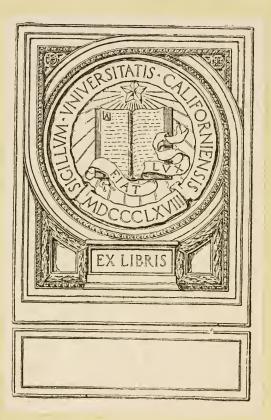




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REMAINS

HISTORICAL & LITERARY

CONNECTED WITH THE PALATINE COUNTIES OF

LANCASTER AND CHESTER

PUBLISHED BY

THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.

VOL. III.

Reality C. 1947 - RNE

PRINTED FOR THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.

M.DCCC.XLIV.



Manchester: Printed by Charles Simms and Co.

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CHESTER'S TRIUMPH

IN HONOR OF HER

PRINCE

AS IT WAS PERFORMED UPON ST. GEORGE'S DAY

1610

IN THE FORESAID CITIE.

REPRINTED FROM THE ORIGINAL EDITION OF 1610, WITH AN INTRODUCTION AND NOTES.

PRINTED FOR THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.

M.DCCC.XLIV.



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TO THE SUBSCRIBERS OF THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.

Some impediments incident to the commencement of such undertakings having delayed the appearance of the early Publications, it may be necessary to inform the Subscribers that before the next annual meeting the books for the year 1844 will be in their hands, and that, in future, there is every reason to believe that the three volumes annually pledged to the Subscribers will appear within the year; Dr. SAMUEL HIBBERT WARE will contribute, within the same period, a Fasciculus to the Society.

The Subscriptions of one pound become due in advance on the 1st of March of each year, and may be paid to the Treasurer, Mr. LANGTON, at the Bank of Sir BENJAMIN HEYWOOD, Bart., & Co., St. Ann's-street, Manchester; or to his account, at the Bank of Messrs. MASTERMAN and Co., London.

professes to illustrate, that the present extremely rare publication is reprinted, rather than from any literary or poetical merit that it possesses.



INTRODUCTION.

THE ancient city of Chester, celebrated for its early L religious dramas, known by the name of Mysteries, was also, as we see from the present work, not without its later Pageant or Triumph; and while the one may be considered as the true source and origin of our national drama, the other is also deserving of our attention as connected with the courtly movements of our different sovereigns, and the political history of our country. They are both highly characteristic of the manners, the customs, and habits of the times, and also of the literary tastes and skill of our ancestors. It is with this view, and as being connected with the capital of one of the two counties, whose historical and literary remains the CHETHAM SOCIETY professes to illustrate, that the present extremely rare publication is reprinted, rather than from any literary or poetical merit that it possesses.

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> It was formerly the custom to receive Royal Personages in their Progresses through the kingdom, or on a return from abroad, with the exhibition of an extended Pageant, which is described in some cases as embracing even the entire length of the metropolis; and it is to this custom that we are indebted for the earliest notices of the Triumph, in the genuine acceptation of the term. It is true that the name was more latterly given to similar demonstrations which were independent of their primitive import, but their distinctive character remained nearly the same; nor must we fall into the error of confounding them with the Masque, a different species of entertainment, which is said to have been introduced into this country from Italy, under the patronage of our "bluff King Hal." The Pageant bears an earlier date. When King Henry VI. returned from Paris, he was received in London with a Triumph, or Pageant, to describe the magnificence of which, employed the pens of contemporary poets and historians. At a later period we find shows of the same kind annually exhibited in our large towns, the feast-day of the Patron Saint of England, St. George's day, April 23, being generally the period selected for their performance.*

Large sums of money were frequently expended upon these annual shows and entertainments, which were highly attractive to the multitude. And if we may judge from the description of the programme of the Pageant; at the com-

* The ancient religious dramas were usually performed at Whitsuntide; and from thence called "The Whitsun Playes:" sometimes also on Corpus Christi day, a great festival in the Romish Church, held annually on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday. — See Nares's *Glossary*. mencement of the volume, the present "Triumph," as it is called, must have been attended with considerable expense, though small in comparison with many of the Masques and Pageants during the reigns of Elizabeth and James, which for richness and splendour were never surpassed. "Nor," says an elegant writer on this subject, "were these fauciful and ever-varying Pageants productive merely of amusement; they had higher aims and more important effects, and, while ostensibly constructed for the purposes of compliment and entertainment, either indirectly inculcated some lesson of moral wisdom, or more immediately obtained their end by impersonating the vices and the virtues, and exhibiting a species of ethic drama. They had also the merit of conveying no inconsiderable fund of instruction from the stores of mythology, history, and philosophy."-Drake's Shaksp., vol ii. p. 190.

It has been shown by Mr. Markland, in his learned and elegant disquisition on the Chester Mysteries, prefixed to two of them which he printed for the members of the Roxburghe Club, that from so early a period as 1268, during the mayoralty of John Arneway,* the citizens of Chester were

* Mr. Wright, in his Introduction to "*The Chester Plays*," printed for the Shakespeare Society, 8vo. 1843, is of opinion that these plays are not earlier than the end of the fourteenth, or beginning of the fifteenth century : and that "the traditions which carry their composition so far back as the mayoralty of John Arneway (1268 to 1276) appear too improbable to deserve serious consideration, unless they were founded on more authentic statements, or on more substantial arguments." He also observes that "the oldest account of these plays now known, is found in a proclamation of 24 Hen. VIII. (1533.)"—See "*The Chester Plays*," edited by Thomas Wright, Esq. *Introduction*, p. xvi.

INTRODUCTION.

entertained with the exhibition of these Miracle Plays, which were continued with occasional interruptions until the year 1577, although an inhibition had been sent from the Archbishop of York in 1571, forbidding their performance.-Mr. Collier also has shown, in his Annals of the Stage, vol. i. p. 113, that during these interruptions, in consequence probably of the religious controversies of that period, dramatic entertainments of a different kind were occasionally presented to the inhabitants of Chester, and mentions one alluded to by King in his Vale Royal, p. 194, as played in 1529, founded on the Romance of Robert of Cicily, the title of which was, Robert Cecill, or Kynge Robart of Cicyle. See Pennant's Tours, vol. i. p. 183, ed. 1810. Warton's Hist. Eng. Poetry. King also, in his local chronology, mentions the exhibition of other plays not of a religious kind; such as The History of Eneas and Queen Dido, which was played on the Rood-Eye,* in the year 1563, on the Sunday after Midsummer-day, in the mayoralty of Sir Lawrence Smith.⁺ These were "set

* The Rood-Eye, the scene of the annual Races and other city sports, frequently termed the Roodes and the Roodee, but more correctly the former, was so called from an ancient *Rood*, or cross, in the centre, the base of which was lately remaining,—and *Eye*, a meadow surrounded by water. "The Rood-Eye," says Mr. Ormerod, "on which the City Races are annually run, is a large level plain on the bank of the Dee, and immediately under the walls, stretching to their south-west angle from the Watergate. The whole ground was formerly covered by the waters, as appears by an award in 1401, that it could not be tithed by the Rector of Trinity, in consequence of its being land recovered from the sea. It is at present used as a ley for cattle, and is the property of the corporation."—See Ormerod's *Cheshire*, vol. i. p. 291.

[†] Sir Lawrence Smith appears to have served the office of Mayor of Chester four times, viz. in 1540, 1558, 1563, and 1570.

forth by one William Croston, Gent. and one Mr. Man, Master of Arts: on which triumph there was made two forts, and shipping on the water, besides many horsemen well armed and appointed." These were probably Pageants made for the exhibition of some warlike engagements, or feats of chivalry. In 1577, "the Shepherd's Play was performed at the High Cross, and other triumphs at the Rood-Eye," before the Earl of Derby, the Lord Strange, and many others. — See Pennant's *Tours*, vol. i. p. 197, and Lysons's *Chesh.*, p. 596. One called "King Ebranke with all his Sonnes,"* was performed in 1589, and it is probable that others of a similar kind were at times represented afterwards.

It would appear from these circumstances, that there was a continued series of performances, of a dramatic nature, in the city of Chester, from a very early period, though with some interruptions, down to the time when the Pageant and the Triumph succeeded to the Miracle Play.

There is no doubt that the progress of the Reformation put a stop to the ancient religious plays, which were then thought profane and licentious, and savouring of popish superstition. A different taste arose, and the literature of our country improved in learning, in spirit, and in delicacy. But while to our more refined tastes these things appear coarse and licentious, we must call to our recollection the times when they were written, and the manners which then

* For an account of King Ebranke, who is said to have been one of our early British Kings, and to have had 20 wives, 20 sons, and 30 daughters, and to have founded the cities of York and Edinburgh, the reader may consult Harding's *Chronicle*, 4to. 1521. chap. xxi. fol. xx.; Holinshead's *Chronicle*, &c. prevailed. The same correct writer, quoted above, has justly observed, that "in judging of the form, incidents, and language of these productions, we must of course carry our minds back to the period when they were written or represented; we shall then find that much that now seems absurd, ludicrous, or profane, was then pious, awful, and impressive." (Vol. ii. p. 136.)

These remarks will, in some degree, apply to later times, and to the present work, in which, although the representation is classical rather than religious, the personification of the passions, and the words put into the mouths of some of the characters may to us appear somewhat coarse and vulgar. Allowance, however, must of course be made for the time in which it was written, and the difference of the manners which were then in vogue.

