

At **HAMPTON COURT**, Middlesex.

Jan 1, Sat New Year gifts (an incomplete Roll).

Among more than 130 gifts to the Queen:

by Sir Gilbert Dethick, Garter King of Arms:

'A Book of Arms of the Knights of the Garter made in the time of King Henry the Eighth, covered with crimson velvet and passamain lace of gold';

by Sir Richard Lee: 'A very fair looking-glass of crystal set in a large frame of walnut-tree gilt with Nine Muses fair wrought out of alabaster and pillars of marble. Hanged in the gallery at Hampton Court';

by Mrs Dane [the Queen's linen-drapeer, a widow]: 'A cushionet very fair embroidered with Dame Flora in the midst and half a piece of lawn';

by William Huggins: 'Twelve sweet bags of sarcenet of sundry colours and a large sweet bag very fair embroidered with a queen having the sun in her hand, the beams spreading abroad';

by Doctor Julio: 'Six books of Italian printed';

by Levina Teerlinc: 'A carte [map] painted upon a card of her Majesty and divers other personages'.^{NYG}

Also Jan 1: play, by Earl of Leicester's Men.^T

Revels paid for: 'long poles with brushes for chimney-sweepers in my Lord of Leicester's men's play and for moss and sticks and other implements for them; four loads of timber for the rock which Mr Ross made for my Lord of Leicester's men's play'.

Court news. Jan 2, London, French Ambassador, La Mothe, to Catherine de Medici, concerning Lord North's complaints about the French court (December 1574): 'I judge, Madame, that if you will be pleased to write a word in your own hand to the Queen...and will assure her that there was no derision nor mockery of her nor the late King her father...everything between the two of you will be on as good terms as ever'

Jan 2, La Mothe to Henri III: 'I went on the first day of the month to give New Year greetings to the Queen at Hampton Court...The Queen and her principal Councillors have so earnestly prayed me to remember to your Majesty... Mr Warcop's business...As well as the justice of his cause, he is a worthy gentleman and is very much esteemed by the Queen and the whole court'.

Thomas Warcop, a Gentleman Pensioner, sought restitution for a wheat-ship confiscated by the French; on February 10 La Mothe called him 'a gentleman singularly loved and wished well by the Queen'. [vi.344,349-350,374].

Jan 2, Sun play, by Lord Clinton's Men.^T

Jan 4: death. Sir William Pickering (c.1516-1575), died at Pickering House, London. Funeral certificate: Sir William died 'after the course of many years well spent in the loyal service of his prince and country'.

Bequest to the Queen: 'I will that my executors provide a jewel to the value of two hundred marks, the same to be garnished, decked, and set with stones, to be given and presented unto her Majesty. And I will that my agate of a black and a white be parcel thereof'. Sir William, who was unmarried, but had an illegitimate daughter, made many bequests to 'my daughter Hester Pickering', and left his armoury and library 'to such one as shall match in marriage' with her.

Funeral: Jan 29, St Helen Bishopsgate, with payments 'for the great bell', 5s; and for Sir William's burial, 40s. His monument remains in the church.

His daughter Hester married Edward Wotton, 1st September 1575.

The Queen was godmother to their child (July 1578).

Jan 6, Thur play, by the Children of Windsor Chapel.^T *King Xerxes*.
 Revels: 'A periwig of hair for King Xerxes' sister in Farrant's play, 4s8d;
 the Armourer for lending of armour for Farrant's play and for attending the
 same, 11s4d'; Waxchandler: 'wax for a cake in Farrant's play, 3s6d'.
 Set in ancient Persia and Greece. Richard Farrant: Master of the Children.

Also Jan 6: masque: Pedlars; with gifts distributed by lottery.

Revels payments in December 1574: 'Mirrors or looking-glasses for the Pedlars' masque, 12 small at 2s the piece and 6 greater at 6s'. A Painter for 'fine black for the lots', 'fine yellow to write upon the mirrors'. 'Haberdasher's small ware for the Pedlars' masque': 'French pins and great pins; silk points braided; white and sweet English balls; gloves perfumed; silk twist; laces of silk; Venice balls sweet'. 'Staves bought of Carow [property-maker], one dozen'. 'Fair writing of posies for the masque, 6s8d'. 'Embroidering of six bands for hats for masquers richly wrought with Venice silver, and for silk and silver for the same, £4; gloves for players and masquers; Pedlars' caps; hire of a Mariner's whistle, 3s4d; bottles for Pilgrims two, 12d'. Bought in January: 'Nine little hampers at 20d the piece for the Pedlars' masque'.

Court news, of New Year gifts from and to Edward Manners, 3rd Earl of Rutland. Jan 7, London, Roger Wood to the Earl of Rutland, at Newark Castle, Notts:

'I have received £38, whereof I have delivered to the Lord Chamberlain for the Queen's New Year's gift £10 for you and £10 for my Lady. Therein I followed the advice of Mr Manners [Roger Manners, Esquire for the Body], who thought it good that you should give £10 apiece as you did last year. I have also delivered to the Lord Treasurer [Burghley] a double cup, all gilt, within and without, foot and all, with a very fair case. It weighed 47¾ ounces at 7s the ounce, and the whole price of the cup is £16.19s3d. He very gratefully accepted it'...

'On the 7th of January I received by the hands of one [Anthony] Marten, one of the Sewers, a cup with a cover all gilt, for a New Year's gift from the Queen to you, and by the hands of one Duck, one of the Cellar, a cup with a cover all gilt, for my Lady. I have given them no reward, but they are very desirous to have their reward'. PS. 'The two purses for the Queen's New Year's gifts were of crimson silk and gold, at 22d apiece'.^{RT}

Court news. Jan 19, La Mothe to Henri III: 'The Deputies from those who have risen at Languedoc had no sooner left for Avignon, without having done anything, than the supporters of the new religion who are here went at once to Hampton Court to the Queen and her Council'. [vi.357].

Jan 22: Queen's Letters Patent to Tallis and Byrd for printing music.
 'To all printers, booksellers...Know ye that we for the especial affection and goodwill that we have and bear to the science of music and for the advancement thereof...have granted' licence to Thomas Tallis and William Byrd, Gentlemen of our Chapel, 'for 21 years...to imprint any...set song or songs in parts, either in English, Latin, French, Italian or other tongues that may serve for music either in Church or chamber, or otherwise to be either played or sung'.
 'And that they may rule and cause to be ruled by impression any paper to serve for printing or pricking of any song or songs, and may sell and utter any printed books or papers of any song or songs'.

During 1575 Thomas Tallis (c.1505-1585) and William Byrd (c.1540-1623), of the Chapel Royal, composers and organists, published Cantiones...Sacrae. Latin dedication to the Queen. A collection of 34 Latin motets. At the end the Letters Patent are given, as above.

Court news. Jan 24, La Mothe to Henri III: 'The Earl of Oxford has obtained from the Queen leave to go to Italy, and he plans to depart in eight days and to go via France, intending to stay a month in Paris...He is the premier Earl and the Great Chamberlain of England'. [vi.361]. Edward de Vere, 17th Earl of Oxford (1550-1604), Burghley's son-in-law, was abroad February 1575-April 1576.

Jan 24, in Venice: death. Edward 3rd Lord Windsor (c.1532-1575), of Bradenham, Bucks, where the Queen stayed in September 1566. A Catholic, lived much abroad. Will (December 1572). Bequests include: To son Frederick:

'My chain of gold set with rubies which I had of the gift of the late Queen Mary when I came from St Quentin [battle, 1557]; a salt of gold and crystal which my Lord my father by his office as Lord Pantler of England had at the Coronation of Queen Mary'. [Pantler: ceremonial role in charge of Pantry].

Codicil to will, June 1573, at Spa. To be buried in Liège Cathedral.

'My heart to be enclosed in lead and sent into England to be buried in the Chapel of Bradenham under the tomb of my Lord and father in token of a true Englishman'. 'I do bequeath unto my Sovereign Lady and mistress Queen Elizabeth my Cross of Diamonds, in demonstration that in my life-time I lived to die, with demonstration to fight under the same banner, next to offer my body to be employed in any her Majesty's service, most humbly to desire her Majesty to be good to my poor wife and children'.

Newsletter, Venice, January: 'We are here in great grief by reason of the death of Milord Edward Windsor...beloved by all the city'. [SP Rome, ii.194].

Don Carrafa to Philip Sidney, Feb 3: 'Never in this city has such a funeral been seen...All the city mourns him, because he was loved by everyone'.

[Kuin, Sidney, 386-7]. A memorial Latin inscription remains in the church of St Giovanni and Paolo. His heart was brought back to Bradenham Church.

His son Frederick Windsor (1559-1585) became 4th Lord Windsor; in his own will he bequeathed again to the Queen the Cross of Diamonds (24 Dec 1585). The widowed Katherine (Vere), Lady Windsor, died in 1600.

Jan 25: christening. Queen was godmother to Lord Chandos's daughter. Parents: Giles Brydges, 3rd Lord Chandos; wife: Frances (Clinton), daughter of Edward Clinton 1st Earl of Lincoln. Anthony Light went from Hampton Court to 'Cowbarth in Gloucestershire, the Lord Chandos' to make ready.

Queen's Deputy: Lady Anne Askew (another daughter of the Earl).^T
Queen's gift, January 25: one cup of silver gilt with a cover.^{PS}

NYG, in error: January 10. Child: died in infancy.

Jan 25, Eton, William Barlow to Josiah Simler, in Zurich, of the Queen of Scots: 'We have nothing new here, unless it be a new thing to hold a wolf by the ears, or cherish a snake in one's bosom; which things have ceased to be novelties in this country: for the queen of the north, the plague of Britain, the prince of darkness in the form of a she-wolf, is still kept in custody among us'. [Zurich, 485].

Jan 27: Queen signed the Letters Patent for 'the Society of the New Art'. This was 'for the making of copper and quicksilver by way of transmutation', granted to Sir Thomas Smith, the Earl of Leicester, Lord Burghley, and Sir Humphrey Gilbert. Smith, the Queen's Secretary, and main promoter of the Society, was appointed for life as first Governor.

Jan 28, Smith to Lord Burghley: 'Yesterday by candlelight I got the Patent of the Society signed. And do make all the haste I can to have it passed the Signet and the Privy Seal and so to the Great Seal'.

Ten weeks later the scheme failed; all investors lost their money.
[Mary Dewar, Sir Thomas Smith, chapter on 'The Society of the Copper'].

Jan 31, Hampton Court, Sir Thomas Smith to Lord Burghley:

'Yesternight the Queen's Majesty said she would see all the letters which came from Ireland, and talk with Malby..In very deed, it is high time some conclusion were made..in that enterprise of Ulster. March and the Spring draweth fast on'.

Nicholas Malby (c.1530-1584), soldiering in Ireland, had just been sent to report to the Privy Council on the state of Ulster. [Ellis (2), iii.39].

Feb 2,Wed, Candlemas play, by the Children of Paul's.^T

Revels: 'at Candlemas for two bits...for the Hobby-horses'; feathermaker: 'a coat, a hat and buskins all over covered with feathers of colours for Vanity in Sebastian's play; skins to fur the hood in Sebastian's play; two sarcenet hoods for citizens'. Sebastian Westcott, Master of St Paul's Choir School.

Feb 3: death. John Carow, Property-maker for the Revels.

His widow was paid by the Revels for any debts due before Feb 3 for properties delivered, described by the Clerk as: 'monsters, mountains, forests, beasts, serpents, weapons for war as guns, dags, bows, arrows, bills, halberds, boar-spears, falchions, daggers, targets, pole-axes, clubs, heads and head-pieces, armour, counterfeit moss, holly, ivy, bays, flowers...glue, paste, paper and such like with nails, hoops, horsetails, dishes for devils' eyes, heaven, hell, and the devil and all the devil I should say but not all'. [Revels, 241].

In his life-time John Carow had regularly submitted even longer lists.

Feb 4: christening. Queen was godmother to 'Sir William Drury's son'.^T

Parents: William Drury; wife: Elizabeth (Stafford); married at court Nov 1573.

Anthony Wingfield went from Hampton Court to make ready at Durham Place.^T [Strand; Crown property]. Queen's gift, Feb 4: one pair of pots of silver and gilt, to 'Mr William Drury's child'.^{PS} NYG, in error: Feb 14.

Drury was knighted in 1575. 1st child: Robert Drury (1575-1615), born January 30 at Durham Place; married (1592) Anne Bacon (1572-1624).

c.Feb 5,Sat **RICHMOND PALACE**, Surrey.

Feb 6,Sun Richmond: Privy Council meeting.

Before the Queen moved to Richmond Anthony Wingfield, Gentleman Usher, was sent by the Lord Chamberlain 'from Hampton Court to Richmond to view the house there and also to appoint the lodgings and for making ready certain houses for the Officers of her Majesty's Household', 30s.^T

Whilst the Queen was at Richmond Simon Bowyer, Gentleman Usher, was sent by the Lord Chamberlain (Earl of Sussex, of Bermondsey, Surrey) 'from Bermondsey to Richmond with the book of lodgings and returned back again the next day with her Majesty's answer', 20s. Bowyer was sent 'Another time from Richmond to Cannon Row in Westminster with message from her Majesty to the Duchess of Somerset, and returned with answer thereof', £7.^T

Feb 13,Shrove Sunday play, by Children of the Chapel Royal.^T

Revels paid for: 'The French woman for her pains and her daughter's pains that went to Richmond and there attended upon Mr Hunnis's children and dressed their heads etc. when they played before her Majesty; the French woman's dinner that went with the hairs to dress children's heads; holly, ivy, fir-poles and moss for the rock in Mr Hunnis's play'; 3 horns, 3 collars, 3 leashes, 3 dog-hooks; 'with baldricks for the horns in Hunnis's play'. Hunnis: William Hunnis, Master of the Children of the Chapel Royal.

Feb 14,Shrove Monday play, by Earl of Warwick's Men.

Feb 15,Shrove Tuesday play, by Merchant Taylors School.^T

February 16-c.Nov 10: Thomas Wilkes was *Agent* with the Elector Palatine, Frederick III. Wilkes had instructions to go 'in as secret sort as he may', concerning a request by the Prince of Condé for a loan. His journey should be thought to be to meet Philip Sidney (who was abroad 1572-May 1575).

If Frederick considered peace in France to be impossible, the Queen would offer to lend him money to go to assist the Huguenots. [SPF.xi.15-17].
Wilkes was back in England May-June.

[Feb 16, from George Fermor's house, Easton Neston, Northants, near Grafton royal manor-house], Earl of Leicester to the Queen: 'It pleaseth you to hold your determination for your *petit* progress this next week...Nothing is better or more necessary for the increase of your health than convenient exercise... Among meet places for you, I think verily there is none that will be found more pleasant and healthful than this at Grafton which it hath pleased you to give order for repair and I trust shall be ready for you by the end of May. In the meantime other good places shall see you, which if they could speak would show how sorry they are that you have been so long from them...I wish of God for your Majesty above all earthly treasures your good health and long life...from your Majesty's old lodging at Farmor's Wednesday this xvii of Feb'. [SP15/20/21].

Court news. Feb 17 [Thursday], La Mothe to Henri III: 'Tomorrow I shall see the Queen at Richmond to give her details of the reply which your Majesty... has commanded me to make to her, concerning Lord North's unfortunate reports'... 'Monsieur de Méru is still here; he goes to court sometimes and the ministers treat with him, and he holds himself in readiness to return to Germany soon'.
The King and Queen Mother had sent La Mothe letters of explanation of what Lord North had complained of seeing at the French court in 1574. [vi.376-8].

Feb 18, Fri French Ambassador at Richmond for audience.
La Mothe to Henri III, Feb 21: I read the Queen letters from your Majesties, declaring Lord North's reports to be false; she appeared satisfied.
'The four ministers in London representing the Council of State of those of the new religion in France and Flanders have many times been at court, and have conferred with Mr Walsingham, Mr Randolph, Mr Killigrew and others of their faction'. PS. 'A courier from Dr Dale [English Ambassador] has just passed going to Richmond, with news of your Majesty's Coronation and marriage'.
[vi.378,380-381]. Henri III was crowned on Feb 13. The King (formerly one of the Queen's suitors) married Louise de Vaudémont on Feb 15.

Feb 21: News of John Seton, a younger son of George 5th Lord Seton. John Seton (c.1553-1594), from Scotland, visited the Earl of Leicester.
La Mothe, Feb 21: 'Lord Seton's son has come to Leicester at Kenilworth, with letters of recommendation from his father, and also very favourable letters from the Earl of Morton, and shows that he wishes to spend some time at the English court...which I cannot but have much suspicion of, as his father has always been held to be Catholic and a very faithful servant of the Queen of Scots. I suspect some secret practices'. [vi.381]. John Seton was at court in March and April.

Feb 22: *death*. Ambrosia Sidney (c.1565-1575), daughter of Sir Henry Sidney, Lord President of Wales, died at Ludlow, Shropshire. Funeral: St Lawrence, Ludlow, where her monument remains, erected after her parents died in 1586.
The Queen wrote a letter of condolence to Sir Henry ('Good Sidney'), saying that 'we take part of your grief upon us', and inviting him to send to court Mary Sidney (aged 13), the only survivor of his four daughters. If you 'will send her unto us before Easter, or when you shall think good, assure yourself that we will have a special care of her'. [Wallace, 149-150]. Mary spent two years at court before marrying the Earl of Pembroke there in April 1577.

Court news. Feb 28, La Mothe to Catherine de Medici: The Queen believed that Lord North misunderstood what he saw at the French court, in particular two dwarfs. 'She heard they were very pretty and very well dressed, and she would like to see them, and if it pleased you to make her a present of one she would accept her gladly'. [vi.388]. Elizabeth's French dwarf: see 12 April 1577.

March 4: News of proposed summer progress to York.

March 4, Bishopsthorpe, Archbishop of York (Edmund Grindal) to the Archbishop of Canterbury (Matthew Parker): 'We are here now in certain expectation of her Majesty's progress into these parts the next summer. The Lord Treasurer hath so signified to my Lord President. It shall be a great comfort to us all to see her Majesty among us, and to me especially; only I am sorry that my ability is so small as it is. I shall strain myself to the uttermost, trusting that my goodwill shall be accepted, where ability faileth...I pray your Grace, send me some notes of instruction, both of charges for one or two days' diet, etc., and for other circumstances, especially at what place her Highness is to be met by me, at the entry of my Diocese, or otherwise'. [Grindal, 354]. Reply: March 17.

See 'Proposed progresses: 1575' for preparations in the Midlands and York.

Mar 6, Sun sermon, Richmond: Richard Curteys, Bishop of Chichester.

Text: Judges 1:11-13, Israel's victories under Judah and Simeon.

Curteys warned of the advance of the Turks; exhorted the court to forsake 'superstitious...Romanists'; warned against intermarriage with Catholics.

He reviewed the history of the Tudors and the Protestant Church.

God had led his people out of 'the Egypt of error, blindness, and superstition' by his 'noble Moses', King Henry VIII, who had seen the true church 'but did not go over Jordan to it'. Edward VI was the Joshua who had led the way into the Promised Land, but under Queen Mary the people 'forgot the Lord their God'. From prison and exile the children of God 'cried to the Lord which raised up a gracious Deborah, by whom God...caused his Church of England to prosper in health, wealth, peace, policy, learning, religion, and many good gifts and graces'. [Printed, 1575].

March 6, Richmond, at night, Sir Thomas Smith (Queen's Secretary) to Lord Burghley: 'Your Lordship have good cause to marvel that I have not written of any resolution for the matter of Ulster. But also what can I write, when I can have none with daily attending, for the most part three or four times in the day? It maketh me weary of my life...I neither can get the other letters signed, nor the letter already signed...permitted to be sent away, but day by day, and hour by hour, deferred till anon, soon, and tomorrow'...

'I would some other man occupied my room, who had more credit to get things resolved, signed, and things necessary resolved in time'. [Wright, ii.1-2].

March 7, Richmond, Smith to Lord Burghley: 'For matters of state I will write as soon as I can have any access to her Majesty, the which, as it was when your Lordship was here, sometime so, sometime no, and all times ready to stays and revocation. So it is now...This irresolution doth weary and kill her ministers, destroy her actions and overcome all good designs and counsels - no letters touching Ireland, although read and allowed by her Majesty, yet can I get signed. I wait whilst I neither have eyes to see or legs to stand upon. And yet these delays grieve me more and will not let me sleep in the night'...

'For private matters and suits I have the same success. They increase daily. Yea nor nay can I get, and as I hear her Majesty hath forbidden Mr [Christopher] Hatton and my Lord of Leicester to move suits. Then had we need within a while to have a horse or an ass to carry bills after us, increasing daily and never dispatched'. [BL Harl 6991.f.61].

March 7, Richmond, Dr Richard Master to Lord Burghley, of his daughter the Countess of Oxford: 'Having her Majesty this Monday morning in the chamber at the gallery's end next to the Green, sitting alone, I said...that seeing it had pleased your Majesty often times to enquire tenderly after my Lady of Oxford's health, it is now fallen out so (God be thanked) that she is with child evidently...Herewithal she arose, or rather sprang up from the cushions, and said these words..."I protest to God that next to them that have interest in it, there is nobody can be more joyous of it than I am". Later 'she repeated my Lord of Oxford's answer to me, which he made openly in the Presence Chamber to her Majesty, viz. that if she were with child it was not his. I answered that it was the common answer of lusty courtiers everywhere so to say'. [Nelson, 122].

[The Queen was godmother to the baby, Elizabeth (July 10). The Earl of Oxford at first acknowledged paternity, but after his return from abroad in April 1576 refused to live with his wife and child for several years].

March 8 [Richmond], Earl of Leicester to Francis Walsingham, of John Seton, who came to him at Kenilworth: 'I see he is one that will soon be acquainted in our court, and can well apply himself to please all parties. He has been very well brought up, and a very good wit. Her Majesty could be content he made no long abode here'. [Scot.v.98-99].

Mar 10,Thur Queen's meeting with Dr John Dee, Mortlake, Surrey.

Dr Dee (1527-1609), astrologer, mathematician, antiquary, owner of a celebrated library, whose wife Katherine had just died. Dee: 'The Queen's Majesty, with her most honourable Privy Council, and other her lords and nobility, came purposely to have visited my library, but finding that my wife was within four hours before buried out of the house, her Majesty refused to come in, but willed me to fetch my glass so famous, and to show unto her some of the properties of it, which I did. Her Majesty being taken down from her horse (by the Earl of Leicester, Master of the Horse, by the church wall of Mortlake), did see some of the properties of that glass, to her Majesty's great contentment and delight, and so in most gracious manner did thank me'. [Dee, *Rehearsal*, 17].

[Dee re-married. When he and his 2nd wife were living in Bohemia he gave to Edward Kelley, 4 Dec 1588, 'my glass, so highly and long esteemed of our Queen and of the Emperor Rudolph the Second'. It was then given to the Emperor.^D

Another of Dee's 'glasses' is in the British Museum].

Court news. March 11, La Mothe to Henri III: 'I have these past days presented to the Queen, on behalf of the Queen of Scots...three little night coffers, worked with her own hand, with a very gracious letter'. The Queen 'after making some excuse for not being able to accept them, told me that I would be too amazed if I knew the conclusions people had drawn from other little presents which she had already received at my hands from the Queen of Scots, and from what she on her part had considered sending to her, as if the Queen of Scots had drawn a promise from her to intervene to restore her by force, and they are acknowledging it thus with mutual gifts to one another... She accepted her present, but prayed me to remind the Queen of Scots that she was several years older than her, and that those who were advancing in years willingly took with both hands, and gave with only one finger'.

March 14, La Mothe to Henri III: After having news of the impending visit of a French special Ambassador 'I at once sent to court to ask for one of the Queen's warships to take M.de la Châtre from Boulogne, so that he can cross more safely and come to no harm on the sea in getting here. They readily agreed to send two passenger vessels there from Dover, the best equipped that could be, considering the time and the haste. I am now sending word to M.de la Châtre to stay for a little at Boulogne, awaiting the two ships, without putting himself at the mercy of the many pirates who usually wait in that channel'. [vi.397-399].

March 17, Lambeth, Archbishop of Canterbury (Matthew Parker) to Archbishop of York, in response to his request, March 4: 'Concerning the information of her Majesty coming into your country, it is like to be true. As for my doing, that shall not need to be an example to your Grace...but I think verily your goodwill will be taken, as her Highness did very lovingly accept my service'. Parker then describes his reception of the Queen at Folkestone and Canterbury in 1573. [Parker, 475]. Quoted: 1573 August 25; September 3,7.

c.March 19: Antonio de Guaras with the Queen, in Surrey.
Spanish merchant, resident in London; writer of newsletters to Spain.

March 19, De Guaras to Secretary Zayas: 'The Queen was walking a long way from the palace of Richmond (where she is staying) surrounded by her courtiers and nobles, when she caught sight of me from afar and stopped and called me by name, telling me I was welcome'.

'I, walking always behind the Queen, and she talking to me, the rest of the company being quite apart...we talked of many things, and amongst others, she said she greatly wished she knew Spanish well, as although she understood it perfectly, and read it, she did not at all times venture to speak it. I replied that everyone said she spoke it perfectly, as she did French, Italian and Latin, and it would be a compliment to our nation if she spoke it. She said for that reason she would try to learn it thoroughly, and was royally gracious'...

'During much of the time she dwelt upon the constant complaints that were made by her subjects respecting the imprisonment of Englishmen in Spain by the Inquisition. She spoke about the matter rather warmly, and off her guard said "I promise ye that my father would not have put up with it". [Span.ii.491-2].

March 21, Dr Thomas Wilson (returning from Antwerp and France) to Lord Burghley: I am sending ahead of me a Neapolitan horse I have bought, and a goshawk I have been given. I hope a Queen's ship will meet me at Dunkirk 'to avoid the danger of pirates who swarm upon the seas'. [KL.vii.476].

March 23, Paris, Dr Dale to Lord Burghley: 'There is much difficulty made at this court for the passing of La Châtre. The Queen has sent as good ships for his conduct as her own ambassadors have had. Though the French never conduct any of her Majesty's, yet it is thought not enough'. [SPF.xi.32].

Court news. March 24, London, La Mothe to Henri III:

'Two ships from Dover, which the Queen ordered for M.de la Châtre, arrived at Boulogne on March 16 to bring him over here, but he judged that they were inadequate and not well enough equipped to save him from the pirates lying in wait to rob him. So next day he sent one of his men back here to obtain other better armed and stronger ships, or some better orders from the Queen to make his passage secure. I then immediately sent to the Queen about this, and within the hour she ordered Lord Cobham to dispatch his brother or some other gentleman of good quality to sea with the best and best equipped ships which in this great haste could be found, to escort M.de la Châtre and his company here, safely and without danger; which was at once done. I calculate that by now the whole company will have crossed, and that tomorrow at the latest they will arrive in London, where the Queen is also coming with her whole court for Easter'...

'Lord Seton's son, who is here...came to me very secretly and at night, to avoid suspicion, and assured me that his father and the principal lords, and even most of the Scottish nobility, remain constant to the alliance with France and in the affection of good subjects towards their Queen, but they keep this hidden in their hearts'. [vi.403-4].

Mar 25,Fri **ST JAMES'S PALACE.**

c. March 27: French special Ambassador, La Châtre, at St James's Palace. La Châtre, Governor of Bourges, a noted general, was sent by King Henri III to inform the Queen officially of his Coronation and marriage, and for her renewal of the Treaty of Blois, made in 1572 with the previous King, which Henri renewed on April 30. La Châtre was in England for two weeks.

Richard Brackenbury, Gentleman Usher, with seven men 'daily and nightly attending upon him and his train at his lodging where her Majesty did defray all his charges and table'.^T

c. March 27: French special Ambassador at St James for first audience. Simon Bowyer 'making ready at St James and Whitehall' and 'double hanging all the lodgings there against the French Ambassador's coming thither'.^T

Court news. March 31, La Mothe to Henri III, of La Châtre:

'The Queen commanded Lord Cobham's brother and other English gentlemen to go to Calais to bring him here; since then she has had him very honourably received at Dover and at Canterbury and everywhere he went, by much of the country's nobility; and she sent young Hunsdon her kinsman [Sir George Carey] to meet him a day from here, and her own barges to take him from Gravesend to London, where his reception was even grander and more honourable than elsewhere. He and his whole company are well lodged and very well treated at the Queen's expense, and are visited often by lords and gentlemen from court, who have escorted us to her once, with order and ceremony. And she, with order and magnificence, received him very favourably and gave him a very kind audience, and showed that both embassy and ambassador were very acceptable to her...His train are behaving very modestly, so that the whole court is edified by them'...

'An ambassador from the King of Spain [Jean de Boisshot] arrived here a very few hours after M. de la Châtre'. [vi.406].

Mar 31, Maundy Thursday ceremonies and alms-giving, at Whitehall Palace.

By the Queen, with Edmund Freake, Bishop of Rochester, Queen's Almoner; to 41 poor women, each 20s in a red purse and 4d in a white purse.

William Treasurer, Tuner of the Queen's Instruments, and his three servants, carried 'a pair of organs from St James to Whitehall against the Maundy'.^T

St Margaret Westminster: 'Paid for ringing when the Queen's Majesty came from St James to Whitehall to the Maundy', 18d.

Apr 1, Good Friday Queen 'renewed' the Treaty of Blois, at St James's. La Châtre witnessed the renewal of the Treaty of mutual defence made in 1572 with King Charles IX, brother of the present King of France. [SPF.xi.53].

Easter Week (began April 3): bear-baiting, at St James's Palace.^T

April 4, Queen's warrant to the Keeper of Westminster Palace to deliver 'One remnant of carnation silk gold and silver containing 17 yards...to be delivered of our gift unto the Lord Talbot. And one remnant of murrey satin raised with black velvet containing 13¾ yards to be delivered of our gift unto the Lady Talbot'. [BL Add MS 5751A, f.89].

Gifts to the Earl of Shrewsbury's son, Francis Lord Talbot, and his wife.

April 7: Queen's gift to Monsieur de la Châtre: one chain of gold.^{NYG} William Scarlet, Master of the Barges, and other watermen 'attending of the French Ambassador and his train by her Majesty's commandment from Gravesend to London with certain barges and during the time of his abode at London until his return to Gravesend again'.^T *The Bark of Boulogne* (Anthony Fowler, Master) took La Châtre to Calais.^N Lord Cobham was paid £27, Nov 1, for 'the furniture of two ships' for 'transporting and safe conducting' of La Châtre.^{APC}

April 7: *Councillor Boisshot at St James's Palace from the Low Countries. Jean de Boisshot, in England from March-September on a special embassy from Requesens, Spanish Governor. He was previously in England in Feb-Oct 1574.*

Dr Thomas Wilson, on a special embassy to the Low Countries, wrote to Lord Burghley: Feb 1, Antwerp: 'Touching an Ambassador, the King mindeth to send one very shortly, and the Advocate-Fiscal doth think to be the man, whom I assure your Lordship I do not like, for he is no apt man to maintain peace betwixt the Princes, he is so wilful and in trifles will find himself so grieved'; Feb 14: 'The Advocate-Fiscal hath done bad offices since his return out of England'; March 13: Boisshot is now sworn for life one of the Council at Brussels, his son-in-law being Advocate-Fiscal. 'I have promised to stay at Dunkirk, that we may go both together'. [KL.vii.436,450,472].

La Mothe to Henri III, March 11: 'They bring many overtures to put back the old trade and everything else between these countries on the same close terms as ever'. [vi.395].

Letters and dispatches concerning Boisshot's embassy are printed by Kervyn de Lettenhove, vol.vii; those in French are given here in English versions. [KL].

April 7, Thur Councillor Boisshot at St James for first audience. Boisshot made requests on behalf of King Philip II of Spain.

He was charged to demand that the Queen would expel all the King's rebellious subjects from her dominions, and forbid her own subjects from trading with or affording any assistance to those in the Low Countries. [KL].

April 10, St James, Council letter 'to the Masters and Governors of Bridewell to receive into their keeping one Robert Knight, taken as a rogue about the court speaking very lewd words not meet to be suffered, to be there kept until it may be examined whether he spoke it of madness or malice, and to use him as by their discretion should be thought meet'.^{APC}

April 11, St James, Queen to Walter Devereux, Earl of Essex (1539-1576), after she decided on 'the dissolution of the enterprise of Ulster':

'We have thought good to signify to you that by all your actions we have great cause to think you a rare treasure of our realm and a principal ornament of our nobility'...

'Your doings...we confess to have been hitherto bold and courageous, full of virtue and manliness, and for your years and experience as wise and discreet as ever any nobleman was'. [Carew, 1575-1588, 7-8].

April 14, St James: The Queen lost 'one button of gold like ciphers... from a French gown of black wrought velvet the ground satin'. [Lost, 190].

Court news. April 14, London, Thomas Randolph [to Regent Morton]:

'There came hither of late...Lord Seton's son, whom my Lord [Leicester] uses well in court and all other places...He is not minded to retain Seton long'...

'Monsieur de la Châtre has lately been here from France. His usage has been better than the opinion is of any man here of his virtue or well deserving'.

April, London, Francis Walsingham to Regent Morton:

'La Châtre has been of late sent here from the French King to confirm the late league made with his brother. Which being done he has returned homeward with great contentation, for that he was very honourably received'.

[Scot.v.115-116].

Apr 15, Fri French Ambassador at St James's Palace for audience.
 April 15, La Mothe to Henri III: 'I have just been telling the Queen...that I came very humbly to kiss her hands and to give her many thanks for how she treated M.de la Châtre and the French gentlemen in his company. They will relate to your Majesty that in no other part of the world have they been treated better nor made more of than they have been here, nor so graciously received as they were by her, being one of the most virtuous and courteous princesses the world has or possibly will have for a long time...The other French gentlemen when I said adieu to them begged me all with one voice that in their name I would kiss her royal hands, and they would think it great happiness if some day, with your Majesty's leave, they could be employed in something for her honour and her service, for they would not spare either their lives nor their persons'...

'The Queen...showing more than ordinary pleasure and contentment, replied that...she never remembered to have been more fully satisfied with any negotiation in her life than with this'...

'In Ireland there has arisen a great altercation between the Earl of Essex and Mr Fitzwilliam, the Lord Deputy of that country, by reason of which both have sent men to this court; and the Council has met three times in front of the Queen, who notwithstanding that she bears great favour to Essex, who married a very close relative of hers, I understand does not wish to support him, and I am told that he has been revoked'. [vi.409-412].

The Earl of Essex had married Lettice Knollys, the Queen's cousin. He was not revoked, but Sir William Fitzwilliam was replaced in summer 1575.

Court news. April 16, John Kniveton to the Earl of Shrewsbury:

'It is thought her Majesty will remove to Greenwich immediately after Easter, therefore I would gladly understand your Lordship's pleasure whether I should seek to get a chamber for her Ladyship in the court if the Queen do remove'...

'My Lady Pembroke [the Earl's daughter] was this day in so weak case as the physicians think she cannot continue one day longer without the miraculous work of God'. [LPL 3206/729].

The Queen made two visits to the Countess of Pembroke at Baynard's Castle, London, beside the Thames. Owned by Henry Herbert, 2nd Earl of Pembroke (c.1539-1601); 2nd wife, Katherine (Talbot), daughter of George Talbot 6th Earl of Shrewsbury; she died in 1576. (See Anne Talbot's letter, May 8).

April 19, Dalkeith, Regent Morton to the Queen: 'Of late a young gentleman named John Seton, my cousin, son to my Lord Seton, upon earnest desire to visit your Highness's court, repaired thither with my licence and recommendation' to the Earl of Leicester 'upon whom he presently attends'. Morton gives thanks for Seton and other Scots being 'friendly entertained'.

John Nasmyth, who accompanied his master Seton to England, declared, April 28: Seton had wished to serve the Queen and to be 'the first gentleman of Scotland that ever served in the court of England'. [Scot.v.120,125-6].

April 20: *The Queen left St James's Palace.*

Richard Todd, Officer of the Removing Wardrobe of Beds, and three men 'remaining behind at St James by the space of four days after her Majesty's remove from thence to Greenwich by reason of great lack of carts'.^T

Apr 20, Wed **GREENWICH PALACE**, Kent.

St Martin in the Fields: 'Paid the 20th day of April at the Queen's Majesty's remove from St James unto Greenwich, 8d'.

Works, Greenwich: 'making a little house in the garden for the Queen's Majesty; making a pair of stairs at Blackwall for her Majesty'; also work 'in the Great Chamber and Chapel against St George's Feast'.

*Spring: For work on a royal barge William Herne, Serjeant Painter, was paid 'for gilding with fine gold in oil eight compartments and working the same upon gold with divers fine colours. And for working five stroyes [lines] of poetry, and for laying fine rice in oils round about the barge', £35.10s.^T

Apr 21, Thur Lambeth churchwardens paid: 'For ringing the one and twenty of April when the Queen's Majesty took her horse here, 2s6d'.

Apr 22, Fri Eve of Garter ceremonies, Greenwich.
At a Chapter of Garter Knights the Queen appointed a Lieutenant, as customary.

Apr 23, Sat St George's Day Garter ceremonies, Greenwich.
Queen's Lieutenant: Ambrose Dudley Earl of Warwick.

The Queen was in the processions and at the service.

Knighting: Charles 2nd Lord Howard of Effingham.

Herald: 'Lord Howard the day before his election to the Order was dubbed knight in the Privy Chamber, as it was necessary that he should, because otherwise he could not have been admitted to the Order'. [BL Harl 6064, f.61v].

Apr 24, Sun Final 1575 Garter ceremonies, Greenwich.
New Knights of the Garter elected: King Henri III of France;
Charles 2nd Lord Howard of Effingham. Installed at Windsor on May 8.
The King was not invested until 18 February 1585 and was never installed.

April 25, Greenwich: Council: 'Robert Langham, Keeper of the Council Chamber, for provision of boughs and flowers for the said Chamber for one whole year', to be paid £10.^{APC} Langham described the Kenilworth entertainment in July.

Court news. April 26, London, La Mothe to Henri III, of Councillor Boisshot, former Advocate-Fiscal: 'The fiscal Doctor from Brussels came to dine with me and I honoured him as an ambassador from Spain. He told me that the Queen had received him well, not as an ambassador but as an Agent from the King... whilst awaiting a decision as to whether England and Spain would send resident ambassadors again to each other's country, in which case Don Bernardino de Mendoza would be coming here'. [Mendoza arrived in March 1578].

April 30, La Mothe to Henri III: 'Three gentlemen, one French, one German and the other Flemish, have recently been sent from an assembly which has been held in Basle, and have come to the Queen and the clergy with great demands on behalf of those who have taken up arms in defence of the new religion'...

'On St George's Day, at a Chapter of the Order of the Garter at Greenwich, the Queen had your Majesty elected a Knight of the Order. The Earl of Leicester at once sent to congratulate me, before it was divulged to anyone else'.

'The following day the Queen sent three of her Gentlemen Pensioners, one of whom is her kinsman, to inform me of the election, and that she had not wished to allow this Chapter to go past without it; and that as soon as she hears that your Majesty agrees to it she would send an honourable personage and a lord of quality, to bring you the Order'. [vi.418,420-421].

May: Italian painter Federigo Zuccaro (c.1540-1609) at court.

Zuccaro had a letter of introduction dated at Antwerp, March 15, from Chapin Vitelli, Marquis of Cetona (who was in England in 1569). He came to England at the Earl of Leicester's request, and made full-length drawings of the Queen, dated May 1575, London, and of Leicester in armour, dated 1575, London.

Drawings in British Museum; discussed by Roy Strong in *Gloriana*, with the 'Darnley Portrait', 84-89; also reproduced by Elizabeth Goldring, *Robert Dudley*, 98-113, with a 'quasi-pair' of the Queen and Leicester, c.1575, by an unknown artist, and armour made for Leicester, c.1575.

May 6, La Mothe to Henri III: 'The Deputies from Basle, and others from La Rochelle, presented themselves at court whilst Monsieur Méru was there'. [vi.422]

Court news, of the Queen's visits to the Countess of Pembroke, in her illness.

May 8, Baynard's Castle, Anne, Lady Talbot, to the Countess of Shrewsbury: 'The extremity that my sister of Pembroke was in...hath continued till Thursday last [May 5]. Since that day she hath been out of her sounding [swooning], but not able to stand or go [walk]. Her greatest grief is now want of sleep, and not able to away with the sight of meat'...

'The Queen's Majesty hath been here with her twice, very late both times. The last time it was 10 o'clock at night or ever her Majesty went hence, being so great a mist as there were divers of the barges and boats that waited of her lost their ways, and landed in wrong places, but thanks be to God her Majesty came well home without cold or fear'. [Hallam. 113]. (See letters, May 13).

May 8, Sun: at Windsor, **Installation** of new Knight of the Garter: Charles 2nd Lord Howard of Effingham. Installed by the Queen's Commissioners: Henry Carey 1st Lord Hunsdon; Sir Henry Sidney.

Herald's description:

On Saturday night, May 7, all three came to Windsor. Next day at 8 a.m. Lord Hunsdon and Sir Henry Sidney 'in their kirtles, robes, and collars of the Order, came to the Vestry of the Chapel of the Order...and having with them the new elected Knight they left him before the door of the Vestry whilst they themselves went into and stayed some good space of time in the Vestry'...

'After coming forth they led between them the new elected Knight, who was in his accustomed apparel, into the Vestry, where they apparelled him in the kirtle of the Order with the hood of crimson velvet lined with white satin, which was girt unto him together with his sword by his side'.

'And from thence they also led him between them into his stall in the Choir, they having proceeding before them first the Verger of the Church, then the Alms Knights, then the Officers of Arms, then the Register, the Usher, and Garter, Officers of the Order, all three together next before them'.

'Being come to the place before his stall in the Choir, they entered with the new elected Knight between them into the nethermost stall, directly before the stall wherein the said new elected Knight was to be installed. And turning their faces directly forward towards the other side of the Choir, the new Knight laid his hand upon a book of prayers and made his oath, read unto him by the Dean of Windsor, deputy at that time for the Register of the Order'.

'After the oath they likewise led him between them up into his own stall, and there standing as before, the three Officers of the Order before named entered into the stall from whence they removed, and Garter bearing the mantle reached it to the two old Knights who put it on him, whilst the Register read certain words exhorting him to receive that mantle or robe to his honour, etc'.

'That done likewise Garter reached them the collar, who also put it about the neck of the new Knight, whilst the Register read certain other words of exhortation for the receiving of it to his honour, etc. The mantle being put on, the hood which before lay on his shoulder was taken off and laid again upon his shoulder, the mantle being on, the end whereof was fastened under his girdle'.

'This done, the two old Knights, leaving the new Knight in his stall, departed from him to their own stalls and there remained all the time of the service'.

'After matins or morning prayer begun...and after the Epistle, Gospel and Creed, the three Knights proceeded to the offering of the hatchments of Charles IX, late French King, Knight of the Order deceased, in manner following'.

'First Lord Hunsdon and Sir Henry Sidney with Garter before them offered the banner, then Sir Henry Sidney and Lord Howard offered the sword, then Lord Hunsdon and Sir Henry Sidney offered the helm, mantles and crest. Then offered Lord Hunsdon for himself with Clarenceux before him, and then offered Sir Henry Sidney for himself with Norroy before him, then offered Lord Howard for himself with Lancaster before him. The offering being ended, the service also drew to an end, after a prayer or two made for the Companions of the Order. And so every man departed'.

'The three Knights with the Almsmen, Officers of Arms and the three Officers of the Order before them proceeded first into the Vestry, and there should the two old Knights have put off their kirtles and robes, yet staying there awhile'.

'From thence in the same order through the Cloister to the Dean's house to dinner, where the new elected Knight dined in his kirtle of the Order, the other two in their accustomed apparel'.

'The Dean provided the dinner for them, as also he was accustomed to do for the Officers of Arms, but for them at this Installation he made no provision, and they demanded the cause, he alleged that he had no allowance for it nor commandment, and therefore made a peremptory denial of any dinner to be had there, to the greater loss of his good fame for bountifulness than gain for his unseasonable thriftiness'. [BL Harl 6064, f.61v-62v].

William Day (1529-1596), Provost of Eton, was Dean of Windsor 1572-1596; he was Bishop of Winchester from January-September 1596.

Court news. May 12, London, La Mothe to Henri III:

'Secretary Wilkes...returned here four or five days ago with many letters and dispatches which he brought from Germany and Basle to the Queen and her Council, and to M.de Méru, and to the French and Flemish ministers in London. And promptly the men who superintend the affairs of those of the new religion met to consider the contents of the dispatches, and next day M.de Méru with one of them went to Greenwich, where he conferred closely with three of the Council'...

'They fear some trouble in the North...They have searched the Queen of Scots, and have already put five persons of quality into the Tower, and examined two lords, and sent to question three of the Earl of Shrewsbury's servants to find out by whom and how packets and ciphers from her have been conveyed, and what negotiation she has carried on with Guaras, the King of Spain's Agent'.

[vi.425,427].

Court news. May 13, Sheffield, Earl of Shrewsbury [to an unnamed lord]:

'My daughter of Pembroke...was of late in great extremity of sickness and danger of life, and by the Queen's Majesty's of her gracious goodness oft sending to her, with also the presence of her Majesty's most noble person, which vouchsafed of tender love to visit her Highness's poor servant, and that seldom or never hath been seen in so high and mighty a Prince as her Majesty is, did with her own most happy and blessed hand give every needful help that might ease or relieve the diseased body. She finds herself so comforted and rid of the greatest grief she had, as ever since is in hope of speedy recovery to her perfect health thereby. This my Lord is no less joy to me and all mine than comfort to my daughter'. [LPL 3206/735].

May 13, Shrewsbury Place, Gilbert Talbot to the Countess of Shrewsbury, his step-mother: 'My sister Pembroke is now grown meetly strong again, and past all danger: her Majesty sendeth to her continually'. [Hallam. 113].

May 17: death. Matthew Parker (1504-1575), Archbishop of Canterbury, widower, died at Lambeth Palace, Surrey. Will in Latin, with bequests noted in English by the executors. Bequests included: 'The ivory table of Christ's life and his twelve Apostles, given to the Queen' (and whatever else she desires).

To Sir William Cordell, Master of the Rolls: a gilt cup given by the Queen at New Year 1572. To Andrew Pierson (an executor): a gilt cup given by the Queen at a New Year. The executors valued each cup at £10.14s8d, and the total value of the Archbishop's goods and chattels as £2716; total of legacies, £2078; debts and funeral charges, £1959. [Strype, Parker, iii.333-345].

An Inventory made on May 31 at Lambeth Palace lists and values the contents of each room, including a Gallery with 'The Queen's Majesty's picture set in a great frame, with pillars', portraits of Henry VIII, Anne Boleyn, Edward VI, Queen Jane; also of Lords Burghley and Leicester, and many others.

[Archaeologia 30 (1844), 11].

May 18: Earl of Kildare arrived in Cheshire from Ireland.

Gerald FitzGerald, 11th Earl of Kildare (1525-1585), was arrested in Ireland earlier in May on suspicion of favouring rebels. Sir Edward Fitton, Vice-Treasurer of Ireland, escorted the Earl and his two eldest sons.

The Earl was in custody in England, May 1575-December 1578.

May 19, Cannon Row [Westminster], Sir Nicholas Poyntz to Mistress Heneage (his sister Anne, wife of Thomas Heneage, Treasurer of the Chamber; of Copt Hall, Epping, Essex), complaining that the Queen had forgotten some promise she had made him: 'And for your wonder why I come not to the court, being so near it, how willingly, tell me, would you go into hell, to salute the devils there, though you were standing upon the brink thereof?' but 'would retire by your will to Copt Hall as I will by God's help to Acton...and do not care the value of your stinkiest weed in your garden for the greatest person living that intendeth to do me wrong'. [Finch, i.21].

The Queen had stayed with Poyntz at Iron Acton, Gloucs, 13-14 August 1574.

May 20, Greenwich: The Queen lost two gold buttons from the same French gown of black wrought velvet and satin as on April 14. [Lost, 191].

May 22: Payment to the Clerks of the Council 'for a standish [ink-stand] to be carried this progress', 3s4d.

[May]: Robert Cotton, Yeoman of the Wardrobe of Beds, and his man, carried '3 loads of hangings and other wardrobe stuff from the court at Greenwich to the Great Wardrobe at London to be repaired against her Majesty's progress'.^T

See 'Proposed progresses: 1575' for various itineraries for progresses to York, Nottingham, and Kenilworth; payments at Coventry; and civic preparations for the Queen at Leicester, Nottingham, Shrewsbury and York, including from the York archives a complete list of the enquiries to be made in advance by the Queen's servants and Guards at any town which she was thinking of visiting.

Leicester, Nottingham, Shrewsbury, and York were never visited.

The 1575 progress was the longest of the reign, and included the famous entertainment at Kenilworth.

The Cofferer of the Household's Account (which would have given exact dates and places) is missing until October 1, but the Works Account lists payments made at places where the Queen stayed, and the Treasurer of the Chamber's Account has a complete list of places both where she stayed and where she dined.

The Queen's Secretaries, Sir Thomas Smith and Francis Walsingham, accompanied her, and Walsingham's Journal is helpful as to some dates.

May 23, Mon **STOKE NEWINGTON**, Middlesex; John Dudley.^{T,W.}

Stoke Newington manor-house, leased by John Dudley (1526-1580), a kinsman and agent of Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester; he had previously served the Earl's father the Duke of Northumberland; wife: Elizabeth (Gardiner).

Start of SUMMER PROGRESS in Middlesex, Herts, Beds, Bucks, Northants, Warwicks, Staffs, Worcs, Gloucs, Oxfordshire, Berkshire.

By May 24: Burghley's preparations for the Queen's visit to Theobalds.

Burghley's 'Memorial for Theobalds against the Queen's Majesty's coming' includes his notes on wine and beer; rushes for the Queen's chamber, mats; plumber for the conduits; painter for the Lord Admiral's arms.

'Persons lodged at Theobalds the 24 May at the Queen's Majesty's coming'. 'Lodged in the house', a list of names starting with: 'Lord Chamberlain and my Lady'; other lords and ladies; Captain of the Guard; Ladies and Gentlewomen of the Privy Chamber; Maids of Honour; Gentleman Usher of the Privy Chamber; Grooms of the Privy Chamber; Squires for the Body; Gentlemen Ushers; Robes; Groom-Porter; Waiters; Wardrobe of Beds. 'Lodged extraordinarily' [not in the house]: Earl of Rutland, Earl of Pembroke, Lord Talbot. [HT.MS 143/61,140/21].

May 24, Tues **THEOBALDS**, Herts; Lord Burghley.

Theobalds, Cheshunt; owned by William Cecil, 1st Lord Burghley (c.1520-1598), Lord Treasurer 1572-1598; 2nd wife: Mildred (Cooke) (c.1525-1589).

Anthony Wingfield made ready 'at Theobalds the Lord Treasurer's house'. Ralph Hope, Yeoman of the Robes, was sent 'from Theobalds to London... for gowns, petticoats and other stuff'.^T

Court news. May 26, London, La Mothe to Henri III: 'The Queen removed from Greenwich the day after Whitsun for some suspicion of plague, and has already begun her progress'. [Whit Sunday: May 22; vi.437].

May 29, Antonio de Guaras: 'The Queen has departed on her progress and it is believed that she will go towards the north and will meet the Queen of Scotland'. [Span.ii.492].

May 31: Philip Sidney (1554-1586) returned to England after travelling abroad since May 1572; he was summoned back by his uncle the Earl of Leicester, whom he joined at Kenilworth in July. Robert Naunton, of Sidney:

'He soon attracted the good opinion of all men and was so highly prized in the esteem of the Queen, that she thought the court deficient without him...

'He was a noble and matchless gentleman'. [Fragmenta Regalia].

June 2, La Mothe to Henri III: 'At the sudden remove which the Queen made from Greenwich because of plague, most of the lords of her court and her principal Councillors are scattered in many places taking the air in the countryside'...

'The supporters of the new religion have been at court these past days'...

'The Earl of Kildare has been brought a prisoner from Ireland with his wife and children, and they have already been placed under different guards in London, waiting to be examined'. [vi.439-441].

June 4, Theobalds, Francis Walsingham to the Earl of Rutland:

'You may now spare your purse and take your pleasure for this summer, for her Majesty is fully resolved not to go to York this year. There is some determination to go to Shrewsbury, but...nought be resolved on'.^{RT}

June 5, Sheffield Castle, Gilbert Talbot (Earl of Shrewsbury's son) to the Earl of Rutland: 'I have herewith sent to my Lady your wife some of the best ale that here is. If she like it I will send more weekly. My Lord's man, Hanks, who brewed it, is so busy brewing against her Majesty's coming into these parts that he cannot as yet attend upon you'.^{RT}

June 6: *St Mary's Church, Lambeth, register: 'The 6 day was buried the right reverend father in God Matthew Archbishop of Canterbury'.*

Burial: in Lambeth Palace's private chapel.

A portrait of the Archbishop, c.1575, at Lambeth Palace, depicts him with an hour-glass and Bible. [Reproduced in Elizabeth, ed. Susan Doran, 58-59].

June 6: *The Queen left Theobalds.*

'Expenses and charges of the Queen's Majesty's being at Theobalds for 14 days', May 24-June 6. Headings: Pantry; Buttery; Cellar; Spicery, including 'Banqueting stuff'; Chandlery, viz. torches, wax lights, white lights. Kitchen, including beef, veals, muttuns, lambs; presents; rewards for bringing presents; Woodyard; Hire of cooks, turnspits, women in the scullery, and labourers. Hire of vessels; Rewards to Officers; Carriage. Total £340.17s4d. [HT.MS 226].

[June 6, Tues] dinner, Broxbourne, Herts; Sir George Penruddock. Broxbourne manor-house; occupied by Sir George Penruddock; died 1581. 2nd wife: Anne (Goodere), widow of John Cock, of Broxbourne.

The move from Theobalds had been delayed. Anthony Wingfield made ready 'two several times at Broxbournebury Sir George Penruddock's house', June.

Richard Brackenbury, another Gentleman Usher, also made ready 'a dining house at Broxenbury betwixt Theobalds and Hatfield', June.^T

June 6, Tues **HATFIELD**, Herts.^T

Hatfield manor-house; Crown property.

James Harman, Keeper of the Standing Wardrobe at Westminster, 'bringing a rich cloth of state with a chair, cushions and stools to the same from Westminster to Hatfield for her Majesty's service and for a cart to carry the same'.

Charles Smyth, Keeper of Standing Wardrobe at Windsor, and his men were sent 'from Bishop's Hatfield to Windsor Castle...for a cloth of state and cushions for her Majesty'.^T There were many Works payments at 'Bishop's Hatfield'.

Court news. June 7, London, La Mothe to Henri III:

'I shall go tomorrow to the Queen at Hatfield, 18 miles from London'...

'Three days ago M.de Méru went to kiss her hand, and had long and private conference with the Lords of her Council...Captain La Porte and Captain Chat have also been to kiss the Queen's hand...The Earl of Kildare has been heard, and his friends fear that he will be put in the Tower...Mr Killigrew is ordered to follow the progress, and to hold himself in readiness to go to Scotland'...

'The Doctor [Boisshot] from Brussels is continuing his negotiation and they are on the point of exchanging Ambassadors, and I am told he has given out that the King of Spain has named Dom Loys de Sylva to come here; but although the Queen has already named Mr Henry Cobham to go to Spain she is not hurrying to dispatch him, and it is thought that she will send him in a few days' time, but not with commission to be Ambassador'. [vi.442-4].

No resident Spanish Ambassador came until 1578.

June 7/13: Francis Agard and Sir Edward Fitton at Hatfield with the Queen.

Agard, of the Irish Privy Council, was recommended by the Earl of Essex as 'a perfect honest gentleman, the most sufficient for wisdom in this state'.

Sir Edward Fitton had escorted the Earl of Kildare from Ireland.

Fitton to Lord Burghley, Nov 6, Newry: 'At Hatfield...I waited one evening her Majesty walking forth into the park, and after she and my Lord of Leicester had talked a good while with Mr Agard, her Highness walked over the great dale in the park and sat her down under an oak, and my Lord of Leicester leaning to the oak by her, she called me to her, and graciously smiling began to jest with me'.

The Queen questioned Fitton about Ireland. [SP63/50/6; 53/59].

June 8-October: Daniel Rogers was *Agent* in the Low Countries, being sent to William Prince of Orange for restitution for English merchant ships taken by the Dutch, and to dissuade him from seeking aid from France against Spain.

Rogers had just returned from making complaints over merchants' grievances. Rogers to Walsingham, June 15, London: I have spent five days with the merchants to get my 'charges and expenses' for this journey. 'They have promised me £150 sterling for my voyage', half at my return. 'I have spent already hereof £34 in Holland and Zeeland and in returning to the court, but they promise that if restitution be made they will liberally reward my travail'...

'I am minded...to depart towards Sandwich'. [KL.vii.526,536].

June 9, Hatfield: The Queen lost one gold button from the same French gown of black wrought velvet and satin as on April 14 and May 20. [Lost, 192].

c.June 10: Sir William Melville at Hatfield for audience.

Thomas Wilkes had returned in May from Frederick III, Elector Palatine, with a demand for a loan of 150,000 crowns to go to assist the Huguenots.

The Queen sent Melville to him later in May, offering to lend 50,000 crowns on condition that her name should not appear in the transaction. He replied, by Melville, that so small a sum would not be of use. Nevertheless the Queen answered Melville on June 10 that she was sending 50,000 crowns to the Prince of Condé. On July 23 the Prince acknowledged receipt of 50,000 crowns of the sun, each valued at 6 shillings. [Read, *Walsingham*, i.290; *SPF*].

June 10 [Hatfield], Earl of Leicester to Lord Burghley:

'Her Majesty, God be thanked, is better and better since her first coming hither, and this day was once about to have taken physic, but finding herself very well deferred it. God send her no need to take any these many years!'

'I cannot send your Lordship certain word of her remove, neither yet is she resolved whether to go to York or no; her desire is great that way, I perceive, and it is like, if she find her health well, that she will go thither. It will be these three or four days ere she will determine it'. [Wright, ii.11].

Court news. June 12, La Mothe to Henri III: 'I was very favourably received by the Queen in Lord Burghley's house, where she stayed for eight or ten days, and had me invited to a feast there last Sunday [June 4]. She is very pleased with your acceptance of the Order of the Garter, and will soon send a lord of good quality to bring it to you, who will have the same goodwill for maintenance of your mutual friendship as the Earl of Leicester would have, whom she would not refuse to send to you if there was an important occasion to serve you; but because he is principally in charge of her progress, and she is considering going a long way towards the North, and even staying on the way there and back in the Earl's house at Kenilworth, she begs you to excuse him this time'.

La Mothe mentioned on June 26 that when he saw the Queen 'she had hurt her arm whilst hunting on a Spanish horse'. [vi.444-5,452].

June 13, Mon, Hatfield, Queen to Don Luis de Requesens, Governor of the Low Countries, for a safe-conduct for the Earl and Countess of Pembroke, going to the baths of Liège. [KL.vii.534].

June 14, Tues Hatfield: Privy Council meeting.^{APC}

c.June 14, Tues **LAMER**, Wheathampstead, Herts; Sir John Butler.^{T,W}
Lamer manor-house, Wheathampstead; owned by Sir John Butler, also of Watton Woodhall, Herts; died 1576;

wife: Griselda, daughter of Brian Roche, of Lamer.

c. June 15, Wed dinner, Mr Rotherham.^T [Luton, Beds].

There were two branches of the Rotherham family, the senior branch at Someries near Luton, the junior branch at Farley in Luton.

Farley manor, Luton, was owned by George Rotherham, Sheriff of Bedfordshire in 1575 (who died in 1594). Luton manor and Someries manor (east of Luton) were both owned by another George Rotherham (1541-1599).

c. June 15, Wed **TODDINGTON**, Beds; Lord Cheney.^{T,W}

Toddington manor-house; owned by Henry Lord Cheney (1540-1587);

wife: Jane (Wentworth), daughter of Thomas 1st Lord Wentworth; she died 1614.

Lady Cheney's gift to the Queen 'in progress-time': 'A border containing 7 buttons or troches of gold, in every of them 4 small rubies, and 8 buttons or troches of gold, in every of them 4 mean pearl'.^{NYG}

June 15, Paris, Jacques de Bonjeu dedicated to Queen Elizabeth poems in French on 'Illustrious ladies who have been Queens'. In his dedication, in French, he explains that: 'I wished to offer to the Queen Mother, my mistress [Catherine de Medici], a number of illustrious ladies, ancient and modern, who have been Queens...I did not forget to include you, with a dozen lines which could not represent the least part of your merits. When they were read to the Queen Mother she, with her great bounty and courtesy, not only found them good, and praised them, but commanded me to send you a copy of all of them'.

There is one page of verse for each of 18 Queens or Empresses; the poem to Elizabeth praises the fine example her wise rule gives. [BL Royal MS 20A.XX].

June 16: Anon: The Noble Art of Venerie or Hunting.

Formerly attributed to George Turberville, but now known to be largely a translation by George Gascoigne of two French treatises.

Dedicated to Henry Lord Clinton, Master of the Harthounds.

With an Epistle to the Reader, dated June 16.

Illustrations include the Queen at an outdoor meal, captioned:

'Of the place where and how an assembly should be made in the presence of the Prince, or some honourable person'; and the Queen with a slain deer, captioned 'That the Prince or chief (if so please them) do alight and take assay of the Deer with a sharp knife'. There are also verses addressed to the Queen.

The book ends with 'The measures of blowing' (3p, with music).

252p. (London, 1575).

c. June 16/17: dinner, Ridgmont, Beds; Mr Grey.

Anthony Wingfield made ready a dining house 'two several times'.^T

Segenhoe manor-house, Ridgmont; owned by Peter Grey, died 1577; wife: Elizabeth.

c. June 16/17: dinner, Mr 'Charnock'.^T [Holcot, Beds].

Holcot manor-house; owned and built by Richard Charnock (c.1531-1615); 1st wife: Mary (Puttenham), of Hants. Richard built Holcot Church c.1590; it has his monument with 2 wives and 14 children, and father Robert, 2 wives, 10 children.

c. June 17, Fri **CHICHELEY**, Bucks; Mrs Weston.^{T,W}

Chicheley manor-house; occupied by Mrs Elizabeth Weston, died 1577.

She was Elizabeth (Lovett), widow of (1) Anthony Cave of Chicheley;

(2) John Newdigate; (3) Richard Weston, Justice of Common Pleas (died 1572).

'Given by her Majesty and delivered the 16th of July...To Mrs Weston late wife unto Judge Weston at whose house her Majesty lay going on her progress the same summer, one cup with a cover of silver gilt'.^{NYG}

By June 17-Sept 27: Henry Killigrew was special Ambassador to Scotland. Killigrew, Burghley's brother-in-law, took William Davison as his Secretary.

Court news. June 17, La Mothe to Henri III: 'M.de Méru returned to the Queen and Council the day after I left them, in my opinion because of a man who has newly arrived from Basle, who is said to be the Prince of Condé's physician'...

'Philip Sidney, the Earl of Leicester's nephew and heir, has recently arrived from Germany, where he has lived for around two years in the Emperor's court and elsewhere, to see the country, and has brought letters of credence from some Protestant Princes to the Queen'.

'She is on the point of sending Secretary Wilkes there again; and it would be good if your Majesty had Mr Sturm watched by someone in Strasbourg, for he is now the Queen's Agent in Germany since the death of Dr Mount, who lived in Frankfurt; and they say that Sturm is a very learned man of letters, but in affairs of state he is simple and has little understanding, and someone close to him could discover most of their decisions'...

'Mr Killigrew's journey to Scotland seemed to be not only deferred but broken off altogether, until two days ago he was hurriedly countermanded from court to be dispatched there, and to take with him another man called Mr Davison'.

[vi.448-9]. Dr Christopher Mount was the Queen's Agent from 1558-1572; Dr John Sturm was Rector of Strasbourg University, where Philip Sidney met him.

June 18, Sat **GRAFTON**, Northants.

Grafton manor-house; Crown property. Steward of Grafton: Earl of Leicester.

Simon Bowyer and two men had been sent by the Lord Chamberlain 'to view Grafton House, in what state and readiness it was to receive her Majesty' (payment 100s), 'which done went from thence to Killingworth [Kenilworth] to view the state of the house there and so returned with answer thereof to her Majesty', 20s.

Simon Bowyer made ready at Grafton and 'three several standings in the park belonging to the manor of Grafton'. Richard Todd and his man were sent by the Lord Chamberlain 'from Grafton to Hampton Court for certain stuff as curtains and carpets for her Majesty', and had 'a spare horse to carry the same'.

Robert Cotton was 'sent from Hampton Court to London for eight window curtains, and for carrying the same to Grafton to serve her Majesty there'.^T

There were many Works payments.

June 18, Sir Thomas Smith (Queen's Secretary) to Sir William Fitzwilliam:

'This trotting about in progress makes many things to be unprofited and longer deferred than is convenient'. [Dewar, *Smith*, 176].

At Grafton: 'Lost from her Majesty's back at Grafton two buttons of gold enamelled blue'. [Lost, 193]. There was 'a wether [sheep] at Grafton, brought to the court, that for body and wool was exceeding great'. [Langham, *Letter*].

June 20, Grafton: 'Placard for the Queen's Smith to employ smiths for the making of casements for the house of Grafton, and to have four horses to bring them thither. Placard for Tuck, one of the Queen's servants, to repair to London to provide bottles'.^{APC}

June 20: M.de Méru left England. Charles de Montmorency, Sieur de Méru, cousin of the Prince of Condé, had been in England since autumn 1574, to obtain the Queen's support for his brother the Duke of Montmorency to be freed from the Bastille (he was released in October). Captains Chat and La Porte also left for Germany. The Bark of Boulogne 'transporting of Monsieur Méru to Emden in Friesland', with 'the hire of a Dutch pilot who conducted the same ship the better part of the river of Emden', and 'one Dutch pilot that conducted the ship the other part of the river of Emden', June 20-July 24.^N

June 20, Antwerp, Passport for Earl and Countess of Pembroke, going to Spa, to take and use the water. With their gentlemen, ladies, servitors, servants, baggage and clothes. June 26, Antwerp, Letter of Protection for the Earl and train. A Lieutenant of the Governor's Guard is to escort them. [KL.vii.537-8].

[June] Gilbert Talbot to the Countess of Shrewsbury: 'Their whole company is about thirty persons. The Queen's Majesty hath lent them one of her best ships, thoroughly furnished to carry them to Antwerp, and hath appointed Mr William Gorges the Captain thereof'. [Hallam.114]. The Achates took the Earl and Countess to Antwerp and brought them back on September 14.^N

June 21, Grafton: 'Placard for two carts to be taken up for the bringing of Arthur Hall's stuff to the court'.^{APC} Hall (1539-1605) of Grantham and London, was a former ward of Lord Burghley.

June 27, Grafton, Earl of Leicester to the Earl of Rutland: 'Knowing now the certain day of her Majesty's coming to Kenilworth I thought good according to my promise to give you knowledge thereof, which is the 8th of July next, where your Lordship shall be very welcome if you please to come thither'.

[On September 5 Leicester gave Rutland 'my most hearty thanks...for the great honour and courtesy you showed me in coming to my house at her Majesty's being there, and to be pleased so well with so base and unfit lodging'].^{RT}

June 28, court at Grafton, Earl of Sussex to the Earl of Rutland:

'The Queen's Majesty hasteneth her journey to Killingworth and she meaneth to be there the 8th or 9th at the furthest of July...We hunt and play still'.^{RT}

[June 28, Grafton], Earl of Leicester to Lord Burghley:

'Such news as we have...is only and chiefly of her Majesty's good health, which, God be thanked, is as good as I have long known it, and for her liking of this house, I assure your Lordship, I think she never came to place in her life she likes better or commends more, and since her coming hither as oft as weather serves she hath not been within doors. The house likes her well, and her own lodging specially. She thinks her cost well bestowed, she saith, if it had been five times as much; but I would her Majesty would bestow but half as much more, and then I think she should have as pleasant and as commodious a house as any in England. I am sorry your Lordship is not here to see it'.

'Even by and by her Majesty is going to the Forest to kill some bucks with her bow, as she hath done in the park this morning. God be thanked, she is very merry and well disposed now. But at her first coming, being a marvellous hot day, at her coming hither not one drop of good drink for her, so well was she provided for, notwithstanding her oft telling of her coming hither. But we were fain to send to London with bottles, to Kenilworth, to divers other places where ale was; her own here was strong, as there was no man able to drink it, you had been as good to have drunk Malmsey, and yet was it laid in above three days before her Majesty came. It did put her very far out of temper, and almost all the company beside too; for none of us all was able to drink other beer or ale here. Since by chance we have found drink for her to her liking, and she is well again, but I feared greatly two or three days some sickness to have fallen, by reason of this drink'.

'God be thanked, she is now perfect well and merry, and I think upon Thursday come sennight [July 7] will take her journey toward Kenilworth. Where I pray God she may like all things no worse than she hath done here'. Written 'In some haste, ready to ride, this Tuesday toward evening'. [BL Harl 6992, f.11].

June 29, Grafton: Placard for Simon Bowyer, Gentleman Usher, 'being this Progress time appointed to prepare her Majesty's lodgings, to be served from place to place whither her Highness shall remove, of three able post-horses, going and returning'.^{APC}

July 1, La Mothe to Henri III: 'M.de Méru has already embarked to cross to Emden or Hamburg, to go to the Prince of Condé at Basle. I understand that when he took leave of her the Queen made him a present of about 3000 crowns, and I am told that Wilkes is going with him...with 7500 pounds sterling, which is 25,000 crowns, with a chain of great value to present over there'. [vi.456].

July 5, Tues dinner, Mr Harcourt.^T [Leckhampstead, Bucks].
Leckhampstead manor-house; owned by Michael Harcourt, son of Sir John Harcourt of Stanton Harcourt, Oxon, and Ellenhall, Staffs; he died c.1597;

wife: Jane (Tilney), widow of Richard Greenway, of Leckhampstead, a Gentleman Usher to King Henry VIII; she died in 1600.

Simon Bowyer made ready a dining house 'at Mr Harcourt's', July; listed in the accounts between Grafton and Fawsley.^T

The French Ambassador was present, as he described to his King:

La Mothe to Henri III, July 13: 'Last Tuesday, as I had come within three miles of the court, the Queen at once sent word to me, by one of her Gentlemen Pensioners, to come to find her in the nearby forest, where she had been hunting since early morning, and to say that she did not wish to defer my audience... and that she would take me to dine at the home of a gentleman near there who was making a feast for her, where she wished that I would eat with her that day'.

'I obeyed, and as soon as I met the Queen in the wood she abandoned her hunting for a little while in order to ask solicitously after your health... The rest was put back until after the hunt, and until after dinner, which was sumptuous...After she left the table she drew me into a corner of the room', for audience. [vi.465-466]. The Queen secretly awaited the resumption of marriage negotiations with the Duke of Alençon.

July 7, on the Scottish Border: The Raid of Reidswire.

At a Warden Court a dispute arose between Sir John Forster, Warden of the Middle March (the Border districts) and his Scottish counterpart. In a fray six Englishmen were killed, and the Warden and about 300 others were taken over the Border into Scotland as prisoners. When the news reached the Queen at Kenilworth she dispatched Lord Hunsdon back to his post as Governor of Berwick. [SPF.xi.87]. Sequel: August 3 and August 29.

[July 7, Thur] **FAWSLEY**, Northants; Sir Richard Knightley.^{T,W}
Fawsley manor-house; owned by Sir Richard Knightley (1533-1615), widower; married (2) 1578: Lady Elizabeth Seymour, the Duchess of Somerset's daughter. She died in 1602: her monument is in Norton Church, Northants; Sir Richard's monument is in Fawsley Church.

July 9-27: Kenilworth entertainment. Two contemporary descriptions complement one another; shown below as 'Gascoigne' and 'Langham'.

George Gascoigne, The Princely Pleasures at the Court at Kenilworth. Dated 26 March 1576; this omits the 'Coventry show' and the Bride-ale. Published in 1576, and in 1587.

R.L: 'A Letter: whearin part of the entertainment untoo the Queenz Maiesty, at Killingwoorth Castl, in warwik Sheer, in this soommerz Progress, 1575, iz signified: from a freend officer attendant in Coourt, untoo hiz freend a Citizen and Merchaunt of London'. At the end: 'From the Coourt. At the Citee of Worceter, the xx of August 1575'. Signed: 'R.L.Gent. Mercer'.

R.L: Robert Langham (c.1535-1580), a mercer, Keeper of the Council Chamber at court. Modern edition: R.J.P.Kuin, Robert Langham. A Letter (Leiden, 1983). The Letter is in semi-phonetic spelling, for ease of reading regularised here. [Gascoigne and Langham are edited in Nichols, Progresses (2014), ii.231-332].

July 9, Sat dinner, Long Itchington, Warwicks; Earl of Leicester.^T
 Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester (c.1532-1588), K.G., Master of the Horse,
 Privy Councillor; widower. Long Itchington manor was owned by Leicester,
 but the Queen dined in a tent. *Langham*: 'It falls well to mind, the great-
 ness of his Honour's tent, that for her Majesty's dining was pitched at Long
 Itchington, the day her Highness came to Killingworth Castle. A tabernacle
 indeed for number...of large and goodly rooms...that justly for dignity may be
 comparable with a beautiful palace, and for greatness and quantity with a proper
 town...This tent had seven cart-loads of pins pertaining to it'...

'A great child of Leicestershire at this Long Itchington by the parents was
 presented; great (I say) of limbs and proportion, of a four foot and four inches
 high, and else lanuginous [downy] as a lad of 18 years, being indeed avowed to
 be but six year old; nothing more betraying his age than his wit, that was, as
 for those years, simple and childish...His Honour made her Majesty great cheer
 at dinner, and pleasant pastime in hunting by the way after'.

July 9, Sat **KENILWORTH CASTLE**, Warwicks; Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester.
 Simon Bowyer, Gentleman Usher, with one Yeoman Usher, 3 Yeomen of the Chamber,
 two Grooms of the Chamber, two Grooms of the Wardrobe and one Groom-Porter,
 'for making ready for her Majesty at Killingworth', 10 days, £9.16s8d.^T

Langham: 'It was eight o'clock in the evening ere her Highness came to
 Killingworth. Where in the Park, about a flight shot from the Brays and first
 gate of the Castle, one of the ten Sibyls...comely clad in a pall of white
 silk, pronounced a proper poesy in English rhyme and metre: of effect, how great
 gladness her gracious presence brought into every stead where it pleased her to
 come, and specially now into that place that had so longed after the same; ended
 with prophecy certain, of much and long prosperity, health and felicity'.

Gascoigne: 'There met her on the way, somewhat near the Castle, Sibilla,
 who prophesied unto her Highness the prosperous reign that she should continue,
 according to the happy beginning of the same. The order thereof was this:
 Sibilla being placed in an arbour in the park near the highway where the Queen's
 Majesty came, did step out and pronounced as followeth:

'All hail, all hail, thrice happy prince,
 I am Sibilla she
 Of future chance, and after hap,
 Foreshowing what shall be...
 You shall be called the Prince of peace,
 And peace shall be your shield...
 Your coming is rejoiced at
 Ten thousand times and mo.
 And whiles your Highness here abides,
 Nothing shall rest unsought,
 That may bring pleasure to your mind,
 Or quiet to your thought...'

[By William Hunnis, Master of the Children of the Chapel Royal].

Langham: 'This her Majesty benignly accepting, passed forth unto the next
 gate of the Brays, which...they call now the Tilt-yard, where a Porter, tall of
 person, big of limb and stern of countenance...with club and keys...had a rough
 speech full of passions'. He 'proclaims open gates and free passage to all,
 yields up his club, his keys, his office and all, and...caused his Trumpeters
 that stood upon the wall of the gate there to sound up a tune of welcome...These
 Trumpeters being six in number were every one an eight foot high...all in long
 garments of silk suitable, each with his silvery trumpet of a five foot long...
 These harmonious blasters...walking upon the walls...had this music maintained
 from them very delectably while her Highness all along this Tilt-yard rode unto
 the inner gate next the Base Court of the Castle'.

Gascoigne: 'Her Majesty passing on to the first gate, there stood in the leads and battlements thereof six Trumpeters hugely advanced, much exceeding the common stature of men in this age, who had likewise huge and monstrous trumpets counterfeited, wherein they seemed to sound; and behind them were placed certain Trumpeters who sounded indeed at her Majesty's entry. And by this dumb show it was meant that in the days and reign of King Arthur men were of that stature. So that the Castle of Kenilworth should seem still to be kept by Arthur's heirs and their servants. And when her Majesty entered the gate there stood Hercules for Porter, who seemed to be amazed at such a presence upon such a sudden, proffered to stay them. And yet at last, being overcome by view of the rare beauty and princely countenance of her Majesty, yielded himself and his charge, presenting the keys unto her Highness with these words:

'What stir, what coil is here?
 Come back, hold, whither now?...
 What dainty darling's here?
 Oh God, a peerless Pearl,
 No worldly wight, no doubt;
 Some sovereign Goddess sure...
 Come, come, most perfect Paragon,
 Pass on with joy and bliss...
 Have here, have here, both club and keys
 Myself, my ward I yield,
 Even gates and all, yea Lord himself
 Submit and seek your shield'.

[*'Devised and pronounced by John Badger of Oxford University'*].

'When her Majesty was entered the gate, and come into the Base Court, there came unto her a Lady attended with two Nymphs, who came all over the Pool, being so conveyed that it seemed she had gone upon the water. This Lady named herself the Lady of the Lake, who spoke to her Highness as followeth:

'Though haste say on, let suit obtain some stay,
 (most peerless Prince, the honour of your kind)...
 I am the Lady of this pleasant Lake,
 who since the time of great King Arthur's reign
 That here with royal Court abode did make,
 have led a lowering life in restless pain...
 I will attend while you lodge here,
 (most peerless Queen) to Court to make resort,
 And as my love to Arthur did appear,
 so shalt to you in earnest and in sport,
 Pass on, Madame, you need no longer stand,
 The Lake, the Lodge, the Lord, are yours for to command'.

[*By George Ferrers, twice Christmas Lord of Misrule to King Edward VI*].

Langham: 'Where the Lady of the Lake (famous in King Arthur's book) with two Nymphs waiting upon her, arrayed all in silks, attending her Highness coming; from the midst of the Pool, where, upon a movable island, bright blazing with torches, she, floating to land, met her Majesty with a well-penned metre and matter after this sort...How she had kept this Lake since King Arthur's days, and now understanding of her Highness hither coming, thought it both office and duty in humble wise to discover her and her estate: offering up the same, her Lake and power therein, with promise of repair unto the court'.

'It pleased her Highness to thank this Lady, and to add withal
 "We had thought indeed the Lake had been ours, and do you call it yours now?
 Well, we will herein commune more with you hereafter".

'This pageant was closed up with a delectable harmony of hautbois, shawms, cornets, and such other loud music, that held on while her Majesty pleasantly so passed from thence toward the Castle gate; whereunto, from the Base Court over a dry valley...was there framed a fair bridge of a 20 foot wide and a 70 foot long, gravelled for treading, railed on either part with seven posts on a side, that stood a twelve foot asunder'...

'Upon the first pair of posts were set two comely wire cages...in them, live bitterns, curlews, shovelers, heronshaws, godwits, and such like dainty birds, of the presents of Sylvanus the God of Fowl'.

'On the second pair, two great silvered bowls...filled with apples, pears, cherries, filberts, walnuts fresh upon their branches, and with oranges, pomegranates, lemons, and pippins...the gifts of Pomona, Goddess of Fruits'.

'The third pair of posts, in two such silvered bowls, had (all in ears, green and old) wheat, barley, oats, beans and peas, as the gifts of Ceres'.

'The fourth post on the left hand, in a like silvered bowl, had grapes in clusters, white and red, with their vine-leaves. The matching post against it had a pair of great white silver livery pots for wine, and before them two glasses of good capacity filled full, the one with white wine, the other with claret...presents of Bacchus the God of Wine'.

'The fifth pair had each a fair large tray strewed a little with fresh grass, and in them, conger, burt [turbot], mullet, fresh herring, oysters, salmon, cray-fish, and such like from Neptune, God of the Sea'.

'On the sixth pair of posts were set two ragged staves of silver, as my Lord giveth them in arms, beautifully glittering of armour thereupon depending, bows, arrows, spears, shield, head-piece, gorget, corslets, swords, targets, and such like for Mars gifts the God of War'.

'On the seventh posts, the last and next to the Castle, were...two fair bay-branches of a four foot high, adorned on all sides with lutes, viols, shawms, cornets, flutes, recorders and harps, as the presents of Phoebus the God of Music, for rejoicing the mind, and also of Physic, for health to the body'.

'Over the Castle gate was there fastened a table, beautifully garnished above with her Highness' arms' with 'a Poem [in Latin] mentioning these Gods and their gifts thus presented unto her Highness...But the night well spent, for that these verses by torch-light could not easily be read, by a Poet therefore [in azure and crimson silk]...a bay garland on his head and a scroll in his hand...pointing unto every present as he spoke, the same were pronounced'.

'Pleasantly thus viewing the gifts as she passed...at the end of the bridge and entry of the gate was her Highness received with a fresh delicate harmony of flutes, in performance of Phoebus's presents'.

Gascoigne: The gifts 'were expounded by an Actor clad like a Poet', who spoke verses 'devised by Master Muncaster, and other verses to the very self-same effect were devised by Master Patten, and fixed over the gate in a frame'.

[By *Richard Mulcaster, of Merchant Taylors' School, and William Patten*].

'This speech being ended, she was received into the Inner Court with sweet music. And so alighting from her horse, the drums, fifes and trumpets sounded; wherewith she mounted the stairs, and went to her lodging'.

Langham: 'So passing into the Inner Court, her Majesty (that never rides but alone) there set down from her palfry, was conveyed up to chamber: when after did follow so great a peal of guns, and such lightning by firework a long space together, as Jupiter would show himself to be no further behind with his welcome than the rest of his Gods, and that would he have all the country to know: for indeed the noise and flame were heard and seen a twenty mile off'.

July 10, Sun At Kenilworth.

Langham: 'The forenoon occupied...in quiet and vacation from work, and in divine service and preaching at the parish church. The afternoon in excellent music of sundry sweet instruments and in dancing of lords and ladies'.

At night, fireworks again: 'The heavens thundered, the waters surged, the earth shook...This ado lasted while high midnight was past'.

Gascoigne: 'There were fireworks showed upon the water, the which were both strange and well executed'.

Note: *Langham* twice refers to Sunday services at the parish church, from which it has been supposed that the Queen attended St Nicholas, Kenilworth.

This is unlikely for two reasons: Kenilworth Castle had a private chapel, and when the Queen planned to attend a local church it was 'made ready' for her in advance; this was done in 1575 at Lichfield, Worcester, and Woodstock.

July 10: *christening*. Queen was godmother to the Earl of Oxford's daughter. Parents: Edward de Vere, 17th Earl of Oxford (who was abroad); 1st wife Anne (Cecil), daughter of Lord Burghley, Lord Treasurer. Piers Pennant went from 'the court at Grafton to Theobalds the Lord Treasurer's house' to make ready.^T

July 10: Cheshunt Church, Herts, register: 'Elizabeth, Earl of Oxford's daughter, was christened at Theobalds'. Queen's gifts, July 14: 'one basin and a lair gilt; one standing cup gilt with a cover of Flanders making'.^{NYG}

Child: Lady Elizabeth Vere (2 July 1575-1627); she became a Maid of Honour; she married at court (1595) William 6th Earl of Derby.

July 11, Mon At Kenilworth: hunting; Savage Man and Echo.

Langham: 'Monday was hot, and therefore her Highness kept in till a 5 o'clock in the evening: what time it pleased her to ride forth into the Chase to hunt the hart of force [on horseback with hounds]: which found anon, and after sore chased...was fain..at last to take soil [take to water]'.

The cries of the hounds, 'the swiftness of the deer, the running of footmen, the galloping of horses, the blasting of horns, the hallowing and hueing of the huntsmen, with the excellent echoes between whiles from the woods and waters in valleys resounding, moved pastime delectable in so high a degree as...in my opinion there can be none any way comparable to this...The hart was killed, a goodly deer; but so ceased not the game yet'.

'For about 9 o'clock, at the hither part of the Chase, where torch-light attended, out of the woods in her Majesty's return roughly came there forth *Hombre Salvagio*, with an oaken plant plucked up by the roots in his hand, himself...all in moss and ivy', who made a speech declaring that he had never seen 'so glorious an assembly afore', could not guess 'what they should be', had called upon 'the Fawns, the Satyrs, the Nymphs, the Dryads, and the Hamadryads, but none making answer' called at last to his 'old friend Echo'.

[*There were verses answered by Echo, quoted below*].

'As this Savage, for the more submission, broke his tree asunder, cast the top from him, it had almost lighted upon her Highness' horse's head, whereat he startled, and the gentleman much dismayed. See the benignity of the Prince, as the footmen looked well to the horse, and he of generosity soon calmed of himself. "No hurt, no hurt!" quoth her Highness. Which words, I promise you, we were all glad to hear, and took them to be the best part of the play'.

Gascoigne: 'There met her in the Forest as she came from hunting one clad like a Savage man, all in ivy, who seeming to wonder at such a presence fell to quarrelling with Jupiter'. The Savage Man in verse asked Jupiter 'Why all these worthy lords and peers are here assembled so?'. Only Echo answered.

[*The verses, with the end of each stanza repeated by Echo, referred to the Queen's welcome on Saturday, the gifts, and the fireworks*].

'And who gave all those gifts?
 I pray thee (Echo) say?
 Was it not he who (but of late)
 This building here did lay? *Echo: Dudley.*
 Oh Dudley, so me thought:
 He gave himself and all,
 A worthy gift to be received,
 And so I trust it shall. *Echo: It shall.*

What meant the fiery flames,
 Which through the waves so flew?
 Can no cold answers quench desire?
 Is that experience true? *Echo: True.*

Well Echo tell me yet,
 How might I come to see
 This comely Queen of whom we talk?
 Oh were she now by thee. *Echo: By thee.*
 ...Methinks I see among them all,
 This same should be the Queen. *Echo: The Queen.*

Herewith he fell on his knees and spoke as followeth...

O Queen (without compare),
 You must not think it strange,
 That here amid this wilderness
 Your glory so doth range.
 The winds resound your worth,
 The rocks record your name.
 These hills, these dales, these woods, these waves,
 These fields pronounce your fame...

Then he bade Echo farewell thus:

Echo likewise farewell,
 Let me go seek some death,
 Since I may see this Queen no more,
 Good grief now stop my breath'.

'These verses were devised, penned, and pronounced by Master Gascoigne, and that...upon a very great sudden'.

July 11, London, De Guaras to Zayas: 'The Queen is now hunting 80 miles from here, and about 40 miles from where the Queen of Scotland is. If they have an interview, as many think they will, we shall soon hear of it'. [Span.ii.497].

July 12, Tues At Kenilworth: music and dancing.

Langham: 'Pleasant passing of the time with music and dancing; saving that toward night it liked her Majesty to walk a-foot into the Chase over the bridge, where it pleased her to stand, while upon the Pool, out of a barge fine appointed for the purpose, to hear sundry kinds of very delectable music. Thus recreated, and after some walk, her Highness returned'.

July 13, Wed At Kenilworth.

Langham: 'Her Majesty rode into the Chase a-hunting again of the hart of force. The deer...for refuge took the soil [water], but so mastered by hot pursuit on all parts that he was taken quick [alive] in the pool. The watermen held him up hard by the head, while at her Highness's commandment he lost his ears for a ransom, and so had pardon of life'. The deer died later.

July 14, Thur At Kenilworth: bear-baiting; Italian acrobat; fireworks.
Langham: 'A great sort of bandogs [company of mastiffs] were there tied in the Outer Court, and thirteen bears in the Inner...The bears were brought forth into the Court, the dogs set to them...It was a sport very pleasant'...

'As this sport was had a day-time in the Castle, so was there abroad at night very strange and sundry kinds of fireworks...This intermingled with a great peal of guns...That was about two hours' space'.

'Now within also in the meantime was there shown before her Highness by an Italian such feats of agility, in goings, turnings, tumblings, castings, hops, jumps, leaps, skips, springs, gambols, somersaults...forward, backward, side-ways, downward, upward...all so lightly and with such easiness'.

'Friday and Saturday [July 15 and 16] were there no open shows abroad, because the weather inclined to some moisture and wind'.

July 15, Fri, Kenilworth: 'Placard for a cart for Henry Cobham esquire, being for her Majesty's service appointed to repair into the parts of beyond the seas, to carry his stuff to London'.^{APC} Henry Cobham (1538-1592), Lord Cobham's brother, was to be special Ambassador to Spain.

July 16, Sat, Kenilworth: 'Placard for four carts for the carriage of the Lord Chamberlain's stuff to the Baths of Buxton and back again to such place as the court shall be, with so many post-horses as his Lordship shall have need of'.^{APC} Earl of Sussex, Lord Chamberlain, returned to court at Worcester August 17.

Also July 16: Memoranda to have the Queen's resolution for Ireland, with Sir Henry Sidney's demands.

[July] Killingworth, Sidney's 'plot for the government of Ireland'.

Sidney was to be appointed Lord Deputy of Ireland. [SP63/52/60,83].

With Sir Henry Sidney at Kenilworth were his wife Mary (Leicester's sister), and their son Philip Sidney. Sir Henry's accounts include payments for two 'great oxen given and presented to the Earl of Leicester at Killingworth'; 100 fat muttons 'sent with the same beefs'; and 'divers kinds of poultry'; also, for Lady Mary Sidney at Killingworth, July 24, £5. [De L'Isle, i.362,426].

July 17, Sun At Kenilworth: Bride-ale; Coventry show; play.

Langham: 'After divine service in the parish church'...

'At afternoon...a solemn Bride-ale of a proper couple was appointed, set in order in the Tilt-yard, to come and make their show before the Castle in the Great Court, whereas was pitched a comely Quintain for feats at arms, which when they had done, to march out at the North gate of the Castle homeward again into the town'.

'And thus were they marshalled: First all the lusty lads and bold bachelors of the parish, suitably every wight with his blue buckram bride-lace upon a branch of green broom...tied on his left arm (for a that side lies the heart) and his alder pole for a spear in his right hand...The number of a 16 wight riding men ...but the Bride-groom foremost, in his father's tawny worsted jacket... a fair straw hat...a pair of harvest gloves on his hands...a pen and inkhorn at his back...lame of a leg that in his youth was broken at football'...

'After these horsemen, a lively Morris dance...six dancers, Maid Marian, and the Fool. Then three pretty puzels [maids]...of a 30 year old apiece, that carried three special spice-cakes of a bushel of wheat (they had it by measure out of my Lord's bake-house)'...

'After these a lovely lubber-worts, freckle-faced, redheaded...to bear the bride-cup...all seemly besilvered and parcel gilt...from which two broad bride-laces of red and yellow buckram begilded, and gallantly streaming by such wind as there was (for he carried it aloft)'...

'Then followed the worshipful Bride...35 year old...ugly foul ill-favoured... After this bride came there by two and two a dozen damsels for bridesmaids'...

'The Bride-groom for pre-eminence had the first course at the Quintain'. After 'ran the rest of the band, a while in some order, but soon after tag and rag, cut and long tail'. These riders 'by and by after, upon a greater courage left their quintaining, and ran one at another'...

'And hereto followed as good a sport (methought) presented...by certain good-hearted men of Coventry' who 'made petition that they might renew now their old storial show' of a battle in 1002 when King Ethelred's men defeated the Danes. Because it mentions 'how valiantly our English women for love of their country behaved themselves...they thought it might move some mirth to her Majesty the rather. The thing, said they, is...for pastime wont to be played in our City yearly...till now of late laid down [suppressed]', and 'they would make their humble petition unto her Highness that they might have their plays up again'.

'But aware, keep back, make room now, here they come. And first Captain Cox came marching on valiantly...all fresh in a velvet cap (Master Goldingham lent it him)...and another fence-master with him'...

'After them...the Danish lance-knights on horseback, and then the English'...

'Even at the first entry the meeting waxed somewhat warm, that by and by...grew from a hot skirmish unto a blazing battle, first by spear and shield...and after fall to it with sword and target'. Then 'followed the footmen... Twice the Danes had the better, but at the last conflict beaten down, overcome and many led captive for triumph by our English women'.

This show 'made much matter of good pastime: brought all indeed into the Great Court, e'en under her Highness' window, to have been seen; but... her Highness beholding in the chamber delectable dancing indeed, and herewith the great throng and unruliness of the people, was cause that this solemnity of Bride-ale and dancing had not the full muster was hoped for, and but a little of the Coventry play her Highness also saw; commanded therefore on the Tuesday following to have it full out'...

'After supper was there a play presented of a very good theme, but so set forth by the actors' well handling that pleasure and mirth made it seem very short, though it lasted two good hours and more'...

'After the play out of hand followed a most delicious and...ambrosial banquet...the variety and number of the dishes (that were a three hundred)'...

'Her Majesty ate smally or nothing'...

'Unto this banquet there was appointed a masque, for riches of array of an incredible cost, but the time so far spent and very late in the night now was cause that it came not forth to the show'.

July 18, Mon At Kenilworth. Touching for the King's Evil.

Langham: There were 'by her Highness' accustomed mercy and charity, nine cured of the painful and dangerous disease called the King's Evil; for that Kings and Queens of the realm, without other medicine (save only by handling and prayers) only do cure it'.

Knights: the Queen knighted:

Arthur Bassett, Sheriff of Devon;

Thomas Cecil, Lord Burghley's elder son;

Henry Cobham, of Kent, who was to be special Ambassador to Spain;

Thomas Stanhope, Sheriff of Nottinghamshire;

Thomas Tresham, of Northamptonshire.

July 18, Kenilworth: 'Placard for a cart to London for the Lady Carew, one of the Ladies of the Privy Chamber'.^{APC}

Also July 18: hunting; Triton, the Lady of the Lake, Arion on a Dolphin.
Langham: 'The weather being hot, her Highness kept the Castle for coolness, till about 5 o'clock her Majesty in the Chase hunted the hart...Anon he got him to soil [water] again, which raised the accustomed delight'...

'Well, the game was gotten, and her Highness returning, came there upon a swimming Mermaid, (that from top to tail was an eighteen foot long), Triton, Neptune's blaster, who with his trumpet formed of a wrinkled whelk, as her Majesty was in sight, gave sound very shrill and sonorous, in sign he had an embassy to pronounce. Anon her Highness was come upon the bridge, whereunto he made his fish to swim the swifter, and he then declared how...Neptune...understanding how a cruel knight, one Sir Bruce sans pity...had long lain about the banks of this pool in wait with his bands here to distress the Lady of the Lake', requests the Queen 'but to show your person toward this pool' to put the knight and his band to flight and to deliver the Lady.

In Neptune's name Triton charged the wind and waves 'to keep them calm and quiet while this Queen be present'.

'At which petition her Highness staying...Sir Bruce became unseen...and the Lady by and by, with her two Nymphs, floating upon her movable islands (Triton on his Mermaid skimming by) approached toward her Highness on the bridge... chiefly to present her Majesty...with this gift, which was Arion that excellent and famous musician...riding aloft upon his old friend the Dolphin (that from head to tail was a four and twenty foot long)'.

Arion 'began a delectable ditty of a song' with 'six several instruments... casting sound from the Dolphin's belly within'.

Gascoigne: 'The delivery of the Lady of the Lake', who could 'never be delivered but by the presence of a better maid than herself'.

Verse 'Speech of Triton to the Queen's Majesty', after which
 'Triton soundeth his trumpet and spoke to the winds, waters and fishes'...

'Her Majesty proceeded further on the bridge, and the Lady of the Lake (attended with her two Nymphs) came to her upon heaps of bulrushes'. [Giving thanks, in verse]. 'From thence, her Majesty passing yet further on the bridge, Protheus [or Arion] appeared, sitting on a Dolphin's back. And the Dolphin was conveyed upon a boat, so that the oars seemed to be his fins. Within the which Dolphin a Consort of Music was secretly placed, the which sounded, and Protheus clearing his voice sang this song of congratulation, as well in the behalf of the Lady distressed as also in the behalf of all the Nymphs and Gods of the sea.

The Song of Protheus: 'O noble Queen give ear,

To this my floating muse'...

'This Song [of thanksgiving] being ended, Protheus told the Queen's Majesty a pleasant tale of his delivery, and the fishes which he had in charge'.

'The device of the Lady of the Lake' was by William Hunnis, the verses by Hunnis, George Ferrers, and Henry Goldingham, who was in Leicester's service for many years.

Anecdote: 'There was a spectacle presented to Queen Elizabeth upon the water, and amongst others Harry Goldingham was to represent Arion upon the Dolphin's back, but finding his voice to be very hoarse and unpleasant when he came to perform it, he tears off his disguise and swears he was none of Arion, not he, but e'en honest Harry Goldingham; which blunt discovery pleased the Queen better than if it had gone through in the right way; yet he could order his voice to an instrument exceeding well'. [*H.F.Lippincott, ed. Merry Passages and Jests: ...Jestbook of Sir Nicholas Le Strange (1603-1655), no.221. (Salzburg, 1974)*].

July 18, London, De Guaras to Zayas: 'The Queen, who is now at a castle belonging to Lord Leicester called Kenilworth, has been entertained with much rejoicing there, and it is said that whilst she was going hunting on one of the days, a traitor shot a cross-bow at her. He was immediately taken, although other people assert that the man was only shooting at the deer, and meant no harm. The bolt passed near the Queen but did her no harm, thank God! It was thought that she was going to see the Queen of Scotland, but the contrary now seems to be the case'. [Span.ii.498]. No more is heard of the 'traitor', probably a confused report of an incident with the 'Savage' on July 11.

July 19, La Mothe to Henri III: 'The Queen is on the point of sending one of her gentlemen to visit the Queen of Scots with a present...It gives me great pleasure to see them on better terms than they were'. [vi.475].

July 19, Tues At Kenilworth: Coventry show repeated. [As on July 17].
Langham: 'According to commandment came our Coventry men...Her Majesty laughed well; they were the jocunder, and so much the more because her Highness had given them two bucks and five marks in money, to make merry together'.

Court news. [July 19]. Tuesday, the 20th July, Sir Francis Knollys to Francis Willoughby [of Middleton, Warwicks]: 'Her Majesty is determined to tarry two days at your house, that is to say tomorrow night and Thursday all day [20-21], whereof I thought good to advertise you betimes. Wherefore I think it best for you not to defray her Majesty, but rather that you should give her some good present of beefs and muttens, and to keep a good table yourself in some place, if you have any convenient room for it, two mess of meat. But do herein as you shall think best, but you had need to consider how your provision of drink, etc. may hold out'. [Middleton, 538]. The Queen stayed a week longer at Kenilworth.

July 20, Wed proposed supper, Wedgnock Park, Warwicks.
Show of Diana, and her nymph Zabeta, prepared by George Gascoigne.

Langham: 'Wednesday in the forenoon preparation was in hand for her Majesty to have supped in Wedgenall, a three mile west from the Castle. A goodly park of the Queen's Majesty's. For that cause a fair Pavilion and other provision accordingly thither sent and prepared; but by means of weather not so clearly disposed the matter was countermanded again. That had her Highness happened this day to have come abroad, there was made ready a device of Goddesses and Nymphs, which...would undoubtedly have gained great liking'...

'This day also was there such earnest talk and appointment of removing that I gave over my noting, and hearkened after my horse'.

Gascoigne: 'There was prepared a show to have been presented before her Majesty in the Forest...This show was devised and penned by Mr Gascoigne, and being prepared and ready (every actor in his garment) two or three days together, yet never came to execution. The cause whereof I cannot attribute to any other thing than to lack of opportunity and seasonable weather'.

Gascoigne printed the whole of his 'show' which the Queen failed to see (for reasons which because of its subject-matter have caused some speculation).

It features Diana, Goddess of Chastity, with her Nymphs, searching for Zabeta [Elizabeth], a Nymph whom Diana lost 'near 17 years past' [in 1558].

In the second Act Iris, sent down from Heaven by Juno, comes to urge Zabeta to marry, concluding: 'O Queen, O worthy Queen, Yet never wight felt perfect bliss but such as wedded been'. As the Queen departed from Kenilworth a week later Gascoigne himself told her of Zabeta, but without urging her to marry.

20 July 1575-January 1576: Sir Henry Cobham was special Ambassador to Spain.

July 20: *christening*. Queen was godmother to 'Lord Berkeley's son'.^T
 Parents: Henry 7th Lord Berkeley; 1st wife: Katherine (Howard), daughter of Thomas Howard 3rd Duke of Norfolk. Simon Bowyer 'riding from the court at Killingworth to the Lord Bartlett's' to make ready.^T Queen's gifts, July 20: one basin and a lair gilt, to Lord Berkeley's child.^{NYG} Queen's Deputy: Countess of Warwick. Child: Thomas Berkeley (1575-1611); born July 11 at Caludon Castle, Warwickshire; married (1596) Elizabeth Carey (1576-1635).

July 20: *christening*. Queen was godmother to Mr 'Wenman's son'.^T[daughter].
 Parents: Thomas Wenman; wife: Jane (West), daughter of William West 1st Lord De La Warr. Anthony Wingfield went 'from the court at Killingworth to Mr Wenman's house' to make ready.^T [Twyford, Bucks]. Queen's gift, July 20: one cup with a cover of silver gilt.^{NYG} Child: Elizabeth Wenman.

*July 21/26: At Kenilworth: *Tournament*. The Castle had a Tilt-yard. Armour was made for the Earl of Leicester in the Royal workshops at Greenwich, c.1575, probably for use at Kenilworth. [Now in the Royal Armouries, Leeds].

On Easter Even 1576 at Berechurch, Essex, Richard Southwell was alleged to have spoken words of reproach 'touching the tilting at Killingworth'; he was sent to the Marshalsea Prison. May 25: Richard Southwell esquire, 'that had been charged with certain lewd and inconvenient speeches used of the Queen's Majesty, for the which he had been committed to the Marshal's ward' was freed.^{APC}

c.July 21/26: Treasurer of the Chamber paid 12 Grooms of the Chamber board wages of 12d per day, and Anthony Wingfield and Simon Bowyer 2s per day, for six days during which time they gave their attendance at Killingworth where they had no allowance of meat nor drink by reason there was no great chamber kept'.^T

Court news. July 24, La Mothe to Catherine de Medici:
 'On July 9th the Queen arrived at Kenilworth, where she has been very honourably received. The Earl of Leicester has lodged her and her ladies, and 14 earls, and 17 other principal lords, all in his castle, and has defrayed the whole court by 160 dishes for 12 days, and has laid out among other things 16 barrels of wine and 40 barrels of beer and 10 oxen every day, with such a great abundance of every other sort of good food and fruit and preserves as is astounding. There are 400 servants in new liveries, in addition to gentlemen clad in velvet. And hunting and pastimes in the field, and comedies and dancing indoors, so well ordered that it is a long time since anyone has seen anything so magnificent in this Kingdom. This has been interpreted in various ways, but I believe it is to recognise a grant which the Queen made the Earl this year of several offices, estimated to be worth more than 200,000 crowns'. [vi.479].

Langham: At Kenilworth: 'As all endeavour was to move mirth and pastime... even so a ridiculous device of an ancient minstrel and his song was prepared to have been proffered, if meet time and place had been found for it'...
 'In little more than a three days' space 72 tun of ale and beer was piped up quite', with bread and meat. 'And yet Master Controller, Master Cofferer, and divers officers of the court...placed at Warwick for more room in the Castle'...
 'Devout drinking...brought a lack unlooked for; which being known to...my Lord's good neighbours, came there in a two days' space from sundry friends a relief of a 40 tun, till a new supply was gotten again; and then to our drinking afresh, as fast as ever we did'. There was 'a multitude of 3 or 4,000 every day'. Langham also describes in detail the 'beautiful garden'.

The garden has been re-created by English Heritage: see *The Elizabethan Garden at Kenilworth Castle*, ed. Anna Keay and John Watkins (Swindon, 2013).

By July 26: Hunting: 'The Queen being at Killingworth'.
 Stags killed in the Chase in Richmond Walk, 10:
 'With the Queen's hounds, 3';
 'That the Queen pardoned [on July 13] and died in Killingworth Park, 1'.
 One stag each given to: Lord Paget; the Lord Treasurer [Burghley];
 Lord Hunsdon; Mr Controller [Sir James Croft]; Lord Lumley; Sir Harry Lee.
 Bucks killed in the Chase in Richmond Walk, 16; including: Lady Essex, 1;
 Sir John Hubaud for himself, 1; 'That my Lord killed with his bow, 1';
 'Lord North with his bow, 1; with Lord Warwick's hounds, 1'.
 One buck each given to: Lady Berkeley; Sir Thomas Gresham;
 Mr [Christopher] Hatton; Lady Catesby; Lord Chief Baron [Sir Edward Saunders]
 and 'To the Town of Tewkesbury by Sir John Hubaud'.
 Stags in Forest's Walk, 2:
 'Killed by my Lord of Hunsdon with his bow, 1; Killed by my Lord Lumley, 1'.
 Bucks in Forest's Walk, 19, including:
 Lord North, 1; Sir Harry Lee, 2; Sir George Carey, 1;
 Mr Treasurer [Sir Francis Knollys], 1;
 Mr Taylor, the Queen's cook, 1 [John Smithson alias Taylor];
 'My Lord of Warwick's hounds, 2';
 'My Lord of Derby with his hounds, 2; with the Queen's hounds, 2'.
 To the Mayor of Coventry, 2; To Mr Thomas Dudley, 1; 'Hurt and found dead, 1'.
 Stags killed in Rudfyn Park, 3:
 'In the little park killed by the Queen with her bow, 1';
 Lord Buckhurst, 1. 'One stag died in the great park'.
 Bucks killed in Rudfyn Park, 19; including one each by:
 Earl of Hertford; Earl of Northumberland;
 Master of the Requests [Dr Thomas Wilson]; Mr Philip Sidney;
 Mrs Blanche Parry; 'killed by the Queen a bald buck';
 Lord Berkeley; Lady Sidney; 'Lady Lucy and Mrs Palmer casually, 1'.
 'The Queen in the little park a black buck; my Lord in the little park, 1'.
 Stags in Duck's Park: 'Killed at the Queen being there, 4'.
 Bucks in Duck's Park: 'At the Queen being there killed with hunting
 and all casualties, 5'. [Leicester's Huntsman's Book: De L'Isle MS U1475 E93].

Sir John Hubaud (twice referred to) was Constable of Kenilworth and Steward of Leicester's estates in four counties. The Queen gave him: 'A jewel, being a greyhound of gold set with three diamonds and three rubies, with a collar about his neck garnished with sparks of diamonds and a small pearl pendant'.

This had been given to the Queen by Lady Howard as a New Year gift, 1575.
 [BL Sloane MS 814].

Warwick *Black Book*: 'Her Majesty lay at Kenilworth...and her Household at Warwick, by reason whereof great diligence was to be given by the Bailiff of Warwick as well for the good government of the town as for the dutiful expediting of such things as by him were to be done for the furtherance of her Majesty's service divers ways, as by dispatching of letters by post which came very thick, as also by providing and furnishing her Majesty's officers with all manner of carriages, which were also very many by reason of her Majesty and her Household lying asunder, and by reason of so many removes appointed and not kept. And by reason of horses provided for such as had commission to take horses, which were so many that for a month's space and more 33 horses, 30 horses, and when they were fewest 20 horses, would scarce suffice to serve commissions, some to Kenilworth, some to Lichfield, some further. And as in this so in all things else his service was not only expected but also at all hours of day and night required'. [Described by John Fisher, a former Bailiff of Warwick. *Black Book of Warwick*, 203].

July 27, Wed Queen's departure from Kenilworth.
Langham: 'Her Highness tarried at Killingworth till...Wednesday...being the 27 of this July'. Farewell by Sylvanus as the Queen rode away, hunting.

Gascoigne: 'The Queen's Majesty hasting her departure from thence, the Earl commanded Master Gascoigne to devise some Farewell worth the presenting, whereupon he himself clad like unto Sylvanus, God of the Woods, and meeting her as she went on hunting, spoke (extempore)'. Sylvanus wishes the Queen would determine 'for ever to abide in this country'. He 'will not presume to stay your hunting' but asks to attend as a footman, to conduct her in safety through the woods and forests, and also to recount 'certain adventures'.

'Herewith her Majesty proceeded, and Sylvanus continued as followeth':
[Twice within the past twenty days he had been summoned to appear before the Gods. He at first found in Heaven nothing but 'rejoicing and mirth' at the Queen's coming, but at his second summons 'there was nothing but weeping and wailing' at her impending departure. The Gods had decided to send a Messenger to beg the Queen to remain].

'Here her Majesty stayed her horse to favour Sylvanus, fearing lest he should be driven out of breath by following her horse so fast. But Sylvanus humbly besought her Highness to go on, declaring that if his rude speech did not offend her he could continue this tale to be twenty miles long. And therewithal protested that he had rather be her Majesty's footman on earth, than a God on horseback in Heaven, proceeding as followeth':

He had decided 'to plead in person' to the Queen, 'and therefore I have continually awaited these three days to espy when your Majesty would...come on hunting this way'. He promises her all that can be got 'for the furtherance of your delights' and starts to recount 'strange and pitiful adventures'.

Gascoigne tells the Queen of Diana, whose 'gallant and beautiful Nymphs' include Zabeta, 'surpassing all the rest'. Zabeta has rejected many 'famous and worthy persons', changing some into plants. Sylvanus points out an old Oak (Constancy), a Poplar (Inconstancy), an Ash-tree (Vainglory), a Briar (Contention), Ivy (Ambition), a Laurel-tree and a Holly-bush (Due Desert and his brother Deep Desire).

'Her Majesty came by a close Arbour, made all of Holly, and while Sylvanus pointed to the same the principal bush shook. For therein were placed both strange Music, and one who was there appointed to represent Deep Desire'.

Deep Desire 'spoke out of the Holly-bush' imploring the Queen to stay, the heavens having shed tears 'these five days past'...

'Vouchsafe O comely Queen,
yet longer to remain,
Or still to dwell amongst us here.
O Queen command again,
This Castle and the Knight,
which keeps the same for you.
These woods, these waves, these fowls, these fishes,
these deer which are your due.
Live here good Queen, live here,
you are amongst your friends,
Their comfort comes when you approach,
and when you part it ends...'

'Herewith the Consort of Music sounded, and Deep Desire sung this song. "Come Muses come, and help me to lament". 'This song being ended, the music ceased'. Sylvanus begged the Queen to restore Deep Desire to his former state, whereat 'heaven will smile, the earth will quake, men will clap their hands'.

He concluded by praying for 'the flourishing estate of your royal person. Whom God now and ever preserve to his good pleasure and our great comfort. Amen'.

[July 27,Wed] dinner, Meriden, Warwicks; Mr Foster.^T
 Meriden manor-house; owned by William Foster, died 1592;
 wife: Anne, daughter of Edward Aglionby, Recorder of Warwick.

[July 27,Wed] via Great Packington, Warwicks, where the churchwardens
 'Spent of the ringers when the Queen's Majesty came through the parish, 15d'.

July 27,Wed **MIDDLETON**, Warwicks; Mr Willoughby.^{T,W}
 Middleton manor-house, Middleton Hall; owned by Francis Willoughby, also
 of Wollaton, Nottinghamshire; died 1597; 1st wife: Elizabeth (Lyttleton).

In June Francis was advised by his kinsman George Willoughby about
 preparations for the progress: his servants 'need only to have plain livery
 coats but...should in no wise be less than 50, as well because heretofore he
 had not shown himself to the Queen, as also that his estate was very well
 known both to her Majesty and the whole Council to be nothing inferior to
 the best. For himself...he cannot make less than three suits of apparel,
 for...his attendance will be expected a week'. [Middleton, 538].

Anthony Wingfield made ready 'at Middleton Hall two several times'.^T
 The Queen had planned to arrive a week earlier (see letter, July 19).

Knights at Middleton: William Catesby, of Northants;
 Francis Willoughby, at his own house.^M

[July 28,Thur] via Swinfen, Weeford, Staffs.
 Anthony Wingfield made ready 'a house at Swaynfield where her Majesty did
 shift her'.^T *Swinfen Hall, Weeford parish; owned by the Swinfen family.
 For the Queen to change her apparel prior to entry to Lichfield.

July 28,Thur **LICHFIELD**, Staffs.
 'Lichfield town'.^W A postponed visit.

Anthony Wingfield and his nine men 'making ready for her Majesty at
 Lichfield and for their attendance there by reason her Majesty went not
 as she was appointed'; making ready 'the church at Lichfield'.^T

Francis Walsingham, the Queen's Secretary, who left Kenilworth on July 27
 and stayed overnight at Kingsbury (near Middleton), on July 28 'went to
 Tamworth Castle to dinner and from thence to Lichfield'.^{WA}

Gift to the Queen from Lichfield Bailiffs: £40 in gold.
 St Michael's Church: 'Paid to the ringers when the Queen's Majesty was
 in Lichfield, 4s'.

*July 30,Sat dinner, Lord Paget.^T [Burton-upon-Trent, Staffs].
 Thomas 4th Lord Paget (c.1544-1590); Catholic; wife: Nazareth (Newton),
 formerly a Gentlewoman of the Bedchamber; widow of Thomas Southwell,
 whom she married at court; she died in 1583.

Lord Paget had several houses in Staffordshire, including the former Burton
 Abbey; he lived mainly at Burton in the 1570s, and had an inventory made, 1575.

The parish register of Alrewas, midway between Lichfield and Burton, has a
 note in Latin that the Queen returned to Lichfield on July 30 and remained
 there until August 3.

July 30, Lichfield: 'Placard for post-horses for Edward St Loe, gentleman,
 appointed to repair to the Spa to visit from the Queen's Majesty the Earl and
 Countess of Pembroke'.^{APC} The Queen also sent 'Monsieur Burcot', one of her
 physicians; he was taken to Calais in *The Bark of Boulogne* in August.^N

Countess of Pembroke: the Earl of Shrewsbury's daughter; Edward St Loe: his
 stepson, being the son of the Countess of Shrewsbury by Sir William St Loe.

July 31, Sun new Privy Councillor: Sir Henry Sidney 'appointed to be Deputy of her Highness's realm of Ireland', was sworn a Privy Councillor.

Also 'Placard for a cart for the conveying of the Lord Treasurer's stuff to Buxton and back again to such place as the court shall be at, and for post-horses as he shall have need of'.^{APC} Lord Burghley, Lord Treasurer, returned to the court at Worcester on August 17.

[July], Lichfield, *Walsingham to Mr [John] Herbert: 'Nothing is thought of at court but banqueting and pastime, but it was somewhat interrupted by fear of a breach with Scotland [after the Raid of Reidswire]'. [SP12/45/p.29].

Aug 3, Francis Walsingham to Lord Burghley, of an angry letter from the Queen to Henry Killigrew, to be delivered to Regent Morton (still holding 300 English prisoners after the Raid of Reidswire on July 7):

'The letter drawn by your Lordship, directed to Mr Killigrew, the same being signed by all the Councillors here save one, was torn in pieces, as others have been heretofore...and thereupon I was commanded to draw another of another temper, which was so seasoned with choler, as I think we may take our leave of the amity of Scotland. I never wrote letter with worse will'.

[Killigrew toned down the message to Regent Morton, who released the English prisoners, giving them many presents]. [Read, Walsingham, ii.139-140].

August 3: *The Queen left Lichfield. The Bailiffs' payments included:*
 'To the Queen's most excellent Majesty in gold, £40; for charges for 8 days when the Queen's Majesty was here, £7.10s6d; William Hollcroft, for keeping Mad Richard when her Majesty was here, 5s;...paviors for paving about the Market Cross, 2s; bestowed upon the Harbingers at Widow Hill's, 8d; painting the Market Cross, 19s; to the Queen's Majesty's Harbingers, 10s; Clerk of the Market, £2; Footmen, £3; Messengers of the Chamber, £1; Trumpeters, £2; Trumpeters at the time of Proclamation made by the Clerk of the Market, 10s; Knight Marshal's men, 13s4d; Yeomen of the Bottles, 13s4d; Robes, 2s; Queen's Porters, 10s; keeper of Mr Ralph Bowes' tent, 2s6d [Master of the Queen's Games]; Black Guard, £1; to them of the Privy Bakehouse, 3s4d; Slaughtermen 3s4d; Queen's Coachmen, 10s; Post Master, £1; Serjeant of Arms, £3; Yeoman that carried the sword, 10s; Yeoman that carried the mace, 10s; Yeoman that surveyed the ways for the Queen, 6s8d; to Mr Cartwright, that should have made the oration, £5; the ringers of St Mary's Church, £1.4s; for two days labouring at Longbridge to cast down the way for the Queen's Majesty's coming, 7s4d;...painting and mending the Guildhall, 3s10d;...Widow Hill, for 2 dozen wax torches and one link, £1.4s;...six men to go with the Queen's treasure to Rugeley, 1s'.
 [Bailiffs' Accounts, Lichfield RO].

Aug 3, Wed dinner, Lady Gresley. [Colton, Staffs].

Anthony Wingfield made ready 'at the old Lady Gresley's'.^T

Colton manor-house. Lady Gresley: Katherine (Aston), widow of Sir William Gresley, of Colton (died 1573); she died in 1585.

Aug 3: Francis Walsingham left Lichfield for Stafford.^{WA}

Aug 3, Wed **CHARTLEY**, Staffs; Countess of Essex.

Simon Bowyer made ready 'at Chartley the Earl of Essex's house'.^T

Walter Devereux, 1st Earl of Essex, was in Ireland; the Countess and their young children had remained in England; she was Lettice (Knollys) (1543-1634), a cousin of the Queen. The Earl returned to court in November.

Aug 4, Chartley: The Queen lost five buttons of gold enamelled blue 'from the loose gown of black wrought velvet'. [Lost, 193].

Court news. Aug 6, La Mothe to Henri III: 'The Earl of Leicester openly declared to me that...he hoped to be the one who would go to bring you the Garter...One of the leading personages of this Kingdom has secretly informed me that at Kenilworth one day the Queen called her Council into her chamber, among other things to appoint who should bring you the Garter. She and they...judged it expedient not to name anyone for this embassy until they had a little more knowledge of your Majesty's intention as to the proposal [for marriage with the Duke of Alençon] so that she could, from the many lords in her court, choose the one whom they considered to be most fit to negotiate this matter'. [vi.484-5].

The Earl of Derby went to France in 1585 to invest the King.

Court news. Aug 7, Stafford, Francis Walsingham to Lord Burghley:

'By these enclosed gestes [itinerary] yesterday determined on, your Lordship may perceive how her Majesty's determination to go to Worcester is altered, upon advertisement from thence that the town should be visited with smallpox. This alteration, as I suppose, doth hasten her Majesty's repair to Dudley Castle sooner than was determined'. [Wright, ii.16]. The gestes are not extant.

Court news. Aug 7, Buxton, Lord Burghley to Francis Walsingham:

'My Lord Chamberlain [Earl of Sussex] received from my Lord Howard advertisement both of your gestes altered from Worcester and after that of their restitution to Worcester. Howsoever it will be, I see the Queen's Majesty is to be at Dudley the 10th, where I am very sorry I cannot be, specially for satisfaction of my Lord and Lady Dudley, who I know would gladly have me there, the rather to further some of their suits'. [SP12/105/24]. Queen arrived at Worcester Aug 13.

Aug 8, Mon dinner, Stafford Castle, Staffs; Lord Stafford.

Castle owned by Edward, 3rd Lord Stafford (1536-1603); wife: Mary (Stanley), daughter of Edward Stanley 3rd Earl of Derby; she died in 1609.

A postponed visit. Anthony Wingfield made ready 'at Stafford Castle two several times'; Simon Bowyer also made ready [for dinner].^T

St Mary's Church register has a memorandum of the Queen's visit, stating that on August 8 she was received 'upon the pool dam without the East Gates', and was given 'a goodly large standing cup of silver and gilt of £30 price, which her Highness cheerfully and thankfully received'. She went 'over the river to Stafford park'. [Register, and Borough records: Staffs RO].

Stafford borough records: 'Queen Elizabeth came in progress from Chartley... and before she came to this town each man's house was new painted, the streets gravelled, and the Cross...was repaired and set in fresh colours'...

'The Bailiffs accompanied with their brethren went on foot to meet her Majesty upon the Eastgate Dam over against Crosspennyes Croft, where the Bailiffs presented her Majesty with a cup, being two cups in one, closed in the mouth, in height two foot or more, in value £30, which she most lovingly received, using most gracious favourable words, saying to the Bailiffs and their brethren "Alas poor souls, other towns give us of their wealth and you give us of your want, but if you can devise any manner way how we may do you good, speak now and we will further you".'

'After this William Lamb, schoolmaster, made an oration unto her Majesty, which being ended the Bailiffs stood up and delivered unto her Majesty their maces, which she received and delivered the same back again, commanding the said Bailiffs to receive them, which they receiving, having their horses ready with their foot-cloths, mounted upon them and rode next before her Majesty's Sword-bearer'.

'So passed she in at the East Gate and so all along the street until she came into the Market Place, where she stood still and bid them speak to her Majesty that were in any need'.

'She commended the situation of the town and asked what was the cause of the decay of the same. And answer was made that the decay of Capping was one cause thereof, another for that the Assizes was taken away from the town. To the which her Majesty most lovingly answered that she would renew and establish better the said Statute for Capping, and for the Assizes she gave her promise that the same should ever after be kept at Stafford'.

'And so after many most sweet and gracious words, to the great comfort of the poor inhabitants of Stafford, she passed along through the Market Place and so in at the Crobery Lane to the Broad Eye and over at the new bridge, where the Bailiffs left her Majesty, her Highness going directly to Stafford Castle, where she stayed to dinner and so departed thence'.

To benefit the wool trade a Statute of 1571 ordered the wearing of woollen caps on Sundays and holidays by everyone over six, except ladies, gentlewomen, knights, gentlemen, and nobles. They were to be made in England, and dressed and finished by some of the Trade of Cappars. For each day not worn there was to be a fine of 3s4d. The caps became known as Statute caps.

Privy Council letter, 25 Oct 1575, 'in the behalf of the Company of Cappars of Lichfield and elsewhere that...the Queen's Majesty hath granted to them the forfeitures growing unto her for the not observation of a certain Statute made ...for...wearing of caps'.^{APC} There was a Proclamation, 19 November 1575, for all to wear caps according to the Statute.

Stafford continued to be an Assize town.

Aug 8, Mon **CHILLINGTON**, Brewood, Staffs; Mr Giffard.^T

Chillington manor-house, Brewood parish; owned by John Giffard (c.1532-1613); wife: Joyce (Leveson), died 1608; Catholics; 14 children.

John Giffard, Justice of the Peace, and other recusants, were called before the Council at Worcester on August 17.

Aug 8: Lord Dunsany at court.

Patrick Plunkett, 7th Lord Dunsany, an Irish peer, had arrived from London.

Aug 8, court, Dunsany to Lord Burghley, at Buxton, 'to remember your Lordship again of my poor estate...The lack of ability to maintain my estate, and to continue in her Majesty's service, constraining me to depart from my country... I know not by what steps to ascend to the gracious consideration of her Highness ...but only by the means of your Lordship's favour...Since I am ignorant in what sort to sue unto her Majesty, as also for what to sue, being a beggar and no chooser, I beseech your Lordship's direction'. [HT.MS 198/141].

Aug 10, Wed **DUDLEY CASTLE**, Worcs.^T Lord Dudley.

Dudley Castle, in a detached part of Worcestershire, although just outside Dudley, Staffordshire; owned by Edward Sutton, 4th Lord Dudley, died 1586.

3rd wife: Mary (Howard), former Maid of Honour, daughter of William 1st Lord Howard of Effingham, former Lord Chamberlain; married Lord Dudley at court in 1571; she married (2) Richard Mompesson; she died in 1600.

Burghley had written, Aug 7, that the Queen would be at Dudley on Aug 10.

Halesowen, Worcs, churchwardens: 'Paid unto William Cokesay for washing the church gear and mending the ropes and also for train [oil] and candles when the Queen was at Dudley, 12d'.

Aug 12, Fri Sir Henry Sidney at Dudley Castle to take leave.

Sidney, prior to returning to Ireland as Lord Deputy, took leave of the Queen 'kissing her sacred hands, with most gracious and comfortable words'.

On his way to the coast Sir Henry was entertained by Shrewsbury Corporation with his son Philip, a former pupil of Shrewsbury School; Sir Henry landed in Ireland in September. [Wallace, 157].

Aug 12, Fri **HARTLEBURY**, Worcs; Bishop of Worcester's palace.^T

'Hartlebury Castle, the Lord of Worcester's'.^W

Dr Nicholas Bullingham (c.1511-1576), Bishop 1571-1576.

2nd wife: Elizabeth (Lok), widow of Richard Hill, mercer.

The Bishop's monument remains in Worcester Cathedral.

Aug 13, London, La Mothe to Henri III: 'The Queen of Scots is well, and is pressing that her cousin the Queen of England, having come within a day and a half of her, would see her; but I understand that she has only sent someone to visit her'. [vi.490].

By August 13: Worcester preparations for the Queen's visit.

Worcester city council meeting, July 16, orders included:

'The four gates shall be set in some decent colour, viz. in an ash colour, with her Majesty's Arms both within and without'.

'Every person having any dunghills or miskins [heaps of rubbish] and timber within the liberties shall cause the same to be carried away within 10 days next, and so shall keep clean their soils and pave the same with all convenient speed'.

'Every inhabitant of the Foregate Street, the High Street, the Broad Street, Newport Street and so over the bridge unto the end of the liberties...Sudbury Street to the end of the liberties there, shall provide gravel for their soils'.

'Every inhabitant...shall forthwith white-lime and colour their houses with comely colours'.

'The Chamberlains shall set out very comely with colours the front of the Guildhall with gilding the Queen's Arms. The four maces and the Alderman's staff shall be gilt on the heads, the feathers and knots'.

'Two pageants or stages to be set forward, the one at the Grass Cross and the other in St Albans Street end at St Helen's Church'.

'Mr Bell as deputy to Sir John Throckmorton knight our Recorder to be spoken with touching the oration, and to be rewarded for his pains'.

'The Grass Cross and the Cross without Sudbury to be set in colours, together with the King's picture at Sudbury Gate'. Detailed instructions for meeting the Queen 'at Salt lane end in the Foregate Street'.

'The livery gowns of every Company...to be viewed by Master Bailiffs and their Brethren to be comely and decent'...

'A fair cup to be bought at London for the presenting the gift to the Queen's Majesty; and £40 in sovereigns and angels of her own coin or stamp'...

'A cup worth £10 to be provided and bought to present Sir James Croft, knight, Controller of the Queen's Majesty's house, for his counsel and friendship showed to this city. It is agreed that £212 shall be levied towards the charges in receiving the Queen's Majesty'...

'It is agreed that there be in a readiness 17 post-horses through the city and ready to serve'.

Worcester reception of the Queen: from 'The order of receiving the Queen's Majesty, with a brief discourse of her continuance here'.

Worcester Chamber Order Book.

Modern editions: Nichols, Progresses (2014), ii.336-358; with expenses.

Records of Early English Drama: Herefordshire, Worcestershire, 425-443.

Aug 13, Sat via Whistones Farm, Claines.
Simon Bowyer made ready 'a house for her Majesty to shift her in before she came into Worcester'.^T

'Her Highness came towards this City...in her progress between 7 and 8 o'clock in the afternoon...And did alight at a house near to the same city called Whistones Farm, there to attire herself, in that respect of her willing good mind to show herself comfortable to the citizens and to a great number of people of all countries about there assembled. And after a little space her Majesty came riding upon her palfry towards the said city'.

Aug 13, Sat **WORCESTER**; Bishop's Palace.

Dr Nicholas Bullingham. Simon Bowyer, Gentleman Usher, made ready 'the Bishop of Worcester's house' and 'the church at Worcester'.^T [the cathedral].

'In the confines of the liberties of the same city being at Salt Lane end Mr Christopher Dighton and Mr Richard Spark Bailiffs of the said City, Mr Thomas Heywood and Mr John Combey Aldermen of the same, and Mr George Warburton High Chamberlain of the City aforesaid together with one Mr William Bellue [Bell] Master of Art...together with others to the number of 12 persons who had been Bailiffs, all in scarlet gowns faced with black satin. And the residue of the number of the 24 in murrey in grain gowns, and all the 48 in violet in grain gowns. And all other occupations standing on a row on the east side of the Foregate Street in their best apparel, having severally their streamers held before every occupation, and stretching up very near to the Foregate'.

'And at the presence of her Majesty approaching near to the said confines of the said liberties, the said Bailiffs and all the residue aforesaid on their knees, the said Mr Bell our Orator kneeling between the said Bailiffs began in grateful words and few speeches on the City's behalf to yield up our liberties unto her Majesty's hands by their maces. And the said Mr Dighton [High Bailiff] kissing his mace delivered the same to her Majesty. The which she bowing her body towards him received with a cheerful countenance, and said it was very well. And so the residue, viz. Mr Low Bailiff, Master Aldermen, in like manner yielding up their maces and the said High Chamberlain the Alderman's staff'.

'The which all she received as before and redelivered the same again severally unto them. After which done they all resorted again to their places, and all kneeling the said Mr Bell began his oration'.

The Orator recounted past royal connections with Worcester, thanking the Queen for granting it a Free School; then compared the past with the present.

"This city of long time so increased in wealth, substance and beautiful buildings. And became so fortunate in the trade of clothing, as...in good and fresh memory of man there were here used and maintained...380 great looms, whereby 8000 persons were well maintained in wealth...Then flourished this city and became populous'. Worcester 'was sometime wealthy, beautiful and well inhabited...At this day your Majesty shall see and find the wealth wasted and decayed, the beauty faded, the buildings ruined, the 380 looms of clothing come to the number of 160...So that of all that was there is almost nothing left but a ruinous city or decayed'...

At 'the joyful days' of your Coronation 'the whole city did so rejoice and so effectually signify the same...as the like is never remembered to be done. And therefore no marvel though their heavy hearts be now in happy hope...for due proof whereof may it like your Highness to behold the populous concourse of the multitude, the greedy eyes cast upon your Majesty on every side, the ways and streets filled with companies of all ages...the houses and habitations lately risen from their rueful ruin to a more lively and fresh furniture'...

'We may soothly say, O Sovereign, for ourselves and the whole body of this realm, that if all just laws had not cast upon your Majesty the inheritance and rightful succession in this Kingdom, we might my lords in merit most justly have elected her Majesty thereunto, and have said with the prophet Samuel, Behold see ye not whom the Lord hath chosen and how there is not a like unto her among all the people'...

We vow 'the willing expense of our goods and lives at your Majesty's commandment. In token of which...the Bailiffs and citizens here present your Majesty with this poor piece and small portion therein contained, most humbly beseeching your Highness to accept the same...Whose Highness God preserve in blessed life in royal reign in Nestor's years among us".

'In the end of which oration the people cried with loud voices "God save your Grace, God save your Majesty". Unto whom she with a cheerful countenance said often times "I thank you, I thank you all".

'This oration being ended...Mr Bell, receiving from the said Mr Dighton the silver cup with its cover double gilt worth £10.18s2d, the fairest that might be found in London, and in the same cup £40 in half sovereigns of her own coin and stamp...did present her Majesty therewith...She receiving the same gave them thanks most heartily. And the said Bailiffs, Aldermen, Orator, and the High Chamberlain, having their horses ready by the five Serjeants, apparelled all in one livery of turkey colour, mounted on horseback and were placed by one of the Gentlemen Ushers next before the Lord Chamberlain bearing her Majesty's sword before her...the said officers carrying their maces'.

'And then her Majesty did ride forward towards the Grass Cross, with lights plentifully provided by the citizens at their doors, besides the Guard and others...carrying staff-torches. At which Cross there was a pageant or stage very comely decked by Mr Ralph Wyatt and Mr Thomas Heywood appointed for that purpose, with three boys uttering very very good and delectable matter in their speeches...whereunto her Highness and the rest did give very attentive ear. And so ended, though with great crying of the people (as before) "God save your Grace". She still thanked the people with a cheerful countenance'.

She came next 'to St Helen's Church end, where there was one other stage or pageant likewise decked by the said persons...And many merry speeches and countenance proceeded from her Majesty in hearing of three boys there appointed...with the like crying of the people and her Majesty's cheerful words towards the people as before. And so good liking of the matter, as being foul and rainy weather she called for her cloak and hat, and tarried the end'.

'And from thence she passed towards the Cathedral church. And in entering into the porch Nicholas Bullingham the Lord Bishop of Worcester, with Dr Wilson the Dean, and Prebendaries, and the rest of the choir'.

'The Bishop...the Dean and the rest in their surplices, in the same porch saluted her Majesty. And one of the scholars of her school there pronounced an oration in Latin, whereunto she was attentive and thereof took very good liking, which oration ended she on her knees heard there certain service for that time appointed and made her prayers'.

'And after a gift given to her Majesty in a purse of crimson velvet wrought with gold, being £20 in gold in it, she entered into the church with great and solemn singing and music with cornets and sackbuts, with a canopy borne over her. And so up into the chancel, where she diligently viewed the tomb of King John, together with the chapel and tomb of her dear uncle, late Prince Arthur, all richly and beautifully adorned'.

'And from the church her Majesty passed towards the Bishop's Palace. And after she came into the Great Chamber Master Bailiffs, Master Aldermen, the said Orator and High Chamberlain, kneeling as she came by them did put down their maces. And she bowing her head towards them thanked them for her mirth, and offered her hand unto them to kiss, which done they departed'.

Aug 14, Sun At Worcester: Queen at Cathedral service.

'Her Majesty was disposed to ride in her coach or wagon to the Cathedral church to hear service and sermon, with the noblemen and others on horseback before Master Bailiffs, Aldermen, our Orator and High Chamberlain carrying their maces on horseback and placed next before the Serjeants at Arms'.

'And then the Lord Chamberlain carrying her sword before her Majesty, and after her...the Earl of Leicester Master of her Highness' horses following her with her palfrey in hand. And then the noblewomen, ladies, maidens of honour and the waiting maidens all on horseback'.

'And the people being innumerable in the streets and church-yard, crying to her Majesty "God save your Majesty, God save your Grace", unto whom she rising showed herself at both sides of her coach unto them, and often times said "I thank you, I thank you all".

'And so, the Masters of the City standing in their scarlet gowns at the end of the High street turning into the churchyard, her Majesty proceeded into the churchyard and church with a cheerful countenance. And at three several places in the church, being upon the...steps she turned herself back, showing herself unto the people, who crying "God save your Majesty" she also with a loud voice gave them hearty thanks as before'.

'And into the chancel. And being settled in her travers or seat richly decked and adorned in the upper end of the chancel next to Prince Arthur's Chapel. And hearing a great and solemn noise of singing of service in the choir, both by note and also playing with cornets and sack-buts. Which being finished Mr Dr Longworth, a Prebendary, there did read the Epistle, and Mr Dr Wilson, Dean, did read the Gospel'.

'And which ended Dr Bullingham Bishop of Worcester did preach before her Majesty and the nobles and others being present and a great audience. Which finished her Majesty returned again to the palace in like order as before'.

Aug 15, Worcester, Council: 'A letter to the Sheriff of the county of Oxford that whereas her Majesty minded to come shortly to Woodstock, and was informed that the Plague was at Chipping Norton and other places of that county, he should forthwith repair into those parts, and upon conference with the Justices of Peace dwelling thereabout, call the chief officers of the towns infected and such others where it may be feared the infection will come, and straitly charge them to shut up the houses infected, that they be not suffered to go abroad, providing, nevertheless, that they may be relieved of food and other necessaries'.^{APC}

The Queen arrived at Woodstock on August 29.

Aug 15, Worcester, Sir Thomas Smith to Lord Burghley:

'Here is talk that the court remaineth here till Saturday [August 20], and then some talk that her Majesty goeth again to Shrewsbury, but I trust that will not be true, but rather straight to Woodstock. Men are weary, the way and the weather foul, the country sore vexed with carriage'. [BL Harl 6992, f.19].

Aug 15, Worcester, Francis Walsingham to Lord Burghley: 'Touching her Majesty's stay in this town it is this day concluded that she shall stay here until Saturday next...This day I am repairing homeward, being licensed by her Majesty to be absent until her repair unto Woodstock'. [SP12/105/27].

Also Aug 15: Bailiffs, Aldermen, and the Orator went to Sir James Croft, Controller of the Household, Privy Councillor, 'lying at Mr Steyner's'.

The Orator presented him with 'a fair piece of gilt enchased plate in manner of tankard, with a cover, worth £6.8s1d'. 'He 'promised to love them as his good neighbours'. Croft was a native of Herefordshire, the adjacent county.

Aug 16, Tues dinner, Hindlip, Worcs; Mr Abington.^T
Hindlip manor-house; owned by John Abington (1515-1582), Cofferer of the royal Household 1580-1582; wife: Catherine (Wykes). Memorial in Hindlip Church.

'Her Highness did ride towards Hindlip to Mr Abington's house to dinner with a great number. Amongst whom both the Bailiffs, Aldermen, Orator and High Chamberlain did ride in their scarlet gowns carrying their said maces before her Majesty in Sampson's field without the Foregate (being a made way) unto the end of our liberties. And turning back again, and alighting from their horses to have done their duties on their knees, and for that the ways were foul her Majesty said unto them "I pray you keep your horses and do not alight".

'And at her Majesty's coming homewards towards the city the said Bailiffs, Aldermen, Orator and High Chamberlain met her Majesty as before without the city about 8 o'clock in the evening. And so did bear their maces before her Majesty unto the Palace gate, she riding on horseback, her coach being present, and foul weather, with a cheerful princely countenance towards her subjects praying for her Majesty', who 'turning her horse on every side and comfortable speeches to her subjects did give very hearty thanks divers and often times'.

'Every house in the streets having both candles in lanterns, torches, and candles burning on every side, besides a great number of staff-torches carried on every side of her by her Guard, which all gave a marvellous light'.

Aug 17, Wed, Worcester: Privy Council meeting, at which four Bishops were present. Bishops of: Hereford; Coventry and Lichfield; Rochester; Worcester.

John Giffard (the Queen's host at Chillington, August 8-10), was among seven Staffordshire Catholics summoned before the Council 'and being called in and charged that they went not to church and confessing the same, were afterwards one by one called in apart to show what causes they had so to do, and they alleging their consciences and examples of their forefathers who taught them so, and seeming to be content to be communed with, for their better instruction were by their Lordships referred to a conference to be had with them by the Bishops abovenamed and other learned men the next day, and upon their report of their towardness and conformity their Lordships would take further order'.^{APC}

Also Aug 17: Bailiffs, Aldermen, and Orator went to the Earl of Leicester, 'lying in Mr Dr Bullingham's house, a Prebendary'. The Orator declared that they came to bid him welcome 'and in token of their poor good wills they have brought to your Honour two gallons of hippocras, beseeching you to bear your honourable favour towards this city. And thereupon the Earl took them all by the hands and thanked them heartily, and said as followeth "I assure you, tis a city that I love with all my heart, and if I may any way do it good you shall find me willing and ready". And so bade them all farewell'.

Aug 18, Thur Bailiffs, Aldermen, and Orator went to the Earl of Warwick 'to welcome his Honour with the like present' of hippocras wine. He 'took them all by the hands, and said "This is a proper city, it is pity it should decay and become poor. And for my part I will devise some way to do it good"...

'They did the like to the Earl of Sussex, Lord Chamberlain, for that he came but overnight. And being in his bed and somewhat diseased, sent them very hearty thanks by his secretary but they spoke not with him'.

'And likewise the same day they saluted Sir William Cecil knight, Lord Treasurer, for that he came likewise but the night before, lying in the Dean's house, who came unto them and did take them all by the hands and thanked them all for their gentle courtesy'. [The Earl of Sussex and William Cecil, Lord Burghley, had been taking the waters at Buxton].

Aug 18, Worcester: The Queen lost 'one button of gold enamelled russet from a French gown'. [Lost, 194].

Also Aug 18, afternoon: hunting, Hallow Park, Worcs; Mr Abington. Hallow manor-house and Hallow Park were leased from the Bishop of Worcester by John Abington, with whom the Queen had dined at Hindlip on August 16.

'After dinner her Majesty rode to Hallow Park, being Mr Abington's, on her palfrey. And being on Hinwick Hill, she viewing Pitchcroft and all the fields adjoining the city...turning her palfrey marvelled to see such a number of horses together, whereunto it was answered by her footmen and others citizens being present that it was a common ground and kept several [separate] for her Majesty's horses and of her retinue and train, for the which she gave the city great thanks. During which time of her Majesty's abode here there were pastured by credible report above 1500 horses and geldings, without paying anything therefor, saving small rewards to watchmen who kept them day and night (which was but 1d for a horse for 400 horses). The noblemen's horses were pastured in several pastures by themselves near unto the city. And thanks be to God, amongst the said great number of horses and geldings not one horse or gelding was either stolen, strayed away, or perished'.

'And after her Majesty came to Hallow Park she hunted. And with her bow she killed one buck and struck another buck, which being recovered she called for Mr Abington, asking him how many bucks be killed. And said "Two bucks". And then said she "Let one of the bucks be brought to the one Bailiff's house, and the other buck to the other Bailiff's house"...which bucks were brought the Bailiffs' houses accordingly'.

Description by John Abington's son Thomas:

'Hallow lying a mile and a half from Worcester on the western bank of Severn is so raised on a small hill...the house hath a most pleasant prospect over Severn and all Worcester, even to Bredon's hills, placed in a little but most delicate park, whose higher ground abounding in mint yieldeth a sweet savour, and whose sandy paths are ever dry, insomuch as Queen Elizabeth hunting there (whilst the abundance of harts beating the mint did bruise but a natural perfume), gave it an extraordinary commendation, a dainty situation scarce second to any in England'. [Thomas Habington, ed. John Amphlett, *A Survey of Worcestershire*, 2 vols. (1895-99), i.543-4].

John Abington's sons Edward and Thomas were implicated in the Babington Plot in 1586. Edward was executed; Thomas (1560-1647) was released from prison in 1590, and returned to Worcestershire, where he wrote his Survey published in the 19th century. Thomas Nashe: 'Had he not been Queen Elizabeth's godson, and the merits of his father considered, it is thought he would have been executed'.

[Collections for the History of Worcestershire, 2 vols. (1781), i.588].

Aug 19, Fri Battenhall Park, Worcs.

'In the afternoon her Majesty rode to Battenhall Park, intending to hunt there, but for that she found the game very scarce, she returned again without hunting at all'. Battenhall Park and manor-house, St Peter with Whittington parish; owned by Anthony Bourne; wife: Elizabeth (Horne); Catholics. Anthony was son of Sir John Bourne (died May 1575), formerly Principal Secretary to Queen Mary.

Also Aug 19, Worcester: Privy Council recalled four Bishops to report on their conference with seven Catholics. They declared 'the little effect their conference had as yet wrought with them'. The seven 'could not be suffered to return home' yet, and were to have 'further conference with learned men'.

Separate orders were made for each. John Giffard (of Chillington) was committed to the Bishop of Rochester (Edmund Freake) 'save that he was licensed to repair home to his house, being, as he alleged, by reason of her Majesty's late being there, out of order and unfurnished, and therefore to return to the said Bishop the day after her Majesty's coming to Woodstock'.^{APC}

Aug 20, Sat Queen's departure from Worcester.

'Her Majesty was appointed by her gestes to have departed...on Wednesday the 17th...For the good liking that her Majesty had of this city, of the people and of her palace, she tarried here until this Saturday'...

'About 3 o'clock in the afternoon her Majesty disposing to ride away, the Bailiffs, Aldermen, Orator, and High Chamberlain rode before her Majesty in scarlet and in their places as before, carrying their maces as at her receiving, through the streets being replenished with people crying to her Majesty and praying for her. And also she cheerfully and comfortably speaking to the people and thanks giving with a loud voice'.

'And having a way made up the stubble field behind the barn beyond the cross at Twexbury lane end towards Battenhall Park, the Freemen of the city stood a row in their gowns or best apparel, and above them the 48 in their gowns of violet in grain, and then some of the 24 not having been Bailiffs in murrey in grain, and all the rest that had been Bailiffs in scarlet, stretching to the top of the hill there, at which place the Bailiffs, Aldermen, Orator, and High Chamberlain alighted, and kneeling the Orator spoke these words:

"Most gracious Sovereign, being somewhat more than the uttermost confines of our strait liberties, to our no little grief, without your Highness' further commandment we are to leave your joyful presence, most humbly beseeching your Highness to pardon all our defects of duty happened either for want of ability or through ignorance. And we humbly thank your Majesty for your princely favour towards us, beseeching you to continue our good and gracious Sovereign. And no subjects shall more heartily pray for your Majesty long to live and happily to reign over us, than we".

'Then said her Majesty: "Masters, I thank you all very heartily for your pains, and I thank you for the great cheer you made to my men, for they talk greatly of it, and I pray you commend me to the whole city and thank them for their very good will and pains. And I assure you, you all pray so heartily for me as I fear you will by your prayers make me live too long, but I thank you all, and so God be with you". And so departed with tears in her eyes. And the people with a loud cry said "God save your Majesty".

'And so proceeded towards Battenhall, and through Battenhall Park through made ways, with a great train both before and behind'.

'And so to Elmley Bredon where she lay that night, and on Sunday all day'.

Worcester High Bailiff's Accounts included:

Rewards to the Queen's Officers: Harbingers, 20s; two Serjeants at Arms, 40s; 8 Footmen in respect of the 5 maces offered to the Queen, their fee, £5; Trumpeters, 50s; Coachmen and Litter men, 30s; Makers of Ways, 10s; Ordinary Messengers of the Queen's Chamber, 40s; Earl of Leicester's musicians, 6s8d; Yeomen of the mall, 10s; Osland, bringer of the sword into the liberties, 10s; Mr Gascoyne Post Master, 20s; Knight Marshal for his fee, 13s4d; Clerk of the Market of the Queen's household, 40s; his men, 6s8d; Gentlemen of the Bottles, 20s; Black Guard, 20s; Queen's bakers, 7s; Officers of the Boiling-house, 6s8d; Queen's musicians, 40s; Post Master's man, 2s; to him that carried the sword forth of the liberties, 10s; Queen's Porters, 10s; for 6 coat cloths for five Serjeants and the Bellman, £4.5s6d; to them that brought the two bucks killed at Hallow Park by the Queen's Majesty to both the Bailiffs' houses, 10s'.

'Mr Lupton for his pains for and devising and instructing the children in their speeches on the two stages, £4; to his man for writing, 10s; for Lupton's charges, his wife and man and their horses, 33s4d; Mr Heywood for trimming of the six children in the two stages, with 12s to the children for their labour, and for hurt done upon silk borrowed, 31s7d'.

'Mr Bell the Orator in consideration of his journeys to Mr Controller to the court at Killingworth, and his pains, £20; Mr Dighton [Bailiff], for hippocras given to the Lords and others of the Privy Council and other charges, £8.4s5d'.

Aug 20, Sat **ELMLEY CASTLE** parish, Worcs; Mrs Daston.^{T,W}

Elmley Castle manor-house; occupied by Mrs Anne Daston, née Sheldon (c.1534-1617), widow of (1) Francis Savage, of Elmley Castle; (2) Anthony Daston. With her son William Savage (1554-1616). She was 'the most bountiful gentlewoman for hospitality of her degree in England'. [Habington, Survey, ii.36].

c.Aug 22: *proposed stay, 'Campden', Gloucs; Mr Smith.*^T

Chipping Campden manor-house; owned by Thomas Smith, a widower, died 1593.

His monument is in St James's Church, with two wives and 15 children.

Aug 22, Mon Queen left Worcestershire for Gloucestershire.

'On Monday at the uttermost part of the county between Elmley and the castle of Sudeley, in the presence of the Sheriff, being Mr Edmund Colles esquire, and other gentlemen of the shire there taking their leave...and of the gentlemen of Gloucestershire there receiving her Majesty, she said to the Lord Bishop of Worcester [Nicholas Bullingham] "My Lord, I would talk with you", who alighted from his horse. To whom after some private talk had by her Majesty unto him she said "My Lord, I pray you commend me heartily to the Bailiffs of Worcester and to their brethren and to the whole city. And I thank them heartily for my good entertainment and for the good cheer they made my men".

'And then said the Lord Bishop "It may please your Majesty, so it is their trade is not so good as it hath been for the maintenance of their living, but their poor goodwills and hearts your Majesty hath".

'And then said she "I perceive that very well, and I like as well of them as I have liked of any people in all my progress, yea in all my life".

Aug 22, Mon **SUDELEY CASTLE**, Winchcombe, Gloucs; Lady Chandos.^{T,W}

Occupied by Dowager Lady Chandos as her dower house. [Details: 4 Aug 1574].

c.Aug 25, Thur **SHERBORNE**, Gloucs; Mr Dutton.^W

Sherborne manor-house; owned by Thomas Dutton (1507-1581).

3rd wife: Margaret (Johnson) (c.1547-1582); widow of John Meyney.

In Dutton's will, after bequests to the poor and to his servants, he wrote: 'To Margaret my wife I do bequeath no parcel of my goods or any other thing that is mine saving her title of dower as is due by law, the world knoweth she hath deserved no courtesy or to be remembered by this my last will and testament'.

Margaret married (3) John Cotton.

By Aug 27, Sat **LANGLEY**, Oxon.

'Langley Manor, the Queen's Majesty's'.^W

Langley manor-house; Crown property, occupied by Sir Edward Unton and his wife Anne, Dowager Countess of Warwick. [Details: 2 Aug 1574].

Aug 27: Francis Walsingham 'came to the court at Langley'.^{WA}

August: New French Ambassador arrived in England.

Michel de Castelnau, Sieur de Mauvissière, one of King Henri III's Councillors, and a Gentleman of his Chamber. He had come to England previously on several special embassies, and was resident Ambassador 1575-1585. He had instructions to re-open negotiations for the Duke of Alençon (the King's brother) to marry the Queen. He himself had recently married Marie de Bochetel, the daughter of Monsieur La Forêt, Ambassador 1566-1568; she joined him in December.

Court news. Aug 27, La Mothe to Henri III, after the arrival of Mauvissière: 'For the last eight or ten days the Queen has not stayed in a place where we could have access to her, and it will not be until next Tuesday August 30 that we will go to her at Woodstock, 50 miles from London, where I hope she will be pleased to accept M.de Mauvissière as my successor'. [vi.495-6].

Aug 29, Mon dinner, Cornbury Park, Charlbury, Oxon.^T
 Cornbury manor-house, Cornbury Park, Charlbury parish; owned by Thomas Stafford (1527-1607); kinsman of Lord Stafford. His monument is at Shenley Church, Bucks.
 Robert Bowes (c.1535-1597), later Ambassador to Scotland, at Cornbury Park.
 Lord Hunsdon, Governor of Berwick, on August 24 sent Bowes from the Scottish Borders to the Queen with information on the aftermath of the Raid of Reidswire on July 7, and to know what she wished to have done. The Warden of the Middle Marches, Sir John Forster, was still held prisoner. [Wright, ii.21-22].

Aug 29, Cornbury Park, Queen to the Earl of Huntingdon, Lord President of the North: 'We have received from Mr Bowes information of his proceedings, and his examination of the late disorder. Notwithstanding our natural inclination for peace, we would not have the world think us so base minded as to put up with so great an injury as we have lately received at Scotland's hands'.

'The Regent of Scotland is to be given to understand that we do not lack courage or means to revenge the slain. He is to consider whether after having our subjects murdered and detained prisoners we should content ourself with a bare declaration on paper of good intentions. He is to do justice on such as were found culpable of our subjects' deaths, and to deliver to us such as pursued and took prisoners our Warden and the rest'. If the Regent makes any difficulty the Earl is to 'will him to remember that another King in my seat would have revenged with deeds and left with him his words'. [SPF.xi.119].

Negotiations continued with Regent Morton.

Aug 29, Mon **WOODSTOCK PALACE**, Oxon; Crown property.
 Lieutenant of Woodstock: Sir Henry Lee (1533-1611); wife: Anne (Paget), daughter of William 1st Lord Paget; she died in 1590.

Simon Bowyer made ready 'at Woodstock and the church there' in August, and in September 'a banqueting-house two several times in the great park there and four standings at several times'.^T

Aug 29: Francis Walsingham 'went to the court at Woodstock'.^{WA}

At Woodstock: Proclamation of Challenge for Tournament.
 Sir Henry Lee (the most accomplished tilter at court for many years) and an unnamed knight proclaimed a challenge against all comers for Tilt, Course of the Field, Tourney and Barriers to take place at court on May Day 1576.

It was deferred by a further Proclamation: 25 April 1576.

Aug 31, Wed French Ambassadors at Woodstock for audience.
 La Mothe to Henri III, Sept 10, Oxford: 'On the last day of August at Woodstock I presented M.de Mauvissière to the Queen...to succeed me...She said that he was as acceptable to her as any gentleman she had known placed in this position, to which she then bore witness by her favours to him'.

'We conferred with the Queen and her Council on the details of the [marriage] proposal for the Duke of Alençon your brother'. [vi.498-9].

August: Richard Todd 'making ready of Hampton Court for the Spanish Ambassador [Jean de Boisshot] for the charges of himself and six men for hanging of rich stuff there and giving attendance', 15 days.^T

c.Sept 1: Councillor Boisshot at Woodstock to take leave.

Boisshot had been sent in March by Requesens, Spanish Governor of the Low Countries. Sept 2, Woodstock, Queen to Requesens: Boisshot has had audience. We have found him very careful and honest, discreet and wise. [KL.viii.570].

Queen's gift delivered, Sept 7: 'To Monsieur Boisshot Ambassador resident from the Low country of Flanders: one chain of gold'.^{NYG}

Sept 1, Francis Walsingham noted: 'I was sent to Oxford by her Majesty to confer with the French Ambassador'; Sept 2: 'I came again from Oxford to the court'; Sept 3: 'I had conference with the French Ambassadors'.^{WA}

Mauvissière revived the negotiations for the Queen's marriage to the Duke of Alençon. The Queen insