

the truth here manifest to your Honour's eyes) they came next to my hand out of diverse chests and baggs, wherein they lay.

CHAP. 7.

A briefe note and some remembrance of my late spoiled Mortlake-Library A. 1583.

THE divers bookes of my late library, printed and anciently written, bound and unbound, were in all near 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 books did and do intreat, and that in divers languages, was well 2000 *lib.* And, to make this valuation probable unto your Honour, behold yet here these four written bookes, one in Greek, this great volumn; two in French; and this in High Dutch. They cost me and my friends for me 533^{*lib.*} as may appear 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 books, of which some were the *autographa* of excellent and seldome heard-of Authors? The furniture of the said library was of my getting together in above 40 yeares time from divers places beyond the seas, and some by my great search and labour gotten here in England.

To my Library were also appertaining, certain rare and exquisitely made instruments Mathematical. Among which was one excellent, strong, and fair quadrant (first made by that famous Richard Chancellour,) of five foot semidiameter: wherewith he and I made sundry observations meridian of the sun's height; as
partly

partly may appear by our writings in my *Ephemerides* A. 1554, 1555. And after his time many yeares, the same instrument was new trimmed, 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 hands I had it) but now I find it most barbarously spoiled and with hammers smitt in pieces.

There was also an excellent *radius Astronomicus* of ten foot long, having the staff and cross very curiously divided into parts equal, after Richard Chancelour's Quadrant-manner. This great instrument was in such a frame placed and laid, that it might most easily be weilded of any man to any position for practice in heavenly observations or mensurations on earth.

Two Globes of Gerardus Mercator's best making; on which were my divers reformatiōs, both Geographical and Celestial: and on the Celestial with my hand were set down divers Comets, their places, and motions, as of me they had been observed.

There were also divers other instruments, as the Theorike of the eighth sphere, the ninth and tenth, with an horizon and meridian of Copper, of Gerardus Mercator his own making for me purposely.

There were Sea-compasses of diverse 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 piece-meal divided) was more than XX *lib.* given in money and value.

The excellent Magnes-stone.

There was also an excellent watch-clock made by one Dibbley, a notable workman, long since dead,
by

by which clock the time might sensibly be measured in the seconds of an hour, that is, not to fail the 360 part of an hour. The use of this clock was very great, more than 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 laid 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 seals appendant to the little writings thereof in parchment: and after by some of those evidences did it appear, how some of those lands came to be the Lascies, the Mortuomars, the Burghs, the Clares &c.

There were also divers evidences antient of some Welsh Princes and Noblemen, their great gifts 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 years 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 poor boxes remaineth; better to be seen now, than the evidences, which before had remained to be seen so many hundred years; but now by undue means imbezelled 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 Majestie's Officers for her interest and titles Royal may think in their consideration &c.

But your Honours may also understand, that by this box stood another, far less, (as of about 2 foot long,

long, and a foot and a half high) wherein were only ancient seals of armes, belonging sometime to ancient evidences: about some of which the Prince, Nobleman, or Gentleman his name was to be seen, to whom it did appertain. Which box is quite carried out of the place, unto which it was fitted, and so embezelled from me.

The truth of this part of my Declaration to your Honours, before my last going over beyond seas, was well known to divers, who had skill, and were of office to deal with such moniments; as were divers of her Majestie's Heralds, who saw them, and took 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 raritys to their liking out of them: Some Antiquaries likewise had view of them.

Unto the Tower I had vowed those my hardly gotten moniments (as in manner out of a dunghil, in the corner of a Church, where very many were utterly spoiled by rotting, through the rain continually for many years before falling on them, through the decaied 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 keep them, if any publick warning of her Majestie or her right honorable Council 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 rehearfall; but whosoever came by one great bladder with about 4 pound weight, of a very sweetish thing, like a brownish gum in it, artificially prepared by thirty times purifying of it, hath more, than I could well
af-

afford him for 100 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, as Appendix practical. The furniture of which and of all the storehouses, chambers, and garrets, belonging and replenished with Chymical stuff, was (for above 20 years) of my getting together, farr and near, with great pains, cost and damages; as partly Mr. Powel, her Majestie's servant at this present, can testifie for one journey, wherein he took pains with me, into the Dukedome of Lorrain: (*A.* 1571.) and we brought from thence one great cart lading of purposely made vessels &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 vessels (some of earth, some of mettall, some of glasse, and some of mixt stuff) with materials to be used and prepared in divers sorts, cost me first and last above 200 *lib.* 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 vessels remaine, hardly worth 40 shillings.

CHAP. 8.

Some my damages and losses unduly sustained in England within the space of these 9 years last past, and that contrary to her Majestie's 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 9 * years now past, * Now ten years and more, and also the title and right, which I had to enjoy them so 800 *lib.*)

them during my life) they yeelding unto me yearly 80 *lib.* causeth the damage sustained in rent only to be 720 *lib.*, and in the value of them for my life time ensuing, by common estimation rated of five years continuance, maketh the damage to be lawfully and reasonably estimated at 400 *lib.* more. And so in total sum, by the one means and the other, the damage to be of _____ *1120^{lib.}

* of 1200 *lib.* for the said 10 years and my life time after common opinion.

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 return or sending to him, intended to be within one year and 8 months; and so writings and covenants thereupon made, sealed and delivered, and here to be shewed yet. But he unduly sold it presently, or caused it to be carried away upon my departure. And the value thereof may appear by these true inventories to have been more worth than one

hundred pounds _____ ^{lib.} 100.

The loss and spoil of my furniture of Laboratories _____ 100.

For by their own estimate, recorded in Inventorie, they set down 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 Council therein, (whereupon there is a thousand marks forfeited unto me of a debtor insufficient to pay) the bookes being above 500, I mean of such, as may be gotten for money, and so their value known; for some wanting are not to be gotten for

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 ^{lib.} --- 150.

The loss of my Mathematical Instruments; as of the Quadrant of 5 foot semidiameter, the pair of Gerardus Mercator his best Globes, the Theorike of the eighth sphere, and the Astronomer's staff --- ^{lib} 30.

The watch clock so truly shewing not only the minutes, but also the seconds of an hour, the excellent Magnes-stone and divers sea compasses — 10. *lib.*

Of this second sort of losses the total sum amounteth to ————— 390. *lib.*

Both which total sums of damages and losses being added together make *summam summarum totalem* ————— 1510 *lib.* These last
9 years da-
mages and
losses ---
1510 lib.

CHAP. 9.

*The charges of my last return from beyond the seas, A. 1589.
being favourably called home by her Majestie from Tre-
bon-Castle in Bohemia.*

MY journey of remove homeward from Trebon-castle to Staden cost me more than 3000 dollars, which we account at ————— 600 *lib.*

Besides the cost of 15 horses, wherewith I travailed all that journey; of which the twelve, which drew my 3 coaches, were very good and young Hungarian horses, and the other three were Wallachees for the saddles; which 15 cost one with another — 120. *lib.*

The three new coaches made purposely for my foresaid journey, with the furniture for the 12 coach horses and with the saddles and bridles for the rest,

Y y y 2 cost

cost more than threescore pounds. ——— 60. *lib.*

The charge of wains to carry my goods from Trebon to Staden, they being sometimes two, and sometimes 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 sum of 600 *lib.*

Under which 600 *lib.* also I do account the charges of the 24 Soldiers well appointed, which, by vertue of the Emperor's passport, I took up in my way from Diepholt, and again from Oldenborgh: the charges of the 6 harquebusiers and musquettiers, which the Earle of Oldenburgh lent me out of his own garrison there: I gave to one with another a dolar a man for the day, and their meat and drink full. For at the first, 18 enemies horsemen well appointed from Lingen and Wilshusen had lain five dayes attending thereabout to have sett upon me and mine: and at Oldenborch, 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 appear here present. Of the former danger the Lantgrave of Hefs his letters unto me may give some evidence.

The charges of the 4 Swart-Ruiters, very well mounted and appointed to attend on me to Staden from Breme, 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,) need not be specified here what it was. For their going with me in two dayes to Staden, their abode there, and as much homeward --- being in all
five

five dayes charges ————— 30 dolars.

This was a very dangerous time 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. Chrystopher 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 others 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 inlarge mo lines to specifie, what other charges I was at to further some of her Majestie's 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 Soveraign's right honourable Privy Council in due time.

The charge of my fraught and passage from Staden to London; for my goods, my self, my wife, children and servants ————— 10. *lib.*

So that the total sum of money spent and laid out in and for my remove from Trebone to London doth amount to ————— 796. *lib.*

	Whereby the whole summe of the for-	<i>lib.</i>
1510	mer damages and losses —————	1510.
796	And the removing charges —————	796.
2306	doth amount, (with the least,) to ———	2306

besides the 110 dolars disbursed at Breme for dutifull love of Queen and Country.

CHAP. 10.

The hard making of provision for some hundred pounds, for the needfull maintenance of me, my wife, our children, and family, for these three last yeares, and that but with a mean dyet and simple apparel: I having not one peny of certain fee, revenue, stipend, or pension, either left me, or restored unto me, or of any yet bestowed on me.

34 years
suit for
mainten-
ance.

BEING, by the favour, protection, and help of Almighty God, now come home into my native country, just three years since, and finding my selfe barred, and, contrary to her Majestie's very gracious commandment, cut off from all receipt of rents for my two Rectories, Upton and Long-Ledman for ever, and wanting yet the yearly large allowance, promised me, during my life, out of Bohemia, and neither hearing nor perceiving here of any certain help or releife coming or likely to come to me speedily, and still continuing along (as for these 34 years, I have already done) in good hope and confidence reposed in the bountifull promises and grants of her sacred Majestie: I found it needfull to use the favour and help of God in trying some of my old friends and acquaintance, and to use some other means to save us from hunger starving, till her Majestie's bountifull blessing might at the length, one time or another, be fruitfully assured unto me. And in that essay I found my first helpers and releivers, even two of those, who before my last going over, had used me otherwise than justly or friendly.

After that good beginning, other my friends, one after another, as they understood of my slender ability

lity (or rather great want) for our very needfull maintenance, 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 sum of 500 *lib.* and more: and that notwithstanding I have been constrained now and then to send parcels of my little furniture of plate to pawn upon usury; and that did I so oft, till no more could be sent. After the same manner went my wive's jewels of gold, rings, bracelets, chains, and other our rarities, under the thraldome of the usurer's gripes: till *non plus* was written upon the boxes at home. 2. besides these means I was forced to borrow some good summs of money upon bonds with sureties, *ita tamen ut nummus nummum pareret* to my creditor. 3. I found some few of other friends, of which some upon my own bill only, others upon my word and promise only, have very charitably lent me some pretty sums of money in this undue distress. And 4. upon another kind of credit; as upon remembrances kept by score, tallie, shop-book, or other note-bookes, I am become debtor of no small summe. The total summe of all which money, either to me given, or in any manner of the former wayes by me borrowed, or upon score, tally, shop-book, or other note-book credited, amounteth to 833 *lib.* Of which summe whatsoever is more than the 500 *lib.* given, remaineth at this present day due debt, which is 333 *lib.*

The particular true accounts of all these gifts, loanes, and debts upon score, tally, or book, are here before your Honours; which I beseech you to look over, and to consider of them especially, how the usury de-

devoureth me, and how the score, tally, and book-debts do 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 times within these 4 months. What can I answer to such without shame or great grieve of mind? But where the fault lyeth, God almighty he knoweth, and he chiefly can redress it.

Of which former total sum of 833 *lib.* 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 time) by the order: 40 *lib.* my debt at Breme: 20 *lib.* already for usury &c. and so in all 267 *lib.* which being deducted from the 833 *lib.* leaveth the ordinary charges of house keeping for these three years last, to have been 566 *lib.*, 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 vessels of wine, whole brawns, sheep, wheat, pepper, nutmeg, ginger, sugar &c. and other things for the apparel 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. *lib.* which added to the former 566, yeeldeth the total summe of the charges of house keeping to have been 616 *lib.* Whereof undoubtedly the 600 *lib.* hath been spent in meat, drink, and fuel, and the other 16 odd pounds may be allowed for the apparel stuff, bestowed on us by gift.

Thus your Honours most briefly do perceive, how mercifull our God hath been unto us, and bountifull in his provision hitherto, by preparing and enclining
the

the charitable hearts and ready hands of some true Christians, her Majestie's loving subjects, to cloath the naked, and to feed the hungry &c. Of which charitable points and some more I and mine 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 ears of her most gracious Majestie, and inclined her most mercifull heart to see, hear, 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 mine, do committ the whole cause at this present, upon your Honours convenient report made therein unto her most excellent Majestie.

CHAP. II.

My lamentable and final 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-making to preserve my selfe, my wife, our children, and family from hunger-starving and nakednes the space of these whole and just three* years last* and now past; and that notwithstanding have in the mean space ^{4 years and 5 months} very often made declaration to our Superiours of the ^{last past.} great distress and incredible want, unto which I was unduely brought; and partly by reason, that her most gracious Majestie's favour towards me and her expresse commandment royal for my sufficient maintenance and

relief-enjoying, hath not hitherto been so regarded, as any fruit, or one penny yearly revenue is thereby assured unto me yet :

And even
now I am
constrained
to mort-
gage my
house for
400 lib.
only, to
pay pre-
sently my
debts,
grown on
me forcibly
within
these 4 last
years only.

And seeing no one way of all the five former manners of remedies (which I have been forced to use for these three years, for the most needfull maintenance of me, my wife, children, and family ;) seeing no one, no one (I say the third time) of those five wayes doth now remain any longer to be enjoyed by any seemly order to our knowledge, and that my onely house is left to be sold outright, and that for halfe the mony it cost me, wherewith to pay some of my debts and not all : what, I beseech your Honors, may I do or shall I do lawfully henceforward ; whereby I may prevent, that I and mine shall not be registred in Chronicles or Annals to the posterity of true Students for a warning not to follow my steps ; as thereby to be so 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 doors (my house being sold) I and mine with bottles and wallets furnished to become wanderers as homish vagabonds ; or, as banished men to forsake the kingdome ?

But if a number, accounted Students in this kingdome, who can spend yearly by Ecclesiastical livings four hundred pounds in value or revenue, as for reward of their well doing, or for maintenance of their studies, should be constrained to leese those their four hundred pound revenues to me ; unles they could
with

with six dayes warning ballance down the pith of this daye's my declaration, with a better of their's in all respects, undoubtedly then should I not be long destitute of sufficient ability and maintenance for me and mine.

Therefore seeing the blinded Lady, Fortune, doth not govern in this Commonwealth, but *justitia* and *prudencia*, and that in better order, than in Tullie's *Republica* or books of Offices they are laid forth to be followed and performed, most reverently and earnestly (yea, in manner with bloody tears of heart,) I and my wife, our seven children, and our servants, (seventeen 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 seen, 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, than becometh Christians, and true, faithfull, and obedient subjects to do or suffer; and all for want of due maintenance.

Mark I
pray you.

CHAP. 12.

The resolution for general, very easy, and speedy remedy, in this rare and lamentable case.

UNDOUBTEDLY, her most excellent Majestie's gracious grant by word of mouth, yea four times within these three last years already pronounced in my behalfe of the Mastership of St. Crosse's, 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,

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other-

otherwise most likely to ensue: the extream pinch of all manner of want for meat, drink, fewel, cloath &c. incredibly tormenting me and mine at this present, after three years continual my very hard getting and making of provision for our most needfull maintenance, even to the uttermost and last means used therein: alwayes notwithstanding with great good hope (from month to month) that, in respect of her most excellent Majestic's very great favour towards me; and in respect of her most gracious and expresse commandment divers times by word of mouth and letter declared therein; I should ere this have been otherwise and more charitably regarded: and so some sufficient or certain reliefe and maintenance should have been bestowed on me ere this.

CHAP. 13.

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. **B**ECAUSE I would fain retire my selfe for some years 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 folks 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, near, and of light cost from London or Court.

2. The glasshouses of Suffex and other (which may be found, or made very serviceable to some needfull my exercises in Perspective and other works Philosophical) are farr nearer there, than they are to Mortlake. By reason whereof I can my selfe so oversee