Of Mr. Robert Amery, or Amory, sheriff of Chester in 1608, and "the author of this pleasing show," we are not able to communicate many particulars. In Mr. Ormerod's Hist. of Cheshire, vol. ii. p. 442, there is a notice of an old and respectable yeomanry family of this name living at Coghall or Coughall, in the parish of Backford near Chester, whose descendants are still occupants of the same farm; which family is supposed to be identical with that of our sheriff. Of this family, one of the same names, Robert Amery, was sheriff of Chester in 1554. See Pennant, vol. i. p. 197. And the same names occur also as sheriff again Thomas Amery was mayor in 1783. in 1586. Robert Amery appears to have been a munificent and public spirited character, and to have benefited his fellow townsmen in more ways than this. The following mention of his liberality, which contains also a notice of the present Pageant or Triumph, is taken from an account of the ancient shows and customs of Chester, which was originally collected by the Rev. Robert Rogers,* Archdeacon and Prebendary of Chester, and Rector of Gawsworth, who died in 1595, and afterwards enlarged and reduced into order by his son, and which is now among the Harl. MSS. (1948, 42) in the British Museum. After describing "the laudable Exercises yearly used within the Cittie of Chester," in speaking of St. George's Race, of late time invented, and when altered, it is observed : "In A. D. 1609, Mr. William Lester, mercer, beinge mayor of Chester, one Mr. Robert Amerye, ironmonger,† sometime sherife of Chester, (A. D. 1608,) he, with the assente of the mayor and cittie, at his own coste chiefly, as **T** conceive, caused three

* The Rev. Robert Rogers, B.D., Archdeacon of Chester, was an intelligent antiquary, of much research and good judgment, and left behind him collections relative to the local history of Chester and its ancient eustoms and amusements, still extant in MS. and classed under nine heads by his son : a copy of which was among the papers of the late William Nicholls, Esg., F.S.A., and another in the Harl. MSS. 1948. In addition to his Archdeaconry, Mr. Rogers held the 6th stall in the Cathedral of Chester, and was Rector of Gawsworth, in Cheshire. He appears to have died in 1595. and his will is extant in Harl. MSS. 2037. He married Elizabeth, one of the daughters of John Deane, of Wallingford, in the county of Berks. Gent. by whom he had ten sons and five daughters. She survived her husband twenty-two years, and dying in 1617, in the 72nd year of her age, was buried in the Church of Eccleston, near Chester, in which was formerly existing a monument to her memory, descriptive of her many virtues and pious life .- For this account of Mr. Rogers we are indebted to Mr. Ormerod. See Hist. Cheshire, vol. i. p. xix. and p. 89, and vol. ii. p. 448.

[†] A descendant of this Robert Amery is still carrying on business at the present time as an ironmonger in Chester.

INTRODUCTION.

silver cupps (or bells) of good value to be made, the whiche saide silver cuppes were, upon St. George's daye, for ever to be thus disposed : - all gentlemen that would bringe their horses to the Rood-dee that daye, and there rune, that horse which with spede did over-rune the reste, should have the beste cuppe there presently delivered, and that horse which came seconde, nexte the firste, before the reste, had the second cuppe there also delivered: and for the third cuppe it was to be rune for at the ringe, by any gentleman that woulde rune for the same, upon the said Roode-dee, and upon St. George's daye; being thus decreed, that every horse putt in soe much money as made the value of the cuppes or bells, and had the money, which horses did winne the same, and the use of the cupps, till that day twelve month, being in bond to deliver in the cupps that daye; so also for the cuppe for the ringe, which was yearely continued accordingly untill the yeare of our Lord 1623.-John Brereton,* innholder, being mayor of Chester, he altered the same after this manner, and caused the three cupps to be sould, and caused more money to be gathered and added, soe that the intereste thereof would make one faire silver cuppe, of the value of \pounds 8, as I suppose, it may be more worth, and the race to be altered, viz. from beyonde the New-tower[†] a great distance,

⁺ The New Tower is now called the Water Tower. It is a circular building of red stone, embattled, standing at the north-west angle of the walls, and was erected in 1322. It is thus described by Webb, in his *Itinerary*:—"From the North-gate westward to the turning of the wall southward, at which corner standeth another fine turret, called the New-Tower, and was pitched within the channel of Dee water; which new

^{*} John Brereton was Mayor in 1623.

and soe to rune five times from that place rownd about the Rood-dee, and he that overcame all the rest the last course, to have the cuppe freely for ever, then and there delivered, which is continued to this daye." He then describes the present Pageant :-- "But here I must not omitt the charge, and the solemnitie made, the first St. George's dave; he had a poet, one Mr. Davies, whoe made speeches and poeticale verses, which were delivered at the High-crosse,* before the mayor and aldermen, with shewes of his invention, which booke was imprinted⁺ and presented to that famous Prince Henry, eldest sonne to the blessed King James, of famous Alsoe, he (i. e. Mr. Amery) caused a man to goe memorie. upon the spire[‡] of St. Peter's steeple in Chester, and by the fane, at the same time he sownded a drum, and displayed a baner upon the top of the same spire. And this was the

tower was built, as it is reported, in or near to the place in the river, which was the key whereunto vessels of great burden, as well of merchandize as others, came close up; which may the rather seem probable, as well by a deeper foundation of stonework, yet appearing from the foot of that tower, reaching a good distance in the channel; as also by great rings of iron, here and there fastened in the sides of the said tower, which if they served not for the fastening of such vessels, as then used to approach to the same key, I cannot learn what other use they should be for."

* The High-Cross formerly stood at the intersection of the four principal streets in Chester, and was the usual place of exhibition of the shows and pageants, and in later times of the bull-baits. It was destroyed in 1646, during the Civil Wars. A woodcut representation of it is given in *Ormerod's Cheshire*, vol. i. p. 289.

† It was entered at Stationers' Hall by John Browne, June 12, 1610.

[‡] The spire is now taken down; but there exists a drawing of it by one of the Randle Holmes in the Harl. MSS. 2073, of which there is a woodcut fac-simile in *Ormerod's Cheshire*, vol. i. p. 259.

original of St. George's race, with the change thereof, as it is now used."

Amery's gift of the cuppe or bell is alluded to by King in his *Vale Royal*, under the year 1609. "The bell or bowl, which are run for on St. George's day by horses, were provided by Mr. Robert Amery, sometime sheriff of this city, who the same day in this year brought them down to the Rood-Eye with great triumph."—See Orm. *Chesh.*, vol. i. p. 202.

The last recorded act of Amery's munificence to the citizens of Chester was in 1612, and is thus mentioned by Rogers: — "Also the said Mr. Robert Amorie caused the jacks* or boyes, which strike quarterly at St. Peter's at High-crosse, to be made and erected in A. D. 1612."

* A *jack* was a figure made in old public clocks to strike the bell on the outside at the quarters; of the same kind as those formerly at St. Dunstan's Church in Fleet-street, and at Carfax Church in Oxford. "*Jack*, being the most familiar appellative, was frequently bestowed upon whatever bore the form, or seemed to do the work of a man or servant." Thus Shakespeare :---

K. Rich.	Well, but what's o'clock ?
Buck.	Upon the stroke of ten.
K. Rich.	Well, let it strike.
Buck.	Why let it strike ?
K. Rich.	Because that, like a <i>jack</i> , thou keep'st the stroke,
	Betwixt thy begging and my meditation.
	Richard III., Act iv. Scene 2.

So, also, Decker :---

"But howsoever, if Powles *jacks* be once up with their elbowes, and quarelling to strike eleven, as soon as ever the clock has parted them, and ended the fray with his hammer, let not the duke's gallery conteyne you any longer."—*Decker's Gul's Hornbook*, 1609.

See other examples in Nares's Glossary. See, also, Fr. Junii Etymolog. Anglic. v. Jack; and Douce's Illustr. of Shakesp. vol. ii. p. 38.

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Mr. Amery died the following year. King, in alluding to this last generous act of his, gives the date of his death. "The jacks were set up at St. Peter's church, and the quarters were made to strike upon the clock, at the cost of Mr. Robert Amery, who died the 21st of September following." He was buried in the Church of St. Bridget, at Chester, on the 26th of the same month, as appears from an entry in the Parish Register: -- "Burials 1613. Robertus Amery, 26th Sep." He left one son, Robert Amery, and two daughters, Alice and Ann. His will bears date the 8th Sept. 1613, and directs that he should be buried in the Parish Church of St. Bridget, Chester, in the same grave as his late father, Robert Amery, was buried-mentions his son Robert and his daughters Alice and Ann, his brother-in-law Edward Wall, his cousin Rowland Johnson, his sister Margaret Wall, his cousin Peter Drinkwater, one of the sheriffs of the said city-appoints his said son Robert, Trustee, and his said cousin Peter Drinkwater, and his brother-in-law Edward Wall, Executors-names his uncle, John Stone, of London, Esq., and his friend John Ecclestone, &c. The will was proved at Chester the 20th December, 1613, by the said Executors.

Of Richard Davies, the poet who wrote the verses, we know of no other work produced by him, nor are we able to furnish any particulars, beyond the fact of his being an inhabitant of Chester, or as he describes himself "her ill Townesman." The Editor, in this dearth of information, may perhaps be allowed to hazard a conjecture that he was a herald painter at Chester. He has in his possession a folio volume, containing a manuscript collection of arms of the gentry of Cheshire and Lancashire emblazoned, having on the first page the arms of Charles I., and the date 1629, which formerly belonged to Dean Cholmondeley of Chester, who believed it to be a copy of some Herald's collection of arms at Chester. The volume, which is in the original binding, is lettered on the back, "Davies's Heraldry;" and it is not unlikely that such a pursuit would bring the poet in contact with Mr. Amery, the generous and public spirited sheriff of Chester, in marshalling and contriving those various Shows and Pageants, which he was so liberal in enacting for the amusement and delight of his fellow citizens at Chester. This, however, is mere conjecture, and to be taken only for so much as it is worth.

It might be thought from some parts of this Show, and especially from the speech of *Mercury*, that Prince Henry was present in Chester at its representation, but we know, from other sources, that this could not have been the case, and that he was at this time at his own residence at Richmond.

This excellent and much lamented Prince, Henry Frederick, Prince of Wales, the eldest son of James I., by his Queen, Anne of Denmark, was born at Stirling Castle, Feb. 19, 1594, and was the first prince ever baptized in this realm with Protestant rites. He was the subject of frequent disputes between Queen Anne and her husband respecting the care and education of his early years, but grew up, under the direction of his father, remarkable for his wisdom and prudence, and distinguished for his manly and chivalrous spirit. It was for him that his royal and learned father wrote BAEIAIKON $\Delta\Omega PON$, or his Majestie's Instructions to his dearest Sonne Henry the Prince. 4to. Edinb. 1599; and 8vo. Edinb. and Lond. 1603; which has been highly commended by several writers of the first distinction. In the same year that this Triumph was performed at Chester, and little more than a month after, Prince Henry was a delighted spectator of a much more splendid Pageant, given by his mother, in honour of himself, on his creation as Prince of Wales, which was celebrated with all the pomp of pageantry and show, aided by the poetical genius of Ben Jonson and Daniel,* and adorned by the exquisite taste of Inigo Jones.

But, in little more than two short years from that period the hopes of the people, which had rested on this promising prince, were destined to be destroyed, and the whole nation plunged into a state of grief, by his untimely death, of a putrid fever, (supposed to have been brought on by over exertion,) on the 6th November, 1612, in the eighteenth year of his age. His excellent and manly qualities had made him the hope and favourite of the nation, and few royal deaths have occasioned more general sorrow. Indeed, "in every

* "The Order and Solemnitie of the Creation of the High and Mightie Prince Henrie, Eldest Son to our sacred Soueraigne, Prince of Wales, and as it was celebrated in the Parliament House, on Monday, 4 June last past. Together with the Ceremonies of the Knights of the Bath, and other matters of special regard incident to the same. Whereunto is annexed the Royall Maske presented by the Queene and her Ladies, on Wednesday at night following.—4to. Printed at Britaines Bursse for John Budge, 1610. Tethys Festival: or the Queenes Wake. Celebrated at Whitehall, the fifth day of June, 1610. Deuised by Samuel Daniel, one of the Groomes of her Maiesties most Honourable privie Chamber. 4to. Lond. Printed for John Budge, 1610." respect," says the historian, "his merit seems to have been extraordinary. He had not reached his eighteenth year, and he already possessed more dignity in his behaviour, and commanded more respect than his father, with all his age, learning, and experience. Neither his high fortune, nor his youth, had seduced him into any irregular pleasures : business and ambition seem to have been his sole passion. His inclination, as well as exercises, were martial."* The number of testimonials to the merits and virtues of this Prince, or of mournful tributes in commemoration of the public calamity of his death, were so great, that a mere enumeration of them would extend to a considerable length. Mr. Park has given a list of twenty-six in the fourth volume of Restituta, but it might be very considerably extended.

Mr. Ormerod has slightly mentioned this "Triumph," in p. xii. of the Preface to his *History of Cheshire*, among a list of other publications relating to that county. He has also given an account of Amory's show of 1609, from King's *Vale Royal*, in the *Hist. Chesh.*, vol. i. p. 202; and another account of the same show from Rogers's MS. vol. i. p. 299. The reader may also compare Mr. Lysons's citations of the same show from other and varying copies in his *Magn. Britan.*, p. 588, with the programme of an intended show in 1610, in the note below. Robert Amery is also mentioned in some of the MSS. of the Holmes, in the list of city sheriffs.

There is no copy of this extremely rare Pageant in the British Museum. In the *Bibliotheca Anglo Poetica*, there was one, No. 223, marked at $\pounds 25$, which was probably that from Reed's Sale, 6712, purchased by Mr. Hill. There is

* Hume.

another in the Bodleian Library, among the rich collection of books given by Mr. Gough to that institution. It was reprinted by Mr. Nichols, in the Progresses, &c., of King James the First, 4to, 1828, vol. ii. p. 291, from a transcript taken from a copy of this rare tract, formerly belonging to Mr. Strettell, at whose sale in 1820, No. 816, it was purchased for £11, by William Barnes Rhodes, Esq., of Lyon's Inn, (by whom it was lent to Mr. Nichols,) whose curious and extensive dramatic Library was sold by auction in 1825, when this copy, marked No. 462 in the catalogue, was sold for $\pounds 8$ 12s. There were copies also in the Libraries of Mr. Dent, see Cat. part i. 985, and Mr. Heber, Cat. part iv. 1825. The present reprint is made from a copy in the possession of Edward Hawkins, Esq., F.R.S., F.S.A., Keeper of the MSS. in the British Museum, kindly lent to the Editor for the purpose by that gentleman; to whom the members of the Chetham Society have been already indebted for a former publication, and whose kindness on the present occasion the Editor begs most gratefully to acknowledge. To George Ormerod, Esq., D.C.L., F.R.S. F.S.A., his sincere thanks are also due, for directing his attention to some sources of information relating to this Pageant.

T. C.

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CHESTERS TRIVMPH IN HONOR OF HER

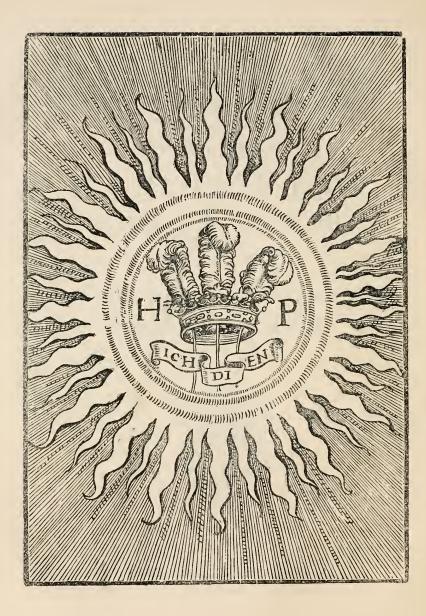
PRINCE.

As it was performed vpon S. GEORGES Day 1610. in the forefaid CITIE.



LONDON

Printed for I. B. and are to be Sold in Saint Dunftanes Church-yard in Fleete-ftreete. 1610.





To the High and Mightie Prince, HENRY Prince of Wales, Duke of

Cornwall and Rothfay, Earle of Chefter, Knight of the moft noble Order of the GARTER, &c.

CHESTER to her Prince.



No the boundleffe Ocean, most dread Prince, Of thy furmounting Great magnificence, Doe we (poore Palatines) from our best hearts, (Enlarg'd with Loue of thine admired Parts) Blushing, object to thy deepe Indgements eye,

The fruit (though poore) of rich Loues industrie. Not that we are Ambitious, or that wee Can thinke it worthy; of (most worthy) THEE. But, with our best integritie, to show The Awfull Duetie which our Loues doe owe, To thy great Greatnesser (beyond compare) Doth shine so bright in our Loues Hemisphere That, in thy right, our Hearts, Liues, Limmes and Swords. Shall stretch our Actions farre beyond our Words.

> Her ill Townefman, *Ri. Dauies*.

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TO THE READER.



Eader, to make a large Narration of nothing, were fcarce woorth any thing; Yet, fince it hath pleafed the great giuer of all things, to infufe life into poore *Animals* (as well as Spirit into more worthy Creatures) I haue by the importunitie of fome friends (vpon honeft conditions) let flip this prifoner, who like a poore

Peregrinator (to purchafe enlargment) is contented to paffe through the Purgatorie of the Printing-houfe: Where (if by his good behauiour, he doe not merit Redemptio) let him be preft without pity a Gods name, and like a vituperous offender, be Stamped and Stared at, by the seuereft Corrector, and trueft Compositor. To be briefe, what was done, was fo done, as being by the Approbation of many, faid to bee well done, then I doubt not, but it may merit the mercifull Conftruction of fome few, who may chance to Sweare t'was most excellently ill done. Zeale procured it; Loue deuif'd it; Boyes perform'd it; Men beheld it, and none but fooles difpraifed it. As for the further Difcription of the busineffe, I referre to further relation; onely thus: The chiefeft part of this people-pleafing fpectacle, confifted in three Bees, viz. Boyes, Beafts, and Bels, Bels of 'a ftrange amplitude and extraordinarie proportion; Beafts of an excellent fhape, and most admirable fwiftneffe, and Boyes of rare Spirit, and exquisite performance. Which glorious Triumph, with much more, was meerely intended (as it was then thought) for the ioyfull celebration of Cambers boundleffe glory.

 \vec{R} . D.



¶A briefe Relation of the moft delightfull, pleafant and rare Shewes, the which have beene Enacted, fet forth, and performed, within the most Auncient renowned Citie Caer-leon, now named CHESTER, vpon the Feftiuall of our moft worthy approued English Champian S. George his Day, being the 23. of Aprill 1610. and fhall remaine and continue perpetually to future ages, as a memorable and worthy project, founded, deuifed, and erected onely by the moft famous, generous, and well deferuing Citizen, Mr. ROBERT AMERIE, late Sherieffe of the faid Citie, redownding to the glory and praife of Almightie God for his benefits, immediately and bountcoufly powred vpon vs Chriftians, and alfo in liew of the Homage, Fealtie, Alleagance, and Duetie, which wee doe owe and attribute vnto the KINGS moft Excellent and magnificent Maieftie, his Crowne and dignitie, and to the moft vertuous and hopefull Heire Apparent, the PRINCE of Wales, with that Noble victor Saint George, our aforefaid Englifh Champion.

1 Man by ftrange deuifes clyming to the toppe of a very high fpire Steeple (ftanding at the Market Croffe, called S. Peters Steeple) carying an Auncient of our Colours of S. George, difplaying the fame vpon the faid Steeple, and fixing the fame to the barre of Iron, that the Vane hangeth vpon: Likewife, founding a Drumme, fhooting off a Peece, and flourifhing a Sword, and ftanding vpon the Croffe of the faid barre of Iron, ftood rpon his hands with his feete into the Ayre, very dangeroufly and wonderfully to the view of the beholders, with cafting Fire-workes very delightfull. A 3 2. Two

The Particulars

2. Two difguifed, called Greene-men, their habit Embroydred and Stitch'd on with Iuie-leaues with blacke-fide, having hanging to their fhoulders, a huge blacke fhaggie Hayre, Sauagelike, with Iuie Garlands vpon their heads, bearing Herculian Clubbes in their hands, an artificiall Dragon, very lively to behold, purfuing the Sauages entring their Denne, cafting Fire from his mouth, which afterwards was flaine, to the great pleafure of the fpectators, bleeding, fainting, and ftaggering, as though hee endured a feeling paine, even at the laft gafpe, and farewell.

3. One mounted on Horfebacke, bearing the Helmet and Shield of S. George, attended by three : One leading his Horfe, a Drumme founding before him, with S. George his Scutchin in the forehead of his Horfe.

4 Fame mounted on Horfebacke, with a Trumpet in her hand, pronouncing an Oration.

5. Mercurie, defcending from heaven in a cloud, artificially Winged, a Wheele of fire burning very cunningly, with other Fire-workes, mounting to the height of the forefaid Steeple vpon Coardes : with most pleasant and mellodious harmonic at his approach.

6. Another reprefenting the forenamed and most worthy Citie Chefter, mounted on Horsebacke: two Drummes sounding before him, with the Armes of S. George vpon a Scutchin in the forehead of his Horse.

7. Another with the Kings Armes, very richly Haroldized vpon a Shield: Alfo mounted on Horfebacke, with the Kings Armes vpon a Scutchin in the Horfes forehead.

8. Another, making an Oration, in Honour of the King his Crowne and Emperiall Monarchie, likewife mounted on Horfebacke, with the Armes correfpondent in the forehead of his Horfe.

9. Another

of the Triumph.

9. Another, mounted on Horfebacke with a great Bell double Gilt, fupported by foure Lyons Rampant, flanding vpon a leffer Bell with a Clapper in it, the Kings Armes engrauen thereon, caried vpon a Scepter, Dedicated to the Kings most Excellent Maieflie, with many Trumpets founding cheerefully before him, with the Kings Armes vpon a Schutchin in the Horfes forchead.

10. Another with the Princes Armes vpon a Shield, very richly Haroldized, mounted on Horfebacke, with the Princes Armes vpon a Scutchin in the Horfes foretoppe.

11. Another mounted on Horfebacke, delivering an Oration in Honour of the Prince his Birth-right, and magnificent Creation, viz. To the High and Mightie Prince HENRIE, Prince of VVales, Duke of Cornwall and Rothfay, Earle of Chefter, &c. with the Princes Armes vpon a Scutchin in the Horfes forehead.

12. Another mounted on Horfebacke, with a maffie Bell of Siluer, parcell Gilt, with the Princes Armes engrauen vpon it: Likewife fupported by three Lyons Rampant, flanding vpon a lesser Bell, with a Clapper in it, caried vpon a Scepter, a noyfe of Cornets before the Bell, Dedicated to the Prince, with the Princes Armes vpon a Scutchin in the Horfes forehead.

13. Another mounted on Horfebacke with the Armes of S. George vpon a Shield, with the Armes of Saint George vpon a Scutchin in the forehead of the Horfe.

14. Rumor mounted on Horfebacke, pronouncing an Oration in Honour of the most worthy Christian English Champian S. George, mounted on Horfebacke with the Armes of S. George, vpon a Scutchin in the forehead of the Horfe.

15. Another mounted on Horfebacke, with the most ancient and famous Standard of S. George, with the Armes of Saint George vpon a Scutchin in the Horfes forchead.

16. Another mounted on Horfebacke, bearing vpon a Scepter

The Particulars

ter a great piece of Plate, parcell Gilt, Bell fashion, Dedicated to the Honour of Saint George, with the Armes of S. George in the Horses forehead.

17. Another, reprefenting S. George, Accoutred and Armed at all points, attended by two Squires: Alfo in compleat Armour, a noyfe of Drummes before them, likewife mounted on Horfebacke, with the Armes of S. George vpon a Scutchin in the Horfes forchead.

18. Another on Horfebacke, reprefenting Peace, who made a Speech agreeable to her nature.

19. Another on Horfebacke, reprefenting Plentie, made likewife a Speech, &c. A Wreath of Wheat-eares vpon her head, with a Garland of the fame athwart her body, cafting and firewing VVheate abroad among ft the multitude, as fhee roade along. Garbe or Wheat-fheffe Ore, in a Scutchin vpon her Horfes forehead.

20. Another on Horfebacke, reprefenting Enuie, with a VVreath of Snakes about her head; another in her hand, her face and armes befmeard with blood.

21. After her (on Horfback) came one, reprefenting Loue, who finding Enuie difmounted from Horfebacke, and mounted on a Stage to flew her nature, was coniured by Loue to depart, and not to interrupt (with her detractions) that dayes Triumph, rndertaken and performed through Loue, which done, Loue and Ioye marfhall the fucceeding fport.

22. Laftly, loye mounted on Horfebacke, reioycing at fo great a concourfe of people, neuer there before feene, and prayfing the good meaning of what there was vndertaken and performed: Whereupon all departed for a while, to a place vpon the River called the Roodes, Garded with one hundred and twentie Halberders, and a hundred and twentie Shotte, brauely furnifhed. The Mayor, Sheriffs and Aldermen of Chefter, arayed

of the Triumph.

rayed in their Scarlet, having feene the faid flewes, to grace the fame, accompanied, and followed the Actors vnto the faid Roode, where the Ships, Barques, and Pinifes, with other veffels, Harbouring within the River, difplaying the Armes of S. George, rpon their maine Toppes, with feuerall pendants anfwerable thereunto; difcharged many voleyes of Shotte in Honour of the The Bels Dedicated (as before is remembred) being preday. Sented to the Mayor, Proclamation being generally made, to bring in Horfes to runne for the faide Bels, there was runne a double Race, to the great pleafure and delight of the Spectators : Men of great worth, running alfo at the Ring for the fuid Cuppe, Dedicated to Saint George, and those that wonne the Prifes, according to the Articles agreed upon in that behalfe, had the fame with the Honour thereunto belonging : The faid feuerall Prifes, being with Speeches, and feuerall Wreathes fet on their heads, delivered in ceremonious and Tryumphant maner, after the order of the Olimpian Sportes, whereof thefe were an imitation.

В



IN HONOVR OF HER PRINCE.

FAME.



Rom blisfull Bowres of faire *Elizian* fields, (The happy harbour of *Ioues* deereft Deere) From thence thefe Worthies (noted by their Are (by my conduct) thus ariued here. (fhields)

I Fame that with a trice, doe ouer-fill The Worlds wide eares with what I pleafe to fay, Haue brought them thus, as t'were against the hill Of higheft Lets, to celebrate this Day ! This Day, that I so farre have famouzed That not a nooke of Earths huge Globe but knowes, How in great *Britaine* t'is folemnized With divine Offices, and glorious Showes. Then for th'encreafe of this triumphant Mirth, I'le inuocate the Gods Embaffadour. To be the Prefident of Heau'n to Earth: And, from the Gods, falute your Gouernour. Then come great Nuntius of th'immortall Gods, From that all-fwaying Senate of their *State*; Come, I inuoke thee, with thy charming-rod In glory come, this *Day* to celebrate.

The nine-fold Orbes of Heau'n, my words doe pierce ; Defcend then, Tongues-man of the *Vniuerfe*.

B 2

A

A Song of eight voyces for the flew in CHESTER on S. GEORGES day.

Ome downe thou mighty meffenger of bliffe, Come: we implore thee. Let not thy glory be obfcur'd from vs Who moft adore thee: Then come, O come great fpirit That we may ioyfull fing, Welcome, O welcome to earth Ioues deareft darling.

Lighten the eyes thou great Mercurian Prince, Of all that view thee, That by the luftre of their optick fenfe They may purfue thee: Whilft with their voyces Thy praife they fhall fing, Come away Ioues deareft darling.

> MERCVRIE comes downe in a Cloude and fpeakes thus.

Downe from the Throne of the immortall Gods, From out the glorious euer-during Heau'ns, And from the facred Powres celeftiall From thence I come, commanded by them all To vifite Him whofe rare report hath rung

VVithin

Within their eares, and fcal'd the lofty clouds: His erned fame on earth hath pierc'd the skie, Afcending vp vnto the higheft Heau'ns; And therewithall procur'd the facred Senate In great regard to hold his worthineffe: For which intent, They all (with one accord) To manifeft the Loue to Him they owe, Haue fent me Mercurie, their Meffenger, To bring him ioyfull tydings of the fame. And to this place, directed by their Powres, I am ariu'd (in happy time I hope) To finde this happy God-beloued Man. And loe behold on fuddaine where I fpie This Fauorite fo fauor'd of the Gods: I will falute him with fuch courtefie As beft befeemes a wight of fuch account. All haile to thee high Iuftice Officer; Mercurie, Nuntius to the Powres divine, Hath brought thee greetings from their Deities. And know (deere Sir) thy deedes and good deferts, Thy well difposed Nature, Minde, and thought, Thy zealous care to keepe their Lawes divine, Thy great compafiion on poore wights diffreft, Thy prudence, inflice, temp'rance, and thy truth, And, to be briefe, thy vertues generall, Haue mou'd them all from Heau'n, with one affent, To fend Me downe, to let thee vnderftand That thou art highly in their Fauors plac'd: And, for the more affurance of the fame, Loe here a Fauour fauourably fent From them, by me, to thee, that thou maift know Thy vertues here fhall there rewarded bee

With endleffe ioy, and perfect happineffe. Receaue the fame, returning naught but thankes, Which is as much as they require of thee,

My meffage done, my taske thus brought to end, I muft returne and to the Heau'ns afcend.

CHESTER.

TAile fage Spectators, haile yee reu'rend Sires, Haile yonger Brutes, whofe worth felf Worth admires, Whofe ardent Loues both to the place, and vs, Conftraines our Loues to entertaine yee thus. Welcome ten thoufand times yee blisfull criew, Whofe light lends lufter to the vulgar view. Whofe feuerall vertues, link'd with seuerall Graces, Deferues the Beft, of our beft Loues embraces. The Romaine *Curtius* Romes great Fauorite, (Whofe daring Death did her from fcathe acquite) Was ne're more Welcome to the Romanes fights, Then are your felues, to thefe our choife delights. To which kinde purpofe our defire intends To entertaine you as our fafteft friends, With such *Olympian* fports as fhall approve Our Beft denotion, and funcearest Loue. Such entertaine as beft befeemes your Rancks, Wee'le ftriue to giue you with our hartieft thankes. And fo, to pleafe your nicer appetites, VVee'le feaft youre paines with Pleafures honied Sweets. The rareft viands Choife it felfe affords. Shall o're abound vpon our bounteous bords, And in the midft of all our Iouiall folace.

VVee'le fucke fiweet Nectar from the Paps of Pallas. VVee'le cozen France of those delitions Vines, VVhere-hence they draine their brain-enchanting VVines To cheere our hearts, and make you frolique fo As you thall fim in ioy, though funke in woe. VVee'le Banquet you with fuch variety Of dulcet Fruites, whole fweete Satiety Shall feeme to pleafing; as it fhall intice The Gods themfelues to furfet on their juice. Our beft Paulions, in their beft attire. Remonstrate shall how much we doe defire, To fatisfie your Expectations eyes, VVith all that Arte can poffibly deuife. VVee'le paue our Streetes, with that Eye-pleafing sand, VVhich is of powre whole Kingdomes to command : And for your more delight perfume we will The Aire: nay, it fweete Aires fhall ouer-fill. Our verdant Paftures three pil'd greene in graine Shall weare, to honour fo your entertaine. And round about the Meadowes as yee goe, For peeping flowers the Graffe shall fearfely flow VVhat may be done, and willing hearts can doe Shall be effected with aduantage too. Wee'le furrow vp thofe pety hills or heights, That lie but in the way of our delights, And with the Surpluffe of this furquedrie, Fill vp the places that too lowly lie VVithin the lift or profpect of that place, Affign'd this Triumph and triumphant Race.

VVhat e're our more then ftrained vtmoft-All, Can poffibly performe; performe we fhall.

BRITAINE.

BRITAINE.

TLluftrious Britaine, ftately Seate of Kings, VVhofe boundleffe glories inequivalent, Doe fo reflect on Fames orientall wings. That o're the world they fpred their blandifhment. VVhofe influence (paft compafie of conceit) Endarts fuch Sun-beames to obfcurer places, That all the world by that refplendant light, Derives from her their most peculiar graces. Whofe royall, clement, chaft, and bounteous King, (King; O too bafe a ftile for his great worth) Such radiant lufter to the Earth doth bring, That like the Sunne it cheeres the totall North. Then yeeld him honor Kings that glorious be; Vaile to this (next the high'ft) great King of Kings: Who by his vertues graceth your degree, And to the fame immortall glory brings. Great Britaines Greatneffe (wonder of the North: Admir'd of All whom vertues height admires) VVe doe afcribe vnto thy Match-leffe worth, Surmounting praife, to mount thy vertues higher.

And while me (*Britaine*) Neptune fhal embrace, Ile ruine thofe, that fpight thee, or thy Race.

CAMBRIA.

REnowmed *Camber*, *Britaines* true repofe, VVhofe ardent zeale to her admired Prince. Hath euer beene approu'd to friends and foes

To facrifice her bloud in his defence. With high-fwolne words of vaunt to thunder forth How much we dare to doe in this refpect, Were more then meerely idle; fince our worth Shall fliew it felfe in fuch words true effect. Our hopefull Prince whilft Cambers Race doth Breath, Shall they with faft vnited might, In his just caufe will their best Swords vnsheathe Against the stout'st Opposer of his Right. We forme that Wales fuch weaklings flould afford, That dare not brauely front the eagerft foe At any Weapon (Piftoll, Pike, or Sword) And (like fout Warriours) give him bloe for bloe. But to our Prince (Great Britaines matchleffe Heire) As humbly low, as is his Greatneffe high, Our lives wee'le proftrate with our beft Deuoire, To doe what may vndoe the Enemie. Whose *Grace* is thought vpon this prefent day, Which day Saint *George* hath blisfully created, To take his Birth-right; with fuch great ioy, As fuch a day was neuer confecrated. To memorize which more than blisfull Feaft, We are incited by the loue we owe him, The fame to celebrate, or at the leaft Our great, great ioy most thankfully to shew him. Then naught remaines but that we all doe pray, God bleffe Prince HENRY Prop of Englands ioy.

RVMOR.

SAint *George* for England, is the Patrone Knight, Whofe euer-conquering, and all-daring hand, Did put whole Hoafts of Heathens foes to flight,

That

That did the vigour of his ftrength with-ftand. He that did euer liue (a Champion ftout) With fuch vndaunted holy-high refolue, That through the earth his fame did flie about. Which fhall not die till heauen and earth diffolue. Against the Heathen folke his force he prou'd, By which he did decline their higheft pride: For which of heau'n and earth he was belou'd, And made a glorious Saint when as he dide. Vpon a hideous Dragon (whofe thick fcales Like fhields, that nought could pierce by force nor Arte Did Bulwarke him) fo fast his Faulchion falls, That he through them made way vnto his heart. Whose rare atchiuements and whofe rich renowne (Flowing from matchleffe Magnanimity) Still makes them owners of great Britaines Crowne, As in this day to crowne his memory. Whofe Fames bright Splendor, rarely to depaint In colours rich according to his worth, Would try the tongue of Hermes, fith this Saint Thus trauels Britaines glory to bring forth, Many a Monfter he by force fubdude, And many a fiend incarnate he supprest, Whofe Sword did ftill mowe downe their multitude, So to imbarne them in hells restleffe reft. When loe at length returning to the foile, VVherein he first receau'd his vitall breath, He fpent his time religioufly a-while, Till Death had flaine him, who now conquers Death : So, Britaines when they fight with cheere, they fay, God and Saint George for England to this day.

PEACE.

PEACE.

TO bring glad newes of future happy yeares, *Peace* is the *Nuntius* that fuch tydings beares. VVho while the Scotch the English faire entreate, And me embrace withall, I'le make them great. No forraigne Nation fhall affront their force As long as I direct them in that courfe. All rafh diffentions and litigious braules, I fhall expell from their vnfhaken walls. All ciuill Mutinies fhall then furceafe, And Peace fhall bring them euerlafting Peace. Inueterate hate fo will I turne to loue, As with one motion both fhall iointly moue. Brother with brother, nay, the foe with friend, For mine and thine fhall neuer more contend. No maffacre nor bloudy ftratageme, Shall ftirre in Peaces new Ierufalem. No ciuill Difcord, nor Domeftick ftrife Shall e're annoy their Peace, much leffe their life, For (like to Oliue branches) they fhall beare Fruite that gives love an appetite to beare. VVhich mutuall concord dateleffe fhall endure As long as loue can Peace to loue procure. I'le binde their Loues with true Loues Gordian knot, That rude *Differtions* hands vndoe it not: And with a VV reath of euer-during Baies, Crowne all your browes with peace-procured praife, I'le rend the close-mouth'd rage of emulous ftrife, And wound Diftraction, with Connexions knife. And when damn'd Malice comes but once in fight I, with a vengeance, will fuppreffe her ftraight.

I'le fend pale Enuie downe to hell with fpeed, VVhere fhe vpon her Snakes fhall onely feed. And with fome pois'nous and inuenom'd Toade, Her much more poyfonous felfe fhall make aboade. VVhich being done I'le fend that bafe infection (VVhose onely vertue is but bafe) Detraction Her to affociate; where they both fhall liue As long as hell can life with horror giue:

And thus fhall Peace their ioy perpetuate, That loue (in loue) to ftay this bleffed State.

PLENTIE.

CInce *Plenty* ftill co-operates with *Peace*, *Plenty* fhall bleffe your bafket of encreafe. From whofe aboundant ne're exhaufted ftore, You fhall receaue much more then had before. I'le ftuffe your Barnes vp to the throat with graine, VVhich fhall all yours, and others ftill fuftaine. I'le fructifie the earth with rareft fruites Of fundry fhapes, and feuerall kinde of fuites, So as the Soile (that beares feed timely fowne) Vnder the burthen of their waight, fhall groane. In all aboundance I will reare your Beafts, VVhich fhall maintaine your o're abounding Feafts, Fifh, fowle, hearbs, graffe, and all things whatfoere, Shall at your dore be cheape, and nothing deere I'le finke into the concaues of earthes molde, And there hence pull and cull her pureft golde, And then will dive into the Ocean Deepes, To raife the Treafure which their *Neptune* keepes. I'le fraight your fhips with fuch o're-fraighting ftore, That greedineffe her felfe fhall feeke no more.

No fearfity fhall in your Land be found, As long as I with Nature till your ground. What fhall I fay? your life-fupporting ftaffe, The ftaffe of bread; I'le throw abroad like chaffe.

Then fee how gracioufly the High'ft hath sent yee *Peace*, in all fulneffe, in all fulneffe *Plentie*.

ENVIE and LOVE.

(bus? Enuie. TIffe. Love. I Why how now Envie? do'ft thou hiffe at Pha-E. Yes; and at Cinthia too, if fhee anger vs. L. Your reafon Enuie? E. Why? My reafon's this, To heare a Cat cry mewe, who can but hiffe. L. Out hiffing Scorpion : E. Out yee filthy Foole, Enuie hath wit, to fet fuch Apes to fchoole. L. Malitious Monfter, thou incarnate Diu'll, VVhofe bafe condition, is the fource of euill. Thou enuious Bandogge, fpeake and doe thy worft, He that regards it; is the moft accurft. E. And he that thinks that Loue can e're be wife, Hath neither iudgement, wifedome, wit, nor eies. L. Say thou abortiue, men-detefted slaue, Whofe onely vertue is, but to depraue Mans beft proceedings, fpeake thou fquint-eide Monfter, VVhat is the caufe which makes thee ftill mifcoufter? E. Becaufe I hate to heare a want-wit preach Beyond wits bounds, and wifedomes boundleffe reach : To fee a fuperficiall Sot make flow Of deeper skill then wit it felfe doth know. C 3 L. VVhat

L. VVhat is the folace *Enuie* counteth deepe? E. Marie to fee a VVolfe deuoure a Sheepe. To fee men-diuels breeding ftill differtion Is fport (me thinks) beyond all comprehension: Or elfe a rich man hunger-pin'd with want, To fee an Army (when their foode is fcant) Eate their owne excrements; O this is fport For Enuie, that without this is all amort. To fee a droue of Drunkards like to Swine Swilling their foules, in foule-o're-whelming wine. To fee a City burnt, or Barnes on fire, To fee a Sonne the Butcher of his Sire. To fee two Swaggerars eagerly to ftriue, VVhich of them both fhall make the Hang-man thriue. To fee a good man poore, or wife man bare, To fee dame *Vertue* ouer-whelm'd with care. To fee a ruin'd Church, a Preacher dumbe, A Kings childe perifh in the Mothers wombe. To fee a Mifer, who to have his pelfe, VVill take a rope and (defp'rate) hang him felfe: To fee a virgine by a varlet vs'd, Till fhe by him to death be fo abus'd. Or elfe to fee a Father fucke the blood Of his owne Spawne, O! thefe would doe me good. But to behold a ranke of ruftick Boyes Shewing as childifh people childifh toyes To grace a day with; O it grates my gall To heare an apifh Kitling catterwall. Is it not harfh to heare a Marmefet fqueake Vpon a ftage a most vnioynted fpeake? And then to heare fome ignorant Baboone, Sweare that this Monky did furmount the Moone.

VVhen

VVhen as the Infants beft is too too bad. And which to heare would make a wife-man mad. L. Thou damn'd Infection; damned from thy birth. Abhor'd of heau'n, and odious to the earth, How canft thou euer hope to merit grace, VVhen thy delight is but detraction bafe? But fince there is no figne of grace in that Damn'd face of thine, which hell doth wonder at, Loue fhall conjure thee; that from this time forth, Thou ne're frequent this Iland of the North. Dive to the depth of deepeft Stigian flood; There fucke thou Snakes, and Snakes there fuck thy blood. Or finke thou quite to the infernall deepe, Where crawling Scorpions may about thee creepe. And there among those vermine vile beneath, Belk vp that poifon which thou here doft breath. Goe, I conture thee, leaft I make thee feele The keeneft edge of Wraths reuenging fteele. Burthen the earth no more, thou hatefull Toade With fuch a pondrous earth-anoying loade, Goe with a vengeance goe, and ne're retire, But weare out Time in euerlafting fire. Enuic. O I could grind and grate thee with my teeth, L. No more thou Monfter; hence be gone forthwith: E. Confusion, death, plague, peftilence, and piles. Confound their foules who at mine anguith finiles, Yet, ere I goe, I'le bid the beft farewell, Hoping ere long to meete their Ghofts in hell. L. Goe vgly Monfter, Loues Mifanthropos, Sinke downe to tortour and continuall woes. Heau'n excludes thee; Earth abhors thy fight. And greeues to beare the burthen of thy weight.

Sinke

Sinke to her center, there's thy Natiue reft, And neuer more be feene to fpot her breft: So, haft thee hence; and hence-forth I'le direct My fpeech to thofe, whom I doe beft affect:

Loue bids you welcome that are come in loue, To fee our fports that *Enuie* doth reproue.

I o y.

ENuie auaunt, thou art no fit Compeere T'affociate thefe our fweet Confociats heere. *Ioy* doth exclude thee, who (to thy difgrace) Here fpets Defiance in thy vgly face. And that is more; thy euerlafting fhame Shall be still blafted by the Trumpe of *Fame* : The powrefull tongue of facund *Mercury*, Shall to the world difplay thy Infamy. Chefter abhors thy prefence; Britaine hates thee; And for a damned fury, *Camber* takes thee. *Peace*, as a Herrald, fhall proclaime to All, That thou art damn'd by Iuffice-Generall. *Plenty* detefts thy bafe Society, VVho fcornes thy hell-bred groffe impietie. And laft of all, My Loue, in Loues defence In fpight of *Enuie*, fhall fend *Enuie* hence. Wherefore auaunt; that all the I'le may fing,

Now Enuies gone, in peace w'enioy our King.

After the running of the Horfes FAME fpeakes.

Which till Time ftayes his courfe fhall glitter bright, Maugre Detraction and fell Enuies fpight

BRITAINE to him that wan the beft Bell.

IN figne of victory which thou haft gain'd, This VV reath by thy faire front fhall be fuftain'd. VV hofe greene leau'd branches vnto *Fame* fhall tell That thou didft beft deferue the better Bell.

CAMBER to the fecond.

TO crowne thy Temples with a fecond vvreath, Loe here doth *Camber* vnto thee bequeath This fragrant Garland : fith thou didft excell The beft that ran but at the fecond Bell.

RVMOR to him that wan the Ring.

Thou that by either cunning, or by chaunce, Didft take the Ring with thy thrice happy Launce: Here take of me (to raife thy vertues vp) This vyreath of Balme, and pollifht filuer cup. *All together.* And fo we all in all your feuerall Graces, VVill with your fame o're-fill all times and places. D CHESTERS

CHESTERS laft Speech.

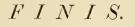
No Practize, though of high'ft preheminence That can efcape the Poliphemian eye Of Enuie, that for euer lookes awry: Yet notwithftanding on your Loues depending, Whofe patient eares excludes all reprehending, We here fubmit our felues in humbleft wife Before the barre of your indicious eyes, What we prefent vnto your dainty eares Is freed from fcandalls: fo is free from feares. Onely your Loues which are our faireft markes, Muft muzzle Enuie, when the Fury barkes Vnto the beft, we doubt not but our beft May purchase fauour; and for all the rest We doe expect but this poore kindneffe from them, That they would fpeake but what fhall well become them. This being graunted: Chefter doth inuite Each noble worthy, and each worthy Knight, To clofe their ftomacke with a finall repaft, Which may content a temperate curious taft. Meafure our ardent Loues, with fuch kinde meafure, As we afford you fport, and give you pleafure:

And fo wee'le leaue you with this folemne vow, That whilft we breath, our hearts fhall honour you.

TF any Reader fhall defire to know VVho was the Author of this pleafing flow :

Let him receaue aduertizement hereby A Sheriffe (late of *Chefter*) A M E R I E. Did thus performe it; who for his reward, Defires but Loue, and competent regard.

ROBERT AMERIE.





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DEDICATION, l. 3. "Palatines,"] i. e. Inhabitants of the Palatine city of Chester.

ADDRESS, l. 28. "Camber,"] i. e. Cambria, Wales.

BRIEFE RELATION, *l.* 4. "*Caer-leon.*"] Chester derived its name of Caer-leon, according to Higden in his *Polychronicon*, from an imaginary giant, called Leon Gawr or Vaur, the supposed founder, who is thus alluded to by Henry Bradshaw, a Benedictine monk of St. Werburgh's abbey, in that city, in his metrical *Life and History of St. Werburgh*, 4to, Pynson, 1521 :--

"The founder of the city, as saith Polychronicon, Was Leon Gawr, a mighty strong giant."

It was also so called from Caer and Leon, the city of legions — or Caerleon ar Dufyr dwy — the city of legions upon the waters of Dec, from the circumstance of the twentieth legion of the Romans being stationed here for so long a period, of whom the giant above mentioned is supposed to be a mere personification. Thus Bradshaw again :—

> "Another city of legions we find also In the west part of England, by the water of Dee, Called Caer-Leon of Britons long ago, After named Chester, by great authority."

So, also, Harding, in his metrical Chronicle, 4to: 1543, chap. 89, fol. lxxxiiii.

" In that same yere (603) of Chrystes incarnacion The Brytons all, dyd set their parlyament At Carlion, by good informacion Cairlegeocester hyght, as some men ment That Westchester is become of entent Where thei dyd chose, Cadwan unto their Kynge Them to defende, fro their fooes warryng."

Drayton has thus alluded to these traditions in his Polyolbion :--

"Fair Chester! calld of old Caerlegion — whilst proud Rome her conquests here did hold Of those her legions known, the faithful station then, So stoutly held to tack, by the near North-Wales men.

Yet by her own right name, she'd rather called be, As her the Britons term'd, the fortress upon Dee,— Or vainly she may seem a miracle to stand, Th' imaginary work of some huge Giant's hand."

PARTICULARS, 1. "carying an Auncient."] An ancient was a flag or standard. Thus Shakespeare, 1 Hen. iv. act. iv. sc. 2:--

" Ten times more dishonourably ragged than an old fac'd ancient."

It was sometimes used for the officer who bore it, the ensign or standard bearer. Skinner, in his *Etymolog. Ling. Anglic.*, says that the word *ancient* is a corruption from ensign, signifying the same thing.

2. "called Greene-men."] The Green-men, or Savage men as they were called, were frequently introduced in the public shows or pageants, and appear to have been very popular. They were sometimes clothed entirely with skins, and sometimes they were decorated with leaves of oak, or covered with ivy. It was in such a character that Gascoigne, the poet, appeared on a sudden before Queen Elizabeth during her entertainment at Kenilworth Castle, to take her, as it were, by surprise. "For aboot nien a clock, at the hither part of the Chase, whear torchlight attended ; oout of the woods in her Maiestics return, rooughly came thear foorth Hombre Saluagio, with an Oken plant pluct up by the roots in his hande, himself forgrone all in moss and Iuy; who, for parsonage, gesture, and utterauns beside, countenaunst the matter too very good liking, and had speech to effect."- See Robert Lancham's or Langham's Letter from Killingwoorth Castle, Svo. b. 1. 1575, p. 18. --- Strutt, speaking of these Green-men, says they "were men whimsically attired and disguised with droll masks, having large staves or clubs, headed with cases of crackers." In his thirty-second Plate he has given at the bottom a representation, from Bate's Book of Fireworks, 1635, of a green-man, equipped in his proper habit, and flourishing his fire-club ; and at the top a savage man, or wode house, a character very common in the pageants of former times, and probably resembling the wild men .---- In the second part of George Whetstone's very rare play of The Historie of Promos and Cassandra, 4to. 1578, after introducing some preparations for a pageant, act i. sc. 4., it is thus described in sc. 5 :--

' Be.	The Wardens of the Marchantaylers are
200	
	Where (with themselves) they shall their Pageaunt place:
Phal.	With what strange showes, doo they their Pageaunt grace.
Be.	They have Hercules, of monsters conqueryng,
	Huge great Gianls, in a forest fighting,
	With Lyons, Beares, Wolves, Apes, Foxes, and Grayes,
	Baiards, Brockes, &c.
Phal.	O wondrous frayes.
	Marry Syr, since they are prouided thus
	Out of their wayes, God keepe Maister Pediculus."

Then enter, Sc. 6, "Two men apparrelled, lyke greene men at the Mayor's feast, with clubbes of fyre worke, --

peare,
h ease.

It appears from this that the green-men were frequently employed to attend the pageants, and to clear the way for the royal and other principal personages in the procession.—See Strutt's Sports and Pastimes of the People of England, 4to. 1810, pp. 224 and 334, and the Introduction, p. xxiv.

2. "an artificiall Dragon."] An artificial dragon was as necessary and important a figure in these ancient Pageants, as a giant was in the procession at a Lord Mayor's Show. Representations of this kind found particular favour in the eyes of our ancestors, and the lively and graphic description of the dragon's death here given, "bleeding, fainting, and staggering, as though he endured a feeling paine, even at the last gaspe," and pursued by the "huge, savage-like Greene-men, bearing Herculian clubbes in their hands," no doubt contributed much "to the great pleasure of the spectators." Among the payments for these shows, still existing in the Harleian MSS. in the British Museum, there are several entries relating to this subject of the dragon. Among others, is an agreement between Sir Lawrence Smith, mayor of Chester, and two artists —

"For the annual painting of the city's four giants, one unicorn, one dromedarye, one luce, one asse, one dragon, six hobby-horses, and sixteen naked boys."
"For painting the beasts and hobby-horses, 43s. 0d."

In 1657 -

" For the making new the dragon, 5s. - and for six naked boys to beat at it, 6s."

See Lysons's Chesh. p. 583-4. "On Midsummer eve it was customary annually at Burford, in Oxfordshire, to carry a dragon up and down the town, with mirth and rejoicing ; to which they also added the picture of a giant. Dr. Plot tells us, this pageantry was continued in his memory, and says it was established, at least the dragon part of the show, in memory of a famous victory obtained near that place by Cuthred, King of the West Saxons, over Ethelbald, King of Mercia, who lost his standard, surmounted by a golden dragon, in the action." — See Strutt's Sports and Pastimes, p. 319. We are informed that at this day a dragon is still continued to be carried before the mayor at the annual procession in the city of Norwich, which is afterwards laid up and preserved in St. Andrew's Hall. The

reader may see more on this subject in the *Introduction* to Mr. Fairholt's interesting volume on *The History of Lord Mayors' Pageants*, printed for the Percy Society in 1841. See pp. xxxvii. &c. &c.

7. "Haroldized,"] i. e. heraldized or blazoned.

22. "the Roodes."] From the Anglo-Saxon pobe, Crux, a cross or crucifix. See Note in the Preface, p. vi.

FAME, l. S. "Lets,"] i. e. hindrances or impediments.

" All lets are now removed." Micocrosmus.

See Nares's Glossary.

L. 9. "famouzed,"] i. e. celebrated.

"The painfull warrior famosed for worth." Shakesp. Sonnet 25.

See Nares's Glossary for other instances.

L. 14. "the Gods Embassadour,"] i. e. Mercury.

CHESTER, l. 2. " whose worth self Worth admires,"] i. e. Worth itself.

L. 10. "scathe."] Hurt, destruction.

L. 17. "entertaine,"] i. e. entertainment.

L. 41. "three piled green."] A metaphor from the pile of velvet, signifying the finest and most perfect green. Thus Shakesp. Love's Labours Lost. Act v. sc. 2:

" Three-piled hyperboles."

See Douce's Illustrations, vol. i. p. 240.

L. 49. "surquedrie."] Pride or presumption, from the old French word surcuiderie. "Hoc a Sur, super, et cuider, cogitare, imaginari sc. vitium ejus qui nimis magnifice de se sentit."—Chaucer thus defines it in his Persone's Tale: "Presumption is when a man undertaketh an emprise that him ought not to do, or elles that he may not do; and this is called surquidrie."—It is used here for excess, as in the following passage :—

> "That which I deemed Bacchus' surquedry, Is grave, and staied, civill sobrietie." Marston's Sat. i. 5.

See, also, other instances in Nares's Glossary.

BRITAINE, l. 14. " vaile."] To bow with submission, to yield, to give place.

CAMBRIA, l. 19. "Denoire."] Duty or service.

L. 25. "memorize."] To record, to render memorable. Thus Shakespeare :--

"From her Will fall some blessing to this land, which shall In it be *memoriz'd*.

Hen. viii. act iii. sc. 2.

RUMOR, l. 28. "imbarne."] To enclose or shut up.

PEACE, *l*. 9. "surcease."] To cease; a common Shakesperian word, though now obsolete : —

"I will not do't Lest I surcease to honour mine own truth." Coriolanus, act iii. sc. 2.

ENULE, l. 12. "Thou envious Bandogge."] A mastiff or bull-dog, kept chained or tied up on account of his ferocity, and therefore, properly band-dog.—Cole, in his Dictionary, 1679, renders it canis catenatus.— Thus introduced by Shakespeare, in his description of night :—

> "The time when screech-owls cry, and *ban-dogs* howl, And spirits walk, and ghosts break np their graves." 2 K. Henry vi, act i. sc. 4.

L. 31. "all amort."] "All amort, ut dicimus de viro præ nimis profundis cogitationibus quasi obstupescente, et ecstasi abrepto, a Fr. G. amorti part. verbi amortir, morte extinguere." Skinner. — Half dead, drooping, dejected, from the French a la mort. — Thus used by Shakespeare : —

> Tal. "What all a-mort?" 1 K. Henry vi. act iii. sc. 2. "How fares my Kate? What, sweeting, all amort." Taming of the Shrew, act iv. sc. 3.

L. 52. "Marmeset."] A marmoset, a small monkey; from the French marmouset, marmot, It. Marmotta.

L. S4. "tortour."] Torture.

BRITAINE, l. 4. "thou didst best deserve the better Bell."] The Bell appears to have been first given as a prize to be ran for during the mayoralty of Henry Gee, in the 31st year of King Henry the Eighth, A.D. 1539. It is probable that the old

adage, "to bear the bell," was derived from this custom of running for a bell as a prize, from whence the following epitaph :---

"Here lyes the man whose horse did gaine The *bell*, in race on Salisbury plain." *Camden's Rem.* p. 348.

The races were formerly called bell courses, because, as we see above, the prize was a silver bell. The bell and the bowl formerly contended for at the ancient Chester races have long since been changed into the ordinary prizes at such meetings.

If any Reader shall desire to know Who was the Author of this pleasing show : Let him receaue aduertizenent hereby A Sheriffe (late of Chester) AMERIE. Did thus performe it; who for his reward, Desires but Loue, and competent regard.

ROBERT AMERIE.]

These last six lines were probably composed by Amery himself, as the address or l'envoy to the reader, at that period frequently subjoined to poems and other works from the author. They are not intended to convey to the reader the idea that he was the writer of the verses in this little work, which we have already shown were composed by Richard Davies "the poet," but that he was "the author" or "contriver of this pleasing show," and that it was celebrated under his superintendence. Without giving the whole account of the exhibition, as drawn up in the hand-writing of Mr. Amery himself, and still preserved among the Harl. MSS., No. 2150, folio 356, which varies in some degree from the one in the present volume, and which may be seen both in Lysons's Mag. Brit., p. 589, and more correctly in Ormerod's Hist. Chesh. vol. 1, p. 297, we quote the concluding address by Amery, because the lines are totally different from the present :—

"When all is done, then judge what you have seene, and soe speak on yo" mynd, as you fynde. The actor for the p'sent

ROBERT AMORY.

Amor is love and Amory is his name That did begin this pomp and princelye game, The charge is great to him that all begun, Let him be satisfyed now all is done."

Mr. Ormerod says, "The last line has been erased, and in the hand-writing of one of the Randle Holmes is substituted this line, not very creditable to the corrector-

"Who now is sattisfied to see all so well done."

MANCHESTER : PRINTED BY CHARLES SIMMS AND CO. Chetham



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Sharp, John, Lancaster

Sharp, Robert C., Bramall Hall, Cheshire

Sharp, Thomas B., Manchester

- Sharp, William, Lancaster
- Sharp, William, London

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Townend, Thomas, Polygon, Manchester

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Yates, Joseph B., West Dingle, Liverpool Yates, Richard, Manchester DR. WILLIAM LANGTON, Treasurer, in account with the Chetham Society, 1843.

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1843.		L. S.	D.	184	3.		L.	s.	D
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WORKS PUBLISHED BY THE CHETHAM SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR 1843.

Brereton's Travels.

Chester's Triumph in Honor of her Prince.

The Lancashire Civil War Tracts.

WORKS IN THE PRESS.

Pott's Discovery of Witches in the County of Lancaster, from the edition of 1613.

The Life of the Rev. Adam Martindale, Vicar of Rostherne, in Cheshire, from the MS. in the British Museum. (4239 Ascough's Catalogue.)

Dee's Compendious Rehearsal, and other Autobiographical Tracts, not included in the recent Publication of the Camden Society edited by Mr. Halliwell, with his Collected correspondence.

Iter Lancastrense, by Dr. Richard James; an English Poem, written in 1636, containing a Metrical Account of some of the Principal Families and Mansions in Lancashire; from the unpublished MS. in the Bodleian Library, Oxford.

WORKS SUGGESTED FOR PUBLICATION.

Selections from the Unpublished Correspondence of the Rev. John Whittaker, Author of the History of Manchester, and other Works.

More's (George) Discourse concerning the Possession and Dispossession of Seven Persons in one Family in Lancashire, from a Manuscript formerly belonging to Thoresby, and which gives a much fuller Account of that Transaction than the Printed Tract of 1600; with a Bibliographical and Critical Review of the Tracts in the Darrel Controversy.

A Selection of the most Curious Papers and Tracts relating to the Pretender's Stay in Manchester in 1745, in Print and Manuscript. Proceedings of the Presbyterian Classis of Manchester and the Neighbourhood, from 1646 to 1660, from an Unpublished Manuscript.

Catalogue of the Alehemical Library of John Webster, of Clitheroe, from a Manuscript in the Rev. T. Corser's possession; with a fuller Life of him, and List of his Works, than has yet appeared.

Correspondence between Samuel Hartlib (the Friend of Milton), and Dr. Worthington, of Jesus College, Cambridge (a native of Manchester), from 1655 to 1661, on various Literary Subjects.

"Antiquities concerning Cheshire," by Randall Minshull, written A.D. 1591, from a MS. in the Gough Collection.

Register of the Lancaster Priory, from a MS. (No. 3764) in the Harleian Collection.

Selections from the Visitations of Lancashire in 1533, 1567, and 1613, in the Herald's College, British Museum, Bodleian, and Caius College Libraries.

Selections from Dodsworth's MSS. in the Bodleian Library, Randal Holmes's Collections for Lancashire and Cheshire (MSS. Harleian), and Warburton's Collections for Cheshire (MSS. Lansdown).

Annales Cestrienses, or Chronicle of St. Werburgh, from the MS. in the British Museum.

A Reprint of Henry Bradshaw's Life and History of St. Werburgh, from the very rare 4to. of 1521, printed by Pynson.

The Letters and Correspondence of Sir William Brereton, from the original MSS., in 5 vols. folio, in the British Museum.

A Poem, by Laurence Bostock, on the subject of the Saxon and Norman Earls of Chester.

Bishop Gastrell's Notitia Cestriensis, on the subject of the Ecclesiastical Antiquities of the Diocese of Chester, from the original MS.

History of the Earldom of Chester, collected by Archbishop Parker, entitled De Successione Comitum Cestriæ a Hugone Lupo ad Johannem Scotieum, from the original MS. in Ben'et College Library, Cambridge.

Volume of Funeral Certificates of Lancashire and Cheshire.

Volume of Early Lancashire and Cheshire Wills.

A Selection of Papers relating to the Rebellion of 1715, including Clarke's Journal of the March of the Rebels from Carlisle to Preston.

A Memoir of the Chetham Family, from original documents.

The Diary of the Rev. Henry Newcome, M.A., from the original MS. in the possession of his descendant, the Rev. Thomas Newcome, M.A., Rector of Shenley, Herts.

Lucianus Monacus de laude Cestrie, a Latin MS. of the 13th century, descriptive of the walls, gates, &c., of the City of Chester, formerly belonging to Thomas Allen, DD., and now in the Bodleian Library, Oxford.

Richard Robinson's Golden Mirrour, Bk. lett. 4to. Lond., 1580. Containing Poems on the Etymology of the names of several Cheshire Families; from the exceedingly rare copy formerly in the collection of Richard Heber, Esq., (see Cat. pt. iv. 2413,) and now in the British Museum.

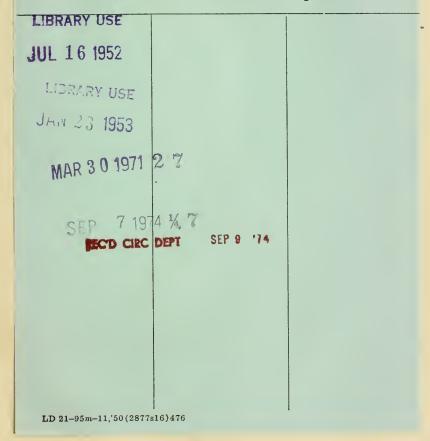
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