him the verity of his mercifull promises, generally made to all his sincere worshippers. *Quis enim speravit in Domino, et confusus est?* And so I may hereby yeeld unto God very duly these thankes; *Ostendisti mihi tribulationes multas et malas: sed tandem de profundis abyssis eduxisti me*, by the most dearly beloved, our most gracious Queene Elizabeth.

2. By this meanes, *officiosus, fidelis et sincerus operarius* for many yeares past, shall receive not only *mercedem honorificam*, but *donum Regium* also of his most gracious soveraigne Lady, *et licet longo post tempore venit (candidior postquam tondenti barba cadebat) respexit tamen*.

3. And the justice of this word, *Nemo militat propriis stipendiis*, wilbe divinely mainteyned by such her Majesties most excellent bountifulness.

4. And moreover, where some her most excellent Majesties subjects have wronged or wrung me greatly heretofore; by these her most gracious Majesties bountifull and charitable guift, all wil be superabundantly recompenced.

5. By this reliefe (sufficient for mainteynance for some yeares next ensuing) divers antient, rare, and excellent good monumentes, historical and philosophicall, and also late invented and written bookes, of no vulgar argument, may come to be either faire written for her Majesties use, and her libraries, or else to be published by print with diligent oversight and due correction.

6. By this her most excellent Majesties very divine helping me in this sort, and I being in the lamentable case before specified, her Majesties most renowned and incomparable monarchicall diadem of fame shall throughout all Christendome and further

receive, if it be possible, some new reverence, and have many new devout vowes and hearty good wishes unto it yeilded, among the nobly and vertuously disposed of all degrees; as partly may be made probable by the contents and intents of the 2. and 3. chapters before, &c.

7. And to conclude, by this her most gracious Majesties actual favour towards me (after her very many other); and by this her blessed (as it were) putting forth of her sacred hand (in the very opportunity of tyme) to helpe me upon foote againe, who have had so great a fall, and have so longe been kept downe, by some men's first tripping of my feete, and by others afterwarde overlying me by worldly policy, subtile practise, and rigorous advantages sought for and used. Truly in respect, I say, hereof, as well for the generall duty of a servant and subject, as for that my heart is inflamed with wonderfull zeale of thankfulness for these helpes and comforts; sundry not only my dutifull, but also unlooked for services of importance to her most excellent Majestie may the better, with most hearty and ready good will, and with diligent endeavour and at all best opportunities, be brought to pass; and some of them to be such, as may be to the great honor of our Almighty God also, and for noe small benefit to the whole kingdome: the same God granting me continuance (with his grace and helpe) for some few yeares yet to come, of my earthly race.

THE GENERALE END.

Thus dutifully, humbly, and reverently I have said and shewed unto your Honours this day such matter, as my very lamentable case requireth to be speedely knowne unto her most excellent Majestie. To whome I most heartily beseech the almighty and most bountifull King of Kings to grant in peace all prosperity and felicity; and in wars most

victorious triumph against her enimies in the service of God :
and in the defence and recovery of her most gracious Ma-
jesties Royall right.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

At my poore house at Mortlake
Novr. 22. A. 1592.

Your Honours devoutly
to be commanded

JOHN DEE.

THE SEQUEL OF THE PREMISES.

Be it remembred,

THAT upon the premisses made manifest and declared abundantly by me to the two forenamed honourable Commissioners, the same two made such due report thereof, that her Majestic greatly pittied my case, and presently sent for the Lord Admirall and his Lady (whome my wife Jane Fromondz had some tymes served in court), and told them the report made unto her Highness, and willed the Lady Howard to write some letter of comfort unto my wife, and send some friendly token besides ; and her Majestic commanded, that an hundred markes should be sent unto me by Sir Thomas Gorge, and said, that St. Crosses I should have, when the incumbent Doctor Benet might be conveniently placed in some byshoprick ; and notwithstanding by consultation with the two foresaid Commissioners, it was thought good, that the pension of £200 yearely were to be assured unto me out of the revenues of the Byshoprick of Oxford or otherwise, till St. Crosses were voyd, or as good as that ; and so the end was of that her Majesties most gracious consideration at that tyme.

Be it also remembred, that on the 2nd day of December next ensuing, the forenamed Sir Thomas Gorge brought me from her

Majestie one hundred markes, part in gold, and part in silver, and delivered it unto me on the same table in my study, where they had set a few daies before in commission.

He brought also at the same tyme the Lady Howard her letter to my wife, full of courtesie and kindnes, and in it a token of six old angells of gold.

I returned by the same Sir Thomas Gorge my most humble and dutifull thanks to her Majestie, till oppertunity might serve me to yeild them my selfe, and soe to the very vertuous Lady, the right honourable L. Admirall his bedfellow, I and my wife returnd our dutifull thanks.

On Thursday the 15 of Febr. A. 1593 (*more Astronomico*) I delivered unto the Countess of Warwick in writing the here annexed sentence, which above forty dayes I had waited for opportunity, wherein to have spoken and pronounced it my selfe to her Majestie. I asked the honourable Sir John Wolley his advice therein also, who liked well of the sending in of it to her Majestie. Afternoone about 2 of the clock it was delivered to her Majestie, and my faithfull thankfullness was very graciously accepted of her Majestie, which promise also againe renewed to grant me any sute meete for me; and willed the same to be preferred unto her by the two forenamed Commissioners, now both Knights. God preserve her Majestie.

The sentence I sent unto her Majestie by the Countess of Warwick. Feb. 15, A. 1593.

Serenissima, ô potentissimaque Regina,

Ut ritam mihi olim Omnipotens dedit Deus noster, ejusque vigorem (prope jam exhaustum) beneficentissima vestra redintegavit manus: ita eundem de cætero (totum ad quæcunq̃ mea summa devinctissimum intentissimumque vestræ Majestati Regiæ præstanda servitia) opportunè ac solidè mihi confirmari per constantissimam vestram augustissimamque clementiam humillimè peto.

A SUPPLICATION TO Q. MARY, BY JOHN DEE, FOR THE RECOVERY AND
PRESERVATION OF ANCIENT WRITERS AND MONUMENTS.

To the Queenes most excellent Majestie.

IN most humble wise complaining, beseecheth your Highnes, your faithfull and loving subject, John Dee gentleman, to have in remembrance, how that, among the exceeding many most lamentable displeasures, that have of late happened unto this realm, through the subverting of religious houses, and the dissolution of other assemblies of godly and learned men, it hath been, and for ever, among all learned students, shall be judged, not for the least calamity, the spoile and destruction of so many and so notable libraries, wherein lay the treasure of all Antiquity, and the everlasting seeds of continual excellency within this your Grace's realm. But, albeit that in those dayes many a pretious jewel and ancient monument did utterly perish (as at Canterbury did that wonderful work of the sage and eloquent *Cicero de Republica*, and in many other places the like) yet, if, in time, great and speedy diligence be shewed, the remanents of such incredible store, as well of writers theologicall, as in all other liberal sciences, might be saved and recovered: which now in your Grace's realm being dispersed and scattered, yea and many of them in the unlearned men's hands, do still yet (in this time of reconciliation) dayly perish; and perchance of purpose by some envious person enclosed in walls, or buried in the ground, to the great injurie of the famous and worthy authors, and the pitifull hindrance of the learned in this your Highnes realm: whose travailes, watchings, and pains might greatly be relieved and eased; for that such doubts and points of learning, as much cumber and vex their heads, are most pithyly in such old monuments debated and discussed. Therefore your said suppliant maketh most humble petition unto your Majestie, that

it might stand with your good will and pleasure, such order and meanes to take place, as your said suppliant hath devised for the recovery and continuall preservation of all such worthy monuments, as yet are extant, either in this your Graces realm of England, or else where in the most part of all Christendome. Whereby your Highness shall have a most notable library, learning wonderfully be advanced, the passing excellent works of our forefathers from rot and worms preserved, and also hereafter continually the whole realm may (through your Graces goodnes) use and enjoy the whole incomparable treasure so preserved: where now no one student, no nor any one college, hath half a dozen of those excellent jewells, but the whole stock and store thereof drawing nigh to utter destruction and extinguishing, while here and there by private mens negligence (and sometimes malice) many a famous and excellent author's book is rent, burnt, or suffered to rott and decay. And your said suppliant is so much the more willing to move this suit unto your Highnes, for that by his said device your Graces said library might in very few yeares most plentifully be furnisht, and that without any one penny charge unto your Majestie, or doing injurie to any creature. Finally, in the erecting of this your Library Royall, your Grace shall follow the footsteps of all the famous and godly princes of old time, and also do like the worthy Governors of Christendome at these dayes: but far surmounting them all both in the store of rare monuments, and likewise in the incredible fruit, which of this your Highnes act will follow ere it be long. The merit whereof shall redound to your Majesties honorable and everlasting fame here on earth, and undoubtedly in heaven highly be rewarded; as knoweth God, Whom your said suppliant most heartily beseecheth long to preserve your grace in all prosperity. Amen.

Articles concerning the recovery and preservation of the ancient monuments and old excellent Writers: and also concerning the erecting of a Library without any charges to the Queens Majestie, or doing injury to any of the Queens Highnes subjects, according to the tenor and intent of a supplication to the Queens grace in this behalf exhibited by John Dee, Gentleman. A. 1556, the xv day of January.

1. *Imprimis*, the Queen's Majesties commission to be granted for the seeing and perusing of all places within this her Graces realm, where any notable or excellent monument may be found, or is known to be. And the said monument or monuments so found and had by the said Commissioner then, of the former possessor in the Queens Majesties name to be borrowed, and so nevertheless to be restorable to the said former possessor after such convenient time, wherein of every such monument one fair copy may be written, if the said former possessor be disposed to have the said monument or monuments again; and thereupon either he or his assignes do at the said Library (the place whereof is by the Queen's grace to be appointed) demand the said monument or monuments by bill assigned with the hand of the said Commissioner, wherein both the name or names of the said monument or monuments is or are particularly expressed, and also the convenient time for the said restitution prescribed.

2. That it may be referred to my Lord Cardinal's Grace and the next Synod to conclude an order for the allowance of all necessary charges, as well toward the riding and journeying for the recovery of the said worthy monuments, as also for the copying out of the same, and framing of necessary stalls, desks, and presses, meet for the preservation and use of the said monuments in the Queens Majesties Library aforesaid.

3. That the said Commission be with speed dispatched for three causes especially: first, lest, after this motion made, the spreading of it abroad might cause many to hide and convey their good and ancient writers (which nevertheless were very ungodly done, and a

certain token, that such are not sincere lovers of good learning). Secondly, that by the travail of these three months, February, March, and April next going before the Synod, in May next appointed, the said Synod may have good proof, whereby to conjecture, how this matter will take success. And thirdly, upon the said trial of three months, the proportion of the charges in riding and writing may the better be weighed, what they will in manner amount unto.

4. A meet place to be forthwith appointed for the said monuments to be sent unto, untill the said Library may be made apt in all points necessary; and that in this said place, before or at the Synod-time, the said monuments may be viewed and perused, according to the pleasure of my Lord Cardinals Grace and the said next Synod.

5. Finally, that by furdur device of your said suppliant, John Dee (God granting him his life and health), all the famous and worthy monuments, that are in the notablest Librarys beyond the sea (as in Vaticana at Rome, S. Marci at Venice, and the like at Bononia, Florence, Vienna, &c.) shall be procured unto the said Library of our sovereign Lady and Queen, the charges thereof (beside the journeying) to stand in the copying of them out, and the carriage into this realm only. And as concerning all other excellent authors printed, that they likewise shall be gotten in wonderfull abundance, their carriage only into this realme to be chargeable.

A NECESSARY ADUERTISEMENT, BY AN VNKNOVN FREEND, GIUEN
 TO THE MODEST, AND GODLY READERS: WHO ALSO CAREFULLY
 DESIRE THE PROSPEROUS STATE OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF
 THIS BRYTISH KINGDOM, AND THE POLITICALL SECVRTIE
 THEREOF.

1. Lamentable and irksome* are these our dreary dayes: (my welbeloued cuntriman) seeing the conditions of to to many, are become such, as, to be to to curious of other† mens dooings: as though they themselues were superhabundantly perfect, or dwelt in security, of not beyng at any tyme hereafter, either surueyed, or controlled for their own.

2. Nay, seeing the subtilty and impudency of‡ some, is such, that they can, and dare, cunningly and craftily, conuey to themselues (or, to whom they list) the title and interest of the thanks and commendation, due to other men: who are not of so brasen visages, as to practise such ambitious fatches for themselues, or to procure such malicious disgraces, to other: but are of that myldenes of spirite, as PATIENTLY TO ATTEND THE END, which shall reueale the VERITY: when, iust gwerdon shall to euery man be distributed accordingly.

* Veritas (vt fertur) Odium parit, Ast, tantum id fit, apud veritatis osoros: ipsi etiam omnipotenti exosos Deo.

† Cur quidem vides festucam, quæ est in oculo fratris tui, trabem autem, quæ est in oculo tuo, non animaduertis? Math. 7.

‡ Legas et relegas librum Quintum Politicorum Aristotelis.

3. And thirdly, seeing some are so doggedly violent and vayn-gloriously doting, that they can not like, consent, or well suffer any od Man, beside them selues: or otherwise, then by them selues, to receiue due salary, either of credit, commendation, or liberall consideration: where their word or working (directly or indirectly) may hinder the same.

4. Fourthly, how pitifull is the case, that diuers, of sundry states* haue (of late) become so shameles lyers, and to some priuate mens liues, (thereby) so dangerous, that, if credit had bin giuen to them (by other than the light hedded sort) of such murders and treasons, as (most diuell like) they haue imagined and reported to be: and withall, (wholy, of their own hellish myndes without any spark or drop of veritie) haue fathered the same vpon the very innocent (yea, so much an innocent, as for any such thought, in his hart, at any tyme, embracing or fostering): It had bin greatly to haue bin douted that the mighty wrath of God, would not so long haue forborn the iust revenge (of so haynous abhominacions) taking, vpon, as well such wicked and principall forgers, as on other the fickle fauourers, or careles sufferers of the same, any whit to preuaile.

5. Seeing the Prince of darknes hath sundry such his factors: And yet one† other kinde more wicked and abhominable than the rehearsed: which are such, as not onely, they themselues, commit diuelish horrible facts, but also practise other very fraudulent feats; And all to their priuate lucre onely: chiefly ayding and furnishing vp their own shamefull credit herein, with the † cownterfeiting of other honest and learned men their letters: as, written vnto them, in such their vngodly and vnlawfull affrayes: or, as falsly, reporting their conferences had with them, to the behoof (say they) of such, as are become their miserable and cosened clients.

* *As, Κλερκ, υυδ όνγ ήμισελφ ιν θε Τουρ Σιρ Ιον Βουρν Κιργτ, Πριδιοξ Μαχελ, &c.*

† *Τιρσεντ Μυρφι.*

6. And sixthly, how, (almost, without remedy,) hath the most wily tyrant, and insatiable bludsucker, layd the plat, for a wofull tragedy contriuing: yf, the power and justice diuine, did not bridle his malitious rage, and infernall fury? How, hath he, (I pray you) insinuated his credit with some, so far, and so long since: that diuers vntrue and infamous reports, by their sinister information, haue bin giuen vp to such, as haue gathered records, of those mens acts, who dyed in the cause of veritie? And so, the same hurtfull vntruthes, beyng (yet) the rather credited, by reason of the dignity of the place; wherein they were enstalled, haue seemed, both to the foresayd diuelish cosener, and also, to the credulous cosen (yea, and to very many others,) to haue bin a certain kynde of warrant: To the one, without feare, to counterfet letters, or discourses, answerable to the foresayd fowle vntruthes, vnaduidedly recorded. And to the other, without suspicion, lightly to credit any such matter, reported. And so, hath the feend infernall, most craftily, and vnduly gotten the honest* name and fame, of one extraordinary studious Ientleman, of this land, within his clawes; that, diuers his mere malitious, and wilfull enemies, do verily hope, that it is impossible, that this Ientleman shall, with this English or Brytish state, either (during his life) be counted a good subiect, or a commendable, (nay scarce a tolerable) †Christian; or, any his acts or trauailes, all ready past; or, other his intended exploits, of great importance, shall be, in this land, acceptable; or, of the people, of this kingdome, receyued: as, by the faour, light, and ayde of the Blessed Trinitie vndertaken, inuented, compassed, and atchieued: but, rather, by wicked and vngodly arte, to be framed: and, by the help of Sathan, or Beelzebub, to

* A good name is more to be desired than great riches. Prouerb 22. A good name is more worth than precious oyntment. Eccles. 7.

† If you will read his digression apologetically, conteyned in his Mathematical Preface, to the English Euclide, (imprinted A° 1570) you may the better understand this point of this brief aduertisement.

be finished: vnleast, the wise, or the peculiarly chief authorized, will vse due, carefull, and charitable discretion, from henceforth, to repres, or abolish, and vtterly extinguish this very iniurious report, (for these xx. yeres last past, and somewhat longer,) spred and credited, all this realm ouer: it is to wete, that the forsaid Gentleman, is, or was, not onely, a *¹*Coniurer*, or caller of diuels: but*, ²*a great doer therein: yea, the great coniuurer*: and so, (as some would say) ³**the arche coniuurer*, of this whole kingdom.

Before, that the (mentioned) diuelish cosening was vsed: this sklenderous vntrithe was recorded, published, and credited: but, by these new deuised cosening forgeries, the same, may (with some) seeme to be vndoubtedly confirmed. Oh Lord, with how tickle and strong snares, and with how wily laberinthes, hath the most enuious traytor, to the honor of our God and Christ, bewrapped and daunted many a thousand of simple and honest mens fantasies: inducing them, to credit this infamous report? To credit it, (I say) in respect to the honorable seat, wherein, it was (very vnadvisedly) set downe. In dede, euen he: who, at the beginning, †sayd, *Ascendam in cælum, et similis ero altissimo*: euen he, hath settled this intolerable sklender of the vertuous, among the glorious renown of the righteous: to so great hurt, and dammage of the Gentleman (who, to all other men, is harmles) as, neuer to him, by any one mortall man, the iust amends, can duly be made. I would to God, this foresaid sklender, and other disgracing reports, to rashly, and euen then recorded, when this courteous Gentleman was also a prisoner himself: (and bedfellow, with one maister Barthelet Greene) had bin, in due tyme espyed: and vtterly cancelled, or razed out of all records, wherein they were vnduly, and vnadvisedly (first) admitted.

* Oh, a damnable sklauder, vtterly vntrue, in the whole, and in euery worde and part thereof: as (before the King of kings) will appere at the dreadfull day.

† Esaie 14.

Nerer to pres this matter in particular, it is nedeles. But, by this, and such like foule ouersight of man, and cruell despite of the hellish enemy, it is come to pas (among many other great inconueniences) that, whereas the said studious Ientleman, hath at God his most mercifull handes : recyued a great talent of knowledge and sciences : (after his long, painfull, and costly trauails, susteyned for the same :) and both by God, being warned, and, of his owne disposition, desirous, not only to enlarge and multiply the same, but also to communicate to other : he findeth himself, (uow at length), partly forced, somewhat to yelde to the wickednes of these tymes, (being not possible to sayl against the windes eye) : and partly demeth himself (in Gods judgment,) excusable, not to bestow any more of his talent and *carefull trauailes, vpon the ingratefull and thankles : nay, vpon the skorners and disdainers of such his faythfull enterprises : vndertaken chiefly, for the aduancement of the wonderfull veritie philosophicall : and also, for the state publik of this BRYTISH MONARCHIE, to become flourishing, in HONOR, WEALTH, and STRENGTH : as much, as any thing in him, mought have bin thereto, (by any means,) found seruisable.

But, who would haue *thought, that they, who are (in dede) of the honester sort, and more charitable : yea, of the wiser, and (by office) mightier (and some of them, taken for his especial great freends) would, so many yeres, have bin so *careles : or slack, to ayde, and procure the innocent, to be *deliuered, from the greuous, and most jniurious spoyles of his good name and fame : and all the inconueniences, depending thereon ? or, who would haue thought, that so great and so vncharitable vntruthes, should so vndiscreetly haue bin published : by those men especially, who, otherwise, in woord and life, were very modest, and circumspect.

I thought it good, therefore (my honest freend and cuntriman)

* *Solomon in Ecclesiastes, cap. 4.* So I turned me, and considered all the violent wrong, that is done vnder the sunne : and behold, the tears of such as were oppressed, and there was no man to comfort them : or, that would deliuer or defend them from the violence of their oppressions.

to aduertise * thee, of some parte of the cause, of the strange maner, of this treatise comming to thy sight, or reading: as, without the name, of any certain author thereof: and without the name, of the zealous artificer, who first did sollicite, and collect such matter (by dictata, as it were) from this Ientleman. And thirdly: without my own name: into whose hands, the sayd artificer, hath deliuered all the matter, that he could get of this Brytish Ientleman, to the title of this booke answerable; yea, and other rare instructions, also.

For (undowtedly) this BRYTISH PHILOSOPHER, is not only discouraged to labor, or * pen any more treatises or bookes himself in ARTIFICIAL METHOD, for his vnkinde, vnthankful, disdainfull and sklanderous cuntrymen, to vse (nay abuse:) but also is loth (and hath great reason so to be) to haue his name any more prefixed, or subscribed, to any treatises, passing from him, either by writing or by speech.

And both these inconueniencies are purposely committed to auoyd, or somewhat to preuent hensforward, the farther grief and offence that might grow to him and his true freends; to perceiue the former sundry sorts of caterpillers, and great hinderers of the prosperous estate of any commonwealth, to knaw vpon the leaf or flower of his commendable fame; who would take very quickly an occasion (by the forefronts of bookes garnished with his BRYTISH NAME,) to fall to a fresh pang of enuious busiosity, impudent arrogancy, and dogged malicious speeches vsing and vttring against the Ientleman, who (vndoubtedly) wisheth euill to none. And (perhaps) though it were very good matter, that should by him be contriued and written, and vnder his name be published: yet they would (in perusing it) either peruert their own judgements of it, through their vnquieted and mere malicious fantazie, wilfully bent against him; or, rather in dede, through their own great ignorance would verify the prouerb, *Scientia non habet Inimicum, nisi Ignorantem*: as they did by his *Monas Hieroglyphica*†, dedicated to

* The chief occasion of this aduertisement giuing.

† A° 1564.

the late Emperor Maximilian, wherein the Queene her most excellent Maiestie can be a sacred witness (as I haue heard) of the strange and vndue speeches deuised of that hieroglyphicall writing.

Or, if they liked the matter, they would say, that such a Treatise (vnder his name published) is not, or was not of his owne compiling and ordring, as Author thereof, but that some other man, now liuing, or long since dead, was the only and first Author of such a good Treatise. And that maner of malicious iniury hath bin very notably done vnto him for these many yeres past, about his booke intituled *Propædeumata Aphoristica*; and is yet scarce ceased in all corners (for it is backbiting worke, and seeketh corners.) For some men, (and they such, who ought to haue bin honest and discreet, as they are, or were accounted learned) haue very enviously fathered it upon the excellent *Gerardus Mercator Rupelmundanus*, (yet liuing at *Duysburgh*) as to be the only and true Author of those *Aphorismes*. But afterward, when that was found a peuish fable; then vpon one *Vrso* (who liued many hundred yeres since) was all the commendation bestowed for that *Aphoristicall* worke contriuing. And then agayne, after that, vpon one *Alkabitius*: And at length, with shame enough (but more will follow) being driuen from these mere enuious and spitefull false deuises; yet (most obstinately and impudently) they still auouch to diuers Ientlemen, and certaine Noble Men, that some other, or (in effect) any man els, was the author thereof; rather than they would honestly acknowledge the truthes of only this Ientleman his peculiar industry, and no small skill vsed in the contriuing and framing of that * booke; containing the chief Crop and Roote, of ten yeres his first Outlandish and Homish studies and exercises philosophicall; as partly in the Preface thereof, to the reader is specified; but more habundantly and purposely hath that point bin † proued and testified to some, who were (before)

* A° 1558 in July first printed.

† A° 1574 in Aug. at Mortlach.

fowly infected with the sklanderous opinion, that one *Urso* was the author of it, and not this honest *Brytish Ientleman*; as at another tyme, will be made more eident: when a ful declaration, in more conuenient place, may be made, of the mere malicious, very rash, and Brutish Censure of a certain Doctor (yet liuing) who lately endeored himself, to perswade some right worshipful Ientlemen, that it were good and behoofull for this Common Wealth, if the sayd Philosopher, were *banished* this land for euer; bicause, said "this Doctor, (but most vntruly, as is now very eident to thousands of men of this kingdom, and other) that to no man of this realm, he did at any tyme, or yet doth, or will communicate any part of his learned talent, by word or writing; but is wholly addicted to his priuate commodity, only auancing by his own studies and practises very secret." That doctor, his name shall not here by me be disclosed: for that he hath (vpon honest repentance, for his so iniurious and dammageable intent) receiued his* sentence of free forgiuenes, in the presence of worshipfull wites yet aliuie.

And when, likewise, the perfect declaration may more aptly be had, of the most Judas like pranke, of an other Doctor; who (in the tyme of this Brytan Innocent his captiuity: and somewhat before the day of his enlarging by letters † sent to his keper from the right honorable Priuy Counsaill, to KING PHILIP and QUEENE MARY) did, very earnestly sollicite with the Lord Chauncelor,

* A° 1575 in March at Mortlach.

† *The true copy of these letters sent to D. Boner, Bishop of London.*

After our hartly commendations to your good L. the King and Queenes Maiesties pleasures is, you shall cause John Dee, committed to your L. custody, to be brought before some Master of the Chauncery, and there bound to be of good abearing, and forth comming when he shall be called for, betwixt this and Christmas next, and thereupon to set him at libertie. Whereof we pray you not to faile. And so we bid the same hartily farewell.

From Greenwich, the xxix of August, 1555.

Your L. louing frendes.

Ste. Winton, Cancell. W. Rochester, Thomas Ely. Jo. Bourn. John Baker.

Francis Engerfield. E. Waldegrave.

(with whom he could do very much) and with the Bishop of London, (whom also he could half perswade) that it were requisite and justice, that the sayd Brytan Captiue were not set at liberty at all, but should be forthwith committed to PERPETUAL PRISON; and that, vpon such respects as he most vnchristianlike and maliciously had deuised, and uery impudently vpon his credit with them (such as it was) would haue forced to preuaile. But God would not suffer the sayd courteous Captiue his great freendship and humanity, a few yeres before, vsed toward that doctor (in *Paris*) so to be requited with worse then ingratitude. Besides, that the sayd Captiue could neuer (nor yet can) be duly charged, with any word or deed, vttered or done, contrary to the performance of his duty toward his Soueraigne and the higher powers.

And though I here omit many other great iniuries done unto him, about the bereauing him, of the true and due title and interest, in and to his own works, writings, and inuentions, in other places recorded (and among that sort, omitting that foule iniury done to him by one *Joannes Franciscus Offhuysius*, whose booke *De Diuina Astrorum facultate*, was of this Brytan Philosopher, his inuention, chiefly: as may be made eident, both by the matter therein containd, being compared to his *Propædeumata Aphoristica*.

And also, by the said *Franciscus* his daily familiar * letters, solliciting and requesting those and such like *Hypotheses Astrological*, at the said philosopher his hands; he being, moreouer, here

* As may sufficiently appeare by these few places taken out of some of his letters.

Doctissimo probæq. Indolis Dnº. Joanni Deo, suo Intimo.

*Occupatiunculae me hactenus domi detinere, &c. Quas de Aeris mutatione, con-
cepisti causas, ne relinuas, oro, &c.*

Ex Diuersorio, raptim,

30 Octob. 1553.

Tuus si suus,

J F van Offhuysen.

And agayne,

Suo Charissimo Dnº. Joanni Deo.

Hiis proximis diebus, &c. Hypothesibus ad Astrologiam confirmandam, quæso,

conuersant with, and depending vpon this our Brytan *Mathematicien* above a whole yere.) Yet I must note unto you, euen here, that one of those iniuries was aboue all the rest, so notorious, and withall, so notably well * known to be an iniury, that the last yere, a certain mechanicien (being busied about matter of nauigation) calling to his remembrance the same iniury, being a fowle and impudent † brag, that an English mariner (now aboue 20 yeres sins) had made to diuers honest men, (of the new sea instrument, newly also, called the *Paradoxall Cumpas*, as to haue bin of his inuention) was so inflamed with indignation against this arrogant mariner, his abhominable impudency, (so long tyme, by this Ientleman, very patiently suffred,) that he made very earnest request to this Ientleman (the true inuenter of this instrument Paradoxal,) that, although all the Iniuries receiued at their hands, who were deemed learned, he would not very sharply reprove: and but at leysure; yet, that it should be an act, mete and needfull for him to do, (being also behoofall for the common wealth) speedily to detect such shameless braggers and crakers; onely sophisticatedly furnished to outward shew: and that, with other mens rare inuentions; but of themselues, vtterly vnhabie to inuent any worthy conclusion, to be profitably practised on sea or land.

Which Mechanicien his earnest request, (by the foresayd Ientleman) being graunted, was the very chief and first occasion of these

seriò Des (vt cepisti) operam. Syderum sedes, spero te vtcunq. certas, à me accepturum, saltem eorum quæ per nos obseruata fuere quandoq. &c.

Vale, 6 Novemb. 1553.

Tuus Offhuysius.

And agayne.

Domine, si non queas incommodè carere Ephemeridibus præsentis anni, obsecro, mitte: et de tuis intelligamus studijs. Ego diligenter planto sydera. Spero, dum tuæ creuerint, quas concepisti Hypotheses, aliquid boni seminis nos collecturos. Vale felix.

Tuus Offhuysius.

* M. Steuen and M. William Borowgh, two of the chief Mosecou Pilots (after the incomparable M. Richard Chancelor his death) can be sufficient witnesses also.

† An iniurious brag.

Memorials* (concerning *the perfect Arte of Navigation*) so coming in record, after a mechanicall and vulgar artificer his blunt manner of penning and collecting the same. Who, about the entrance into the matter of navigation, finding good † opportunity to speake first of a PETY NAVY ROYALL, continually to be maynteyned, for manifold great commodities procuring to this BRYTISH MONARCHIE; (which no other way can be brought to pas) and among them all, the PERPETVALL POLITIK‡ SECVRTIE and better preseruation of this famous kingdom from all forrein danger, or homish disorders, to be the chiefest and most needfull publick benefit; (and vndowtedly, likely to ensue therof) he was dutifully willing, rather to follow some brief discussing of that very waighty matter, (and especially in these dangerous dayes, and incredible peeuish practises, ful often deuised against the GOOD PEACE AND PROSPEROVS TRANQUILLITIE of this INCOMPARABLE ILANDISH MONARCHIE;) then to fall to the foresayd Generall and Rare Memorials, recording of THE PERFECT ARTE OF NAUIGATION; which he, (therupon) set aside awhile, and wherof, now only the second volume entreateth, vnder this proper title: THE BRYTISH COMPLEMENT, OR THE PERFECT ARTE OF NAUIGATION||. (For no vulgar doctrine or practise is therin conteyned; but rather the GENERALL COMPLEMENT, and almost (in particular,) all that which hitherto was wanting; or, which mought be most needfull to so excellent an arte, and (to this kingdome) most beneficiall of all other mechanicall exercises.

And such is the foresayd Brytish complement, (as I do right well know) that the contents therof, are aboute the most part of the best learned mens expectations (yea, or hope) of being brought

* The volumes of Rare Memorials, by what occasion they became to be written first.

† The brief argument of the Preface, or first booke of the General Rare Memorials.

‡ Perpetual politick security is to be sought for; but not sluggish and rechless securitie, which is the ouerthrow of many a noble kingdom.

|| The title and brief argument of the second volume.

to pas; and all that in rare, general, and excellent conclusions of Gubernautik, chiefly. And so great is the volume therof, that, to haue it fairely and distinctly printed, with all the appertenances, it would be (in bulk) greater than the English Bible, of the greatest volume; and yet the plat of inuention, disposition, and recording therof was finished in les than 4 monthes space; it is to wete of September, October, Nouember, and December last. Due laud and glory be therefore ascribed to the free geuer of all good and perfect gifts.

The third booke*, I neither will, or may (as yet) say any thing of. The Ientleman his desire was, that it should be vtterly suppressed, or delivered to Vulcan his custody.

But the fourth volume †, I may judge it to be as an earthly paradise; a booke, of as great godly pleasure, as worldly profit and delight; a booke for the BRYTISH HONOR and WEALTH, (and that in diuers maner) such an one as neuer King *Ptolomæus*, or Prince *Abulfada Ismaël*, or any geographicall or hydrographicall discoverer did write or collect, as I (for my simple capacity) do verily judge of it. The title wherof, is OF FAMOUS and RICH DISCOVERIES; the discourse thereof, not only conteineth the generall suruey hydrographicall of all the whole world, (and chiefly the rare evidences for all the partes therof, most septentrionall) but also a particular and ample examination of King Solomon his Ophirian three yeres voyage; and also the lawfull and very honorable entitling of our most gracious and soueraigne Lady, QUEENE ELIZABETH, (and so this BRYTISH SCEPTRE ROYALL) to very large forrein dominions; such as in and by the same, duly recouered and vsed. The course of the Diuine Prouidence generall, in this present age will bring to light and life, matter of great importance and consequence, both to the glory of God and the benefit of all Christendom and Heatheness. The greatness of this volume is not much les than of the second. And one way it far passeth the second: for, in the

* The third booke suppressed.

† The fourth volume.

secret centre therof is more bestowed and stored vp, than I may, or (in this place) will express.

The same volume, was chiefly of the Ientleman his own very speedily collecting; and (by his wil and order) hath this inscription or dedication, To THE MOST WORTHY; and the same inscription to be written or printed in letters of gold.

And had not the incredible and manifold iniuries, and vndue disturbances bin, which haue happened to him (by sundry parcels of tyme) for the space of three monthes and more, (in totall summe) within the tyme of all these collections, most speedily and carefully heaping vp together, since August last; I am right well assured, that neuer, in so small tyme, so much matter of so great importance, with such syncere and dutifull zeale to pleasure his natiue cuntry, had by any subject (BRYTISH OR ENGLISH) bin deliuered from him by inuention of his own, or by circumspect collection, or discrete application, out of former or present writers and authours.

What is than (I pray you) in all his life tyme, to be thought likely or possible, and in tymes more commodious, to haue bin inuented, or conuerted to better method of knowledge or vse of practice, or notably reformed, by the said Ientleman? especially for the space of these thirty* yeres last past? In which long tyme of his Tyrocinie he hath incessantly, to the uttermost of his power and hability, followed an extraordinary, and most painfull, and very costly course of Philosophical enquiries making after the best verities, which may yeld † (by due considerations of the creatures, their vertues and properties) to their Creator, and ours, glory, praise & honor vnspeakable: for his infinit goodnes, wisdom and power; the euident print & demonstrable proof wherof the same

* In which space of tyme he hath aduisedly spent above thirty hundred pounds, for learning of worthy knowledges and sciences: to the honor of God aduancing (far and nere) and the better enhabling of himself to pleasure his native cūtry about all other, how little so euer they haue (yet) deserued it at his hands.

† The fruit and end of Natural Philosophy, being vsed as christen men ought to vse it.

(our God) hath most in his own handy worke, of all his creatures creating; all the whole and vniversall world over dispersed; nay, rather filling the whole comographicall frame and orbe; from the center therof to the vttermost circumference of the same; being, to mortall mans outward eye, vtterly vnsensible.

It will appeare, hereafter, in due tyme, that greater, furder, and of longer continuance hath bin his doings, and very well liked of, aduertisements and instructions in sundry affayrers, philosophicall, and cosmopoliticall, FOR VERITIE, IUSTICE AND PEACE FVRDERING, than hath of any three of his neerest freends, and most familiarly acquainted cuntrymen, bin (as yet) perceiued.

And this also I may say of the same Ientleman (without seeming to flatter him, or any whit to abuse thee, my honest freend and cuntryman) or, he, himself, with great modesty, and no arrogancy, might (to God his high glory) say that, yf in the foresaid whole cours of his tyme, he had found a constant and assistant CHRISTIAN ALEXANDER, BRYTAN should not haue bin now destitute of a CHRISTIAN ARISTOTLE.*

Any farder is nedeles to be disclosed of this Ientleman, whose greuous † wounds, (by dedly sklanderss vpon diuelish enuy only; and the same, priuily slasht and hewd into his sydes, and nere vnto his hart) are not yet in the perfect and charitable chirurgiens curing, the more lamentable will the case be found, and the remedy to late thought vpon, I am greatly afraid.

In the mean space (my louing freend and vnpartiall reader) I am to aduertise thee, as concerning the publishing of the other two great volumes; though the inuentions and collections be such as I sayd, and of great value; both for the HONOR AND WEALTH OF ENGLAND, and no little furderance of the GLORY OF GOD, yet (by order taken by him who hath the chief interest therein) the same are not to be printed VNTIL THE PROOF BE PAST. How this Mechani-

* Alexander, Aristotle.

† The wordes of a sklanderer, are very wounds, and go through vnto the innermost partes of the body. Prouerb. 13.

cien, his zealous, dutifull, and humble aduertisement politicall, (for the perpetuall garde, and furder service of a PETY NAVY ROYALL*, to be maintained, without any cost or charge to the Queene her most excellent Maiestie, or any vnpleasant burden to the Commons and faithfull Subiects of this BRYTISH MONARCHIE) shall be liked of and accepted; (for the zeale and matter, I mean, rather than for any rhetoricall polishing bestowed on it.) Seeing the same conteineth in it such fragments of instructions receiued from the forsaid philosopher, being hitherto (almost) a † freendless freend. Why say I freendless? Seeing a Gentleman of great experience in this world, sayd vnto him, in my hering, within these few dayes :

Tu certè infœlix, at multos inter amicos.

Wherby it might seme that he hath many freends. But for all that betwene a cold freend and a faint harted enemy, is small diuersity. And vndowtedly a fayned hollow harted or hypocritical freend is worse, ten tymes, than an open enemy; and, in very dede, is not to be counted a freend. And so may the outward repugnancy of these two sayings aptly be reconciled.

But, proceeding in my former purpose, you may vnderstand this, moreouer, that the second booke or volume (to this Preface aperteyning) will be of more hundred pounds charges, to be prepared for the print (in respect of the tables and figures therto requisite) than you would easily beleue. Therefore, though there were no warning of attendance to be giuen to vnderstand the issue of liking or misliking the foresaid, (zealously collected, and as humbly presented) politicall aduertisement. Yet, this matter of charges so far passeth my slender hability: and, withall, is so dreadfull to the Printers, for feare of great los therby susteining (so rare, and few mens studies are in such matters employed) that delay, on

* A PETY NAVY ROYALL continually to be mainteyned without the Queenes Maiesties charges, or any vnpleasant burden to the Commons.

† Exceptis excipiendis ast illis quidem paucissimis.

my part, is rather that way coustrained. And, therefore, no order is to be thought vpon by me, for the printing therof*, TYLL A COMFORTABLE AND SVFFICIENT OPPORTVNITY OF SVPLY DOTH VERY WELL SERVE THERTO.

And before I bid thee farewell (my cuntryman) I may yet aduertise thee of one point more (whither the sayd second volume be euer printed or no) that therin is one parcell † contained; so contriued and dedicated vnto the æternall, royall, and heroicall honor and renownm of our incomparable gracious QUEENE ELIZABETH; that all the whole world ouer, yea, among the Heathen as well as Christen; what language so euer they speake, that have to deale with hydrography, or dangerous and long voyages by sea; euen they, will most thankfully and for euer sing and extoll her marueilous princely benefit herin, as to them, chiefly for her Maiesties sake and merits, imparted, who hath bin so constantly faorable, and so gracious a sovereign Lady vnto the inuentor therof, her most faythfull and obedient subiect. The richest *Pyramis* at *Memphis*, did neuer so far and so durably spred the fame and commendation of the builders therof, as these TABLES GUBERNAUTIKE will win, and procure the large loue and good liking of our Elizabeth, all the world endureth to florish. The English title therof is, THE BRITISH QUEENE ELIZABETH, HER TABLES GVBERNAV-TIK‡. And the same is of many quires of paper conteining.

Now haue I sufficiently (for this place and tyme) giuen vnto you (my courteous cuntryman) aduertisements; which (I trust) you will take in good part and thankfully, yf in your own conscience you plainly perceiue that all my zealous speech herein bestowed, tendeth to the aduancement of vertue, and to the great benefit and commodity publik. At an other tyme I hope to haue

* Till than.

† A strange monument, dedicated to the æternall and heroicall renowne of our Queene, her most excellent Majestie.

‡ A treasure incomparable for the Arte Gubernautik: and for very many other experiences.

comfort and conuenient opportunitie to impart vnto you other matter, for your exceeding good contentation and great delight also.

And in the mean space, I trust, that this my syncere, blunt, and simple aduise, shall be some occasion, that hensforward, this honest Gentleman shal be fully restored to the integrity of his duly deserued honest* name and fame; and also receyue great publick thanks, comfort, and ayde of the whole Brytish state, to the honor, welfare, and preservation wherof (next vnto his duty doing vnto God) he hath directed all the course of his manifold studies, great trauailes, and incredible costes. As both by these his *Hexameron Lessons* (first here for security of the same) speedily dictated, and also by very many other his wordes, workes, and writings els, both in England and other where spoken, done, communicated, and published, will or may abundantly be testified. And so fare you well in Christ, my courteous and vnpartiall cuntryman; and for a remembrance at this our most frendly farewel, take this heauenly counsaill with thee: *Omnia quecunq; volueritis vt faciant vobis homines, sic & vos facite illis; hæc enim est Lex & Prophetæ.*

Which kinde of skantlin and measure diuine, being before hand, and in due tyme layd vnto all our thoughts, wordes and dedes, may be as a good and familiar angell vnto vs; to help vs to shonne and flie from all sklandrous-speeches vsing, all malicious or seditious libels skattring, and all other vniust and vncharitable dealings, yea, and from consenting to or suffering the same, where we can or ought to redres the cause.

And then the glory and peace of God will florish in this BRYTAN MONARCHIE. Ouer which (so reformed) that our most Gracious and Soueraign QUEENE ELIZABETH may, very many yeres, most prosperously and triumphantly raigne, it is (vndowtedly) our bounden duty, feruently and full oft, by prayer, to request at his

* Da operam vt fama tua integra sit. Hæc enim durabilior quàm mille thesauri. Vita quam vis bona, ad breue exiguumq. tēpus durat; bonum verò nomen, ad perpetuitatem stabile est. Jesus Siracida, cap. 41.

hands, who is the King of kings, Almighty. To whose protection and furderance also, most hartily and dutifully, I commend the very waighty case of this Common Wealth; not vtterly vnduly, or (yet) out of season (I hope) in this first booke ensuing, somewhat considered of; as in a * Preface very needefull to the BRITISH COMPLEMENT, OF THE PERFECT ARTE OF NAVIGATION.

And herewith (once more) I say *Adieu*;
and well motest thou fare, my Chris-
tian brother, and syncerely be-
loued cuntryman.

*Anno Stellæ (Cælo Demissæ,
rectàque reversæ) Quinto;*

Julij verò Die 4.

Et

*Anno Mundi
5540.*

* The first book here following is but (as it were) a preface to the second, conteyn-
ing in it the Art to this Kingdome most beneficiall, if it might be duely vsed.

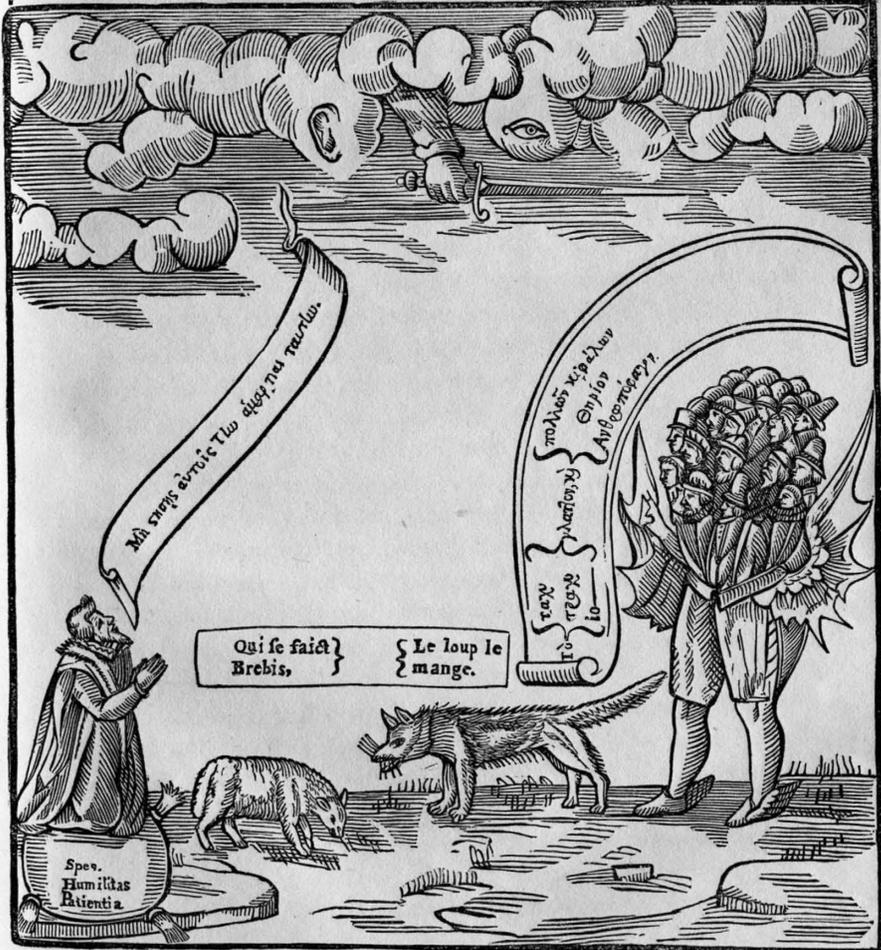
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A LETTER
 Containing a most briefe Discourse Apo-
 logetically, with a plaine Demonstration, and feruent
 Protestation, for the lawfull, sincere, very faithfull and
 Christian course, of the Philosophicall studies and exerci-
 ses, of a certaine studious Gentleman: An ancient
 Seruant to her most excellent
 Maiesty Royall.

Ego autem Orabam. Psalm. 108.

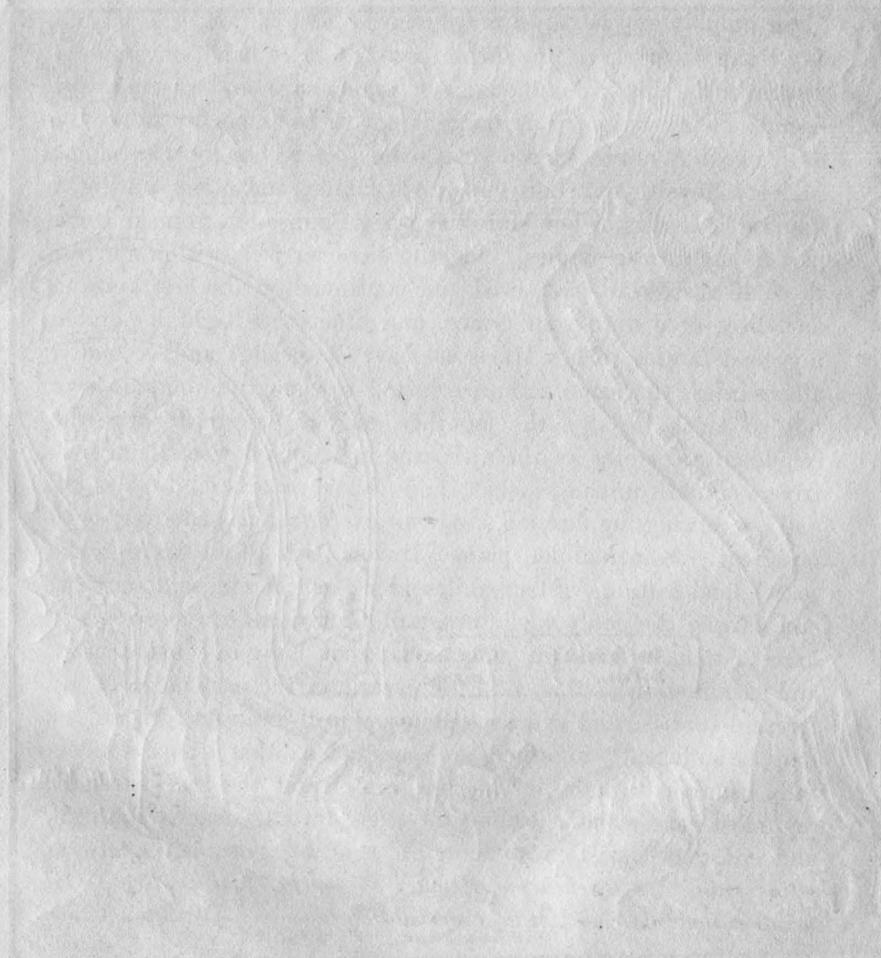


Pro eo, vt me diligenter, detrahebant mihi :

Falsus Testis non erit impunitus : & qui loquitur mendacia,
 peribit. Proverb. Cap. 19. Versu 9.

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To the most Reverend father in God,
the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate
and Metropolitaine of all England, one of her Ma-
jesties most honorable privy Counsaile :
my singular good Lord.

Most humbly and hartily I crave your Graces pardon, if I offende any thing, to send, or present unto your Graces hand, so simple a discourse as this is: although, by some sage and discreet my friends their opinion, it is thought not to be impertinent, to my most needfull suites, presently in hand (before her most excellent Majesty Royall, your Lordships good Grace, and other the Right honorable Lordes of her Majesties privy Counsaile), to make some part of my former studies, and studious exercises (within and for these 46 yeeres last past, used and continued) to be first knowne and discovered unto your Grace, and other the Right honorable my good Lordes, of her Majesties privy Counsaile: and, secondly, afterwardes, the same to be permitted to come to publike view: not so much, to stop the mouthes, and, at length to stay the impudent attemptes, of the rash, and malicious devisers, and contrivers of most untrue, foolish, and wicked reports, and fables, of, and concerning my foresaid studious exercises, passed over, with my great (yea incredible), paines, travels, cares, and costs, in the search, and learning of true philosophie; as, therein, so, to certifie, and satisfie the godly and unpartiall Christian hearer, or reader hereof: that, by his own judgement (upon his due consideration, and examination of this, no little parcell, of the particulars of my foresaid studies, and exercises philosophicall annexed), he will, or may, be sufficiently informed, and perswaded; that I have wonderfully labored, to finde, follow, use, and haunt the true, straight, and most narrow path, leading all true, devout, zealous, faithful, and constant Christian students, *ex valle hac miseriæ, et miseria istius vallis: et tenebrarum Regno; et tenebris istius Regni, ad montem sanctum Syon, et ad cœlestia tabernacula.* All thankes, are

My labors and paines bestowed at divers times,
to pleasure my native Countrey: by writing of
sundry Bookes, and Treatises: some in La-
tine, some in English, and some of
them, written, at her Majesties
commandement.

Of which Bookes, and Treatises, some are printed, and some
unprinted. The printed Bookes, and Treatises are these fol-
lowing:

1. Propædeumata Aphoristica, De præstantioribus quibusdam Naturæ
virtutibus. — Aphorismi 120. - - - Anno 1558.
2. Monas Hieroglyphica, Mathematicè, Anagogicèque explicata; ad
Maximilianum (Dei gratia) Romanorum, Bohemiæ, et Hungariæ,
Regem sapientissimum - - - Anno 1564.
3. Epistola ad eximium Ducis Urbini Mathematicum (Fredericum Com-
mandinum) præfixa libello Machometi Bagdedini, De superficialium
Divisionibus; edito in lucem, opera mea, et ejusdem Commandini
Urbinitis; Impressa Pisauri - - - Anno 1570.
4. The Brytish Monarchy (otherwise called the Petty Navy Royall): for
the politique security; abundant wealth, and the triumphant state
of this kingdome, (with Gods favor) procuring - Anno 1576.
5. My Mathematicall præface annexed to Euclide, (by the right worshipfull
Sir Henry Billingsley Knight, in the English language first published)
written at the earnest request of sundry right worshipfull Knights,
and other very well learned men. Wherein are many Arts, of me,
wholy invented (by name, definition, propriety and use,) more
then either the Græcian, or Roman Mathematiciens, have left to
our knowledge - - - Anno 1570.
6. My divers and many Annotations, and Inventions Mathematicall, added
in sundry places of the foresaid English Euclide, after the tenth
Booke of the same - - - Anno 1570.
7. Epistola præfixa Ephemeridibus Joannis Felde Angli: cui rationem
declaraveram Ephemerides conscribendi - - - Anno 1557.
8. Paralaticæ Commentationis, Praxeosq: Nucleus quidam. - Anno 1573.

most due, therefore, unto the Almighty: Seeing, it so pleased him (even from my youth, by his divine favor, grace, and helpe), to insinuate into my hart, an insatiable zeale, and desire, to knowe his truth: and in him, and by him, incessantly to seeke, and listen after the same; by the true philosophicall method and harmony: proceeding and ascending (as it were), *gradatim*, from things visible, to consider of thinges invisible: from thinges bodily, to conceive of thinges spirituall: from things transitorie, and momentanie, to meditate of things permanent: by thinges mortall (*visible and invisible*) to have some perceivance of immortality, and to conclude, most briefly; by the most mervailous frame of the *whole World*, philosophically viewed, and circumspectly wayed, numbred, and measured (according to the talent, and gift of God, from above allotted, for his divine purposes effecting) most faithfully to love, honor, and glorifie alwaies, the *Framer*, and *Creator* thereof. In whose workmanship, his infinite goodnesse, unsearchable wisdome, and Almighty power, yea, his everlasting* power, and divinity, may (by innumerable meanes) be manifested, and demonstrated. The truth of which my zealous, carefull, and constant intent, and endeavour specified; may (I hope) easilie appeare by the whole, full and due survey, and consideration of all the Bookes, Treatises, and discourses, whose Titles onely, are, at this time, here annexed, and expressed: as they are set down in the sixt chapter, of an other little *Rhapsodicall* Treatise, intituled, *The Compendious Rehearsall*, &c. written above two years since: for those her Majesties two honorable Commissioners; which her most excellent Majesty had most graciouslie sent to my poore Cottage, in Mortlake: to understand the matters, and causes at full; through which, I was so extremely urged to procure at her Majesties handes such honorable surveiors and witnesses to be assigned, for the due proove of the contents, of my most humble and pitifull supplication, exhibited unto her most excellent Majesty, at Hampton Court, *An. 1592*, *Novemb. 9.* Thus therefore (as followeth) is the said 6 chapter there, recorded.

* Paul to the Rom. cap. 1, verse 19, 20.

The unprinted Bookes and Treatises, are these :

some, perfectly finished : and some, yet unfinished.

9. The first great volume of Famous and rich Discoveries: wherein (also) is the History of King Salomon, every three yeeres, his Ophirian voyage. The Originals of Presbyter Joannes: and of the first great Cham, and his successors for many yeeres following: The description of divers wonderfull Iles, in the Northen, Scythian, Tartarian, and the other most Northen Seas, and neere under the North Pole: by Record, written above 1200 yeeres since: with divers other rarities - - - - Anno 1576.
10. The Brytish Complement, of the perfect Art of Navigation; a great volume: in which, are contained our Queene Elizabeth her Arithmetically Tables Gubernauticke: for Navigation by the Paradoxall compasse (of me, invented anno 1557) and Navigation by great Circles: and for longitudes, and latitudes; and the variation of the compasse finding most easilie, and speedily: yea, (if neede be) in one minute of time, and sometime, without sight of sunne, moone, or star; with many other, new and needefull inventions Gubernauticke - - - - Anno 1576.
11. Her Majesties Title Royall, to many forrain Countries, kingdomes, and provinces, by good testimony and sufficient prooffe recorded: and in 12 Velam skins of Parchment, faire written: for her Majesties use: and at her Majesties commandement - Anno 1578.
12. De Imperatoris Nomine, Autoritate, et Potentia: dedicated to her Majesty - - - - Anno 1579.
13. Prolegomena et Dictata Parisiensia, in Euclidis Elementorum Geometricorum, librum primum, et secundum; in Collegio Rhemensi - - - - Anno 1550.
14. De usu Globi Cœlestis; ad Regem Edoardum sextum - Anno 1550.
15. The Art of Logicke, in English - - - - Anno 1547.
16. The 13 Sophistical Fallacias, with their Discoveries; written in English meter - - - - Anno 1548.
17. Mercurius Cœlestis: libri 24, written at Lovayn - Anno 1549.
18. De Nubium, Solis, Lunæ, ac reliquorum Planetarum, immò ipsius stelliferi Cœli, ab infimo Terræ Centro, distantiiis, mutuisq. inter-

- vallis, et eorundem omnium Magnitudine liber ἀποδεικτικός, ad Edoardum Sextum, Angliæ Regem - - Anno 1551.
19. Aphorismi Astrologici, 300 - - - Anno 1553.
20. The true cause, and account (not vulgar) of Fluds and Ebbs: written at the request of the right honorable Lady, Lady Jane, Duchesse of Northumberland - - Anno 1553.
21. The Philosophicall and Poeticall Original occasions, of the Configurations, and names of the heavenly Asterismes—written at the request of the same Duchesse - - - Anno 1553.
22. The Astronomicall, and logisticall rules, and Canons, to calculate the Ephemerides by, and other necessary accounts of heavenly motions: written at the request, and for the use of that excellent Mechanicien Maister Richard Chauncelor, at his last voyage into Moschovia. - - - Anno 1553.
23. De Acribologia Mathematica; volumen magnum: sexdecim continens libros - - - Anno 1555.
24. Inventum Mechanicum, Paradoxum, De nova ratione delineandi Circumferentiam Circularem: unde, valde rara alia excogitari perficique poterunt problemata - - - Anno 1556.
25. De Speculis Comburentibus, libri sex - - - Anno 1557.
26. De Perspectiva illa, qua peritissimi utuntur Pictores - - Anno 1557.
27. Speculum unitatis: sive Apologia pro Fratre Rogerio Bachone Anglo: in qua docetur nihil illum per Dæmoniorum fecisse auxilia, sed philosophum fuisse maximum; naturaliterque et modis homini Christiano licitis, maximas fecisse res, quas indoctum solet vulgus, in Dæmoniorum referre facinora - - - Anno 1557.
28. De Annuli Astronomici multiplici usu, lib. 2. - - - Anno 1557.
29. Trochilica Inventa, lib. 2 - - - Anno 1558.
30. περι ἀναβιβασμῶν θεολογικῶν, lib. 3 - - - Anno 1558.
31. De tertia et præcipua Perspectivæ parte, quæ de Radium fractione tractat, libri 3 - - - Anno 1559.
32. De Itinere subterraneo, libri 2 - - - Anno 1560.
33. De Triangulorum rectilinearum Arcis, libri 3 demonstrati: ad excellentissimum Mathematicum Petrum Nonium conscripti, An. 1560.
34. Cabalæ Hebraicæ compendiosa tabella - - - Anno 1562.
35. Reipublicæ Britannicæ Synopsis: in English - - - Anno 1565.

36. De Trigono Circuloque Analogico, Opusculum, Mathematicum et Mechanicum, libri 4 - - - - Anno 1565.
37. De stella admiranda, in Cassiopeæ Asterismo, cœlitus demissa ad orbem usque Veneris: Iterumque in Cœli penetralia perpendiculariter retracta, post decimum sextum suæ apparitionis mensem - - - - Anno 1573.
38. Hipparchus Redivivus, Tractatulus - - - - Anno 1573.
39. De unico Mago, et triplici Herode, eosque Antichristiano 1570.
40. Ten sundry and very rare Heraldical Blasonings of one Crest or Cognisance, lawfully confirmed to certaine auncient Armes, lib. 1 - - - - Anno 1574.
41. Atlantidis, (vulgariter, Indiæ Occidentalis nominatæ) emendatior descriptio Hydrographica, quàm ulla alia adhuc evulgata, Anno 1580.
42. De modo Evangelii Jesu Christi publicandi, propagandi, stabiliendique, inter infideles Atlanticos: volumen magnum, libris distinctum quatuor: quorum primus ad Serenissimam nostram Potentissimamque Reginam Elizabetham inscribitur: Secundus, ad summos privati suæ sacrae Majestatis consilii senatores: Tertius, ad Hispaniarum Regem, Philippum: Quartus, ad Pontificem Romanum. 1581.
43. Navigationis ad Cathayum per Septentrionalia Scythiæ et Tartariæ litora, Delineatio Hydrographica: Arthuro Pit, et Carolo Jackmanno Anglis, versus illas partes Navigatoris, in manus tradita; cum admirandarum quarundam Insularum annotatione, in illis subpolaribus partibus jacentium - - - - Anno 1580.
44. Hemisphærii Borealis Geographica, atque Hydrographica descriptio: longè a vulgatis chartis diversa: Anglis quibusdam, versus Atlantidis Septentrionalia litora, navigationem instituentibus, dono data - - - - Anno 1583.
45. The Originals, and chiefe points, of our auncient Brytish Histories, discoursed upon, and examined. - - - - Anno 1583.
46. An advice and discourse about the Reformation of the vulgar Julian yeere, written by her Majesties commandement, and the Lords of the privy Counsaile - - - - Anno 1582.
47. Certaine considerations, and conferrings together, of these three sentences, (aunciently accounted as Oracles) Nosce te ipsum: Homo Homini Deus: Homo Homini Lupus - - - - Anno 1592.

48. De hominis Corpore, Spiritu, et Anima: sive Microcosmicum totius Philosophiæ Naturalis Compendium, lib. 1. - - Anno 1591.

With many other bookes, pamphlets, discourses, inventions, and conclusions, in divers Artes and matters: whose names, need not in this Abstract to be notified: the most part of all which, here specified, lie here before your Honours upon the table, on your left hand. But by other bookes and writings, of an other sort, (if it so please God, and that he wil grant me life, health, and due maintenance thereto, for some ten or twelve yeares next ensuing) I may, hereafter make plaine, and without doubt, this sentence to be true, *Plura latent, quàm patent.*

Thus far (my good Lord) have I set downe this *Catalogus*, out of the foresaid sixt Chapter, of the booke, whose title is this:

49. *The Compendious rehearsal of John Dee, his dutifull declaration and prooffe of the course and race of his studious life, for the space of halfe an hundred yeeres, now (by Gods favor and helpe) fully spent, &c.*

To which compendious rehearsall, doth now belong an *Appendix*, of these two last yeeres: in which I have had many just occasions, to confesse, that *Homo Homini Deus*, and *Homo Homini Lupus*, was and is an Argument, worthy of the decyphering, and large discussing: as may, one day, hereafter (by Gods helpe) be published, in some maner very strange. And besides all the rehearsed books, and treatises of my writing, or handling hitherto, I have just cause, lately given me to write and publish a Treatise, with Title, 50. *De Horizonte Æternitatis*: to make evident, that one *Andreas Libavius*, in a booke of his, printed the last yeere, hath unduly considered a phrase of my *Monas Hieroglyphica*: to his misliking: by his own unskilfulnes in such matter: and not understanding my apt application thereof, in one of the very

principal places, of the whole book. And this booke of mine (by Gods help and favour) shall be dedicated unto her most excellent majesty Roiall: and this Treatise doth containe three bookes, *The first intituled, De Horizonte: liber Mathematicus et Physicus. The Second, De Æternitate: liber Theologicus, Metaphysicus et Mathematicus. The Third, De Horizonte Æternitatis: liber Theologicus, Mathematicus, et Hierotechnicus.*

¶ Truly I have great cause to praise and thanke God, for your graces verie charitable using of me: both in sundry points else, and also in your favorable yelding to, yea and notifying the due meanes for the performance of her Sacred Majesties most gracious and bountifull disposition, resolution, and very royall beginning, to restore and give unto me (her ancient faithfull servant) some due maintenance: to leade the rest of my old daies, in some quiet and comfort: with habilitie, to retaine some speedy, faire, and orthographicall writers, about me; and the same skilfull in Latine and Greeke (at the least): as well for mine owne bookes, and workes, faire and correctly to be written (such I meane, as either her most excellent Majesty, out of the premisses, will make choice of, or command to be finished or published: or such of them, as your grace shall thinke meete or worthy for my farther labor to be bestowed on): as else for the speedy, faire, and true writing out of other ancient authors their good and rare workes, in Greeke or Latine: which by Gods providence, have been preserved from the spoile made of my Librarie, and of all my moveable goods here: &c. Anno 1583.* In which Librarie, were about 4000 bookes: whereof, 700 were anciently written by hande: some in Greeke, some in Latine, some in Hebrue: and some in other languages (as may by the whole *Catalogus* thereof appeare). But the great losses and

It may now be here also remembered, that almost three yeeres after the writing of this letter, I did somewhat satisfie the request of an honorable friend in Court, by speedilie penning some matter concerning her majesties sea-soveraigntie: under this title

Thalattocratia Brytanica.
Sive,

De Brytanico Maris Imperio, Collectanea Extemporanea: 4. dierum Spacio, celeri conscripta calamo, Anno. 1597. Septemb. 20, Mancestricæ.

* Although that my last voyage beyond the Seas, was duly undertaken (by her Majesties good favour and licence) as by the same words may appeare in the Letter, written by the right honourable Lord Treasurer, unto your grace in my behalfe, and her most excellent majestie willing his honor so to do Anno 1590, the 20 of Januarie.

dammages which in sundry sorts I have sustained, do not so much grieue my hart, as the rash, lewde, fond, and most untrue fables and reports of me, and my studies philosophicall, have done, and yet do: which commonly, after their first hatching, and diuclish devising, immediatly with great speede, are generally all the Realme overspread; and to some, seeme true; to other, they are doubtful: and to only the wise, modest, discreet, godly, and charitable (and chiefelie to such as have some acquaintance with me) they appeare, and are knowne to be fables, untruths, and utterly false reports, and sclauanders. Well, this shall be my last charitable giving of warning, and fervent protestation to my Countrimen and all other in this case:

Before the Almighty our God, and your Lordships good grace, this day, on the perill of my soules damnation (if I lie, or take his name in vaine herein) I take the same God, to be my witnesse; that, with all my hart, with all my soule, with all my strength, power, and understanding (according to the measure thereof, which the Almighty hath given me) for the most part of the time, from my youth hitherto, I have used, and still use, good, lawfull, honest, christian, and diuinely prescribed meanes, to attain to the knowledge of those truthes, which are meet, and necessary for me to know; and wherewith to do his diuine Majesty such service, as hee hath, doth, and will call me unto, during this my life: for his honor and glory advancing, and for the benefit, and commoditie publique of this kingdome; so much, as by the will, and purpose of God, shall lie in my skill, and habilitie to performe: as a true, faithfull, and most sincerely dutifull servant, to our most gracious and incomparable Queene Elizabeth, and as a very comfortable fellow-member of the body politique, governed under the scepter Royal of our earthly Supreme head (Queene Elizabeth) and as a lively sympathicall, and true symmetricall fellow-member, of that holy and mysticall body, Catholicklie extended and placed (wheresoever) on the earth: in the view, knowledge, direction, protection, illumination, and consolation of the Almighty, most blessed, most holy, most glorious, comajesticall, coeternall, and coessentiall Trinity: the head of that body, being only our Redeemer, Christ

A fervent protestation.

Jesus, perfect God and perfect man : whose returne in glory, we faithfully awaite, and daily, do very earnestly cry unto him, to hasten his second comming, for his electes sake : iniquity doth so on this earth, abound, and prevaile, and true faith with charity, and evangelicall simplicity, have but colde, slender, and uncertaine intertainment, among the worldly-wise men of this worlde.

Therefore (herein concluding) I beseech the Almighty God, most abundantly to increase and confirme your graces heavenly wisdome, and endue you with all the rest of his heavenly gifts, for the relieving, refreshing, and comforting, both bodily and spiritually, his little flocke of the faithfull, yet militant here on earth. Amen.

An Epilogue.

Good my Lord, I beseech your grace, to allow of my plaine and comfortable Epilogus, for this matter at this time. 1. Seeing, my studious exercises, and conversation civile, may be abundantly testified, to my good credit, in the most partes of all Christendome: and that, by all degrees of nobility, by al degrees of the learned, and by very many other, of godly and Christian disposition, for the space of 46 yeeres triall (as appeareth by the recordes lately viewed by two honourable witnesses, by commission from her Majesty), 2. And seeing, for these 36 yeeres, last past, I have beene her most excellent Majesties very true, faithfull, and dutifull servaunt; at whose royall mouth, I never received any one word of reproch; but all of favor, and grace: in whose princely countenance, I never perceived frowne toward me, or discontented regard, or view on me: but at all times favorable, and gracious: to the great joy and comfort of my true, faithfull, and loyall hart. And thirdly, Seeing, the workes of my handes, and wordes of my mouth (heere before notified, in the schedule of my bookes, and writings) may beare lively witnessse of the thoughts of my hart, and inclination of my minde, generally (as all wise men do know, and Christ himselve doth avouch), it might, in manner, seeme needlesse, thus carefully (though most briefly and speedily) to

have warned or confounded the scornfull, the malicious, the proud, and the rash in their untrue reports, opinions, and fables of my studies, or exercises philosophicall: but that, it is of more importance, that the godly, the honest, the modest, the discreet, grave, and charitable Christians (English or other), lovers of justice, truth, and good learning, may, hereby, receive certaine comfort in themselves (to perceive, that *Veritas tandem prævalebit*) and sufficiently be weaponed and armed with sound truth, to defende me against such kinde of my adversaries: if hereafter they will begin afresh, or hould on, obstinately, in their former errors, vaine imaginations, false reportes, and most ungodly sclanders of me and my studies. ¶ Therefore, (to make all this cause, for ever, before God and man, out of all doubt): Seeing, your Lordships good grace, are, as it were, our high Priest, and chiefe Ecclesiasticall minister (under our most dread and Sovereigne Ladie, Queene Elizabeth), to whose censure and judgement, I submit all my studies and exercises: yea, all my bookes, past, present and hereafter to be written, by me (of my own skill, judgement, or opinion), I do, at this present time, most humbly, sincerelie, and unfainedly, and in the name of Almighty God, (yea for his honor and glory) request, and beseech your Grace, (when, and as conveniently you may) to be well and throughlie certified of me, what I am *Intus et in cute: Reverendissime in Christo Pater, et Dignissime Archipræsul, cognosce et agnosce vultum tam internum, quàm externum pecoris tui*: and wherein I have used, doe or shall use, pen, speech, or conversation, otherwise then as it appertaineth to a faithfull, carefull, sincere, and humble servant of Christ Jesu, that your grace would vouchsafe to advertise me. So, I trust, *Ultima respondebunt primis*: in such sort, as this *Authenticke Recorde* in latine annexed (*ad perpetuam rei memoriam,*) doth testifie: having never, hitherto, had occasion to shewe that, in any place of Christendome: to testifie better of me, then they had prooffe of me, themselves, by my conversation among them. (The Almighty, therefore, be highly thanked, praised, honored, and glorified, for ever and ever, Amen.)

But nowe, in respect of the generall intent of this briefe discourse, I most humbly, and reverently, exhibit to your graces view, and perusing, the originall monument, and Authentick Record, before mentioned, faire written in parchment, with the seale whole, and perfect, duly appendant: as I have 46 yeeres, and somewhat longer, preserved it. The true copy whereof, your grace doth see, to be *verbatim*, as followeth.

Universis Sanctæ Matris Ecclesiæ filiis, ad quos præsentēs literæ perventuræ sunt, Vicecancellarius Cætusq; omnis Regentium et non Regentium, Universitatis Cantabrigiæ, Salutem in Domino sempiternam. Conditiones et merita hominum in nostra Universitate studentium. affectu sincero perpendentes, eos solos testimonio nostro ornandos esse arbitramur, quos scimus ob eruditionem, et morum probitatem promeritos esse, ut istud beneficium à nobis consequantur: Quamobrem, cùm hoc tempore, ipsa veritas testimonium nostrum sibi postulat, vestræ pietati, per has literas significamus, Quòd dilectus nobis in Christo, Joannes Dee, Artium Magister, in dicta nostra universitate, feliciter versatus, plurimam sibi et doctrinæ et honestatis laudem comparavit: De cujus gradu, et conversatione (quæ honestissima semper fuit), ne qua uspiam ambiguitas, aut quæstio oriri possit, apud eos, quibus hujus viri virtutes haud satis innotuerint, visum est nobis, in dicti Joannis gratiam, has literas nostras Testimoniales conscribere; et conscriptas, publico Academiæ nostræ sigillo, obsignare: quò, majorem apud vos auctoritatem, et pondus literæ nostræ habeant, Bene valete. Datum Cantabrigiæ, in plena Convocatione Magistrorum Regentium, et non Regentium, Academiæ prædictæ: 14 Calend. Aprilis, Anno à Christo nato, 1548.

RI SIGILLI LOCUS VE.

For certaine due respects the very image of the foresaid seale, is not heere in portraiture published.

Peroratio.

THE Almighty and most mercifull God, the Father; for his only Sonne (our Redeemer) Jesus Christ his sake: by his holy spirit, so direct, blesse, and prosper all my studies, and exercises philosophicall (yea, all my thoughts, words, and deedes) henceforward, even to the very moment of my departing from this world, that I may evidently and abundantly be found, and undoubtedly acknowledged of the wise and just, to have bene a zealous and faithfull student in the Schoole of *Verity*, and an Ancient Graduate in the Schoole of *Charity*: to the honor and glory of the same God Almighty, and to the sound comfort and confirming of such as faithfully love and feare his divine Majestie, and unfeinedly continue in labor to do good on earth: when, while, to whome, and as they may, Amen.

Very speedily written, this twelfth even, and twelfth day, in my poore Cottage, at Mortlake: *Anno 1595, currente à nativitate Christi: ast, An. 1594. Completo, à Conceptione ejusdem, cum novem præterea mensibus, Completis.*

Allwaies, and very dutifully,
at your Graces commandement:

John Dee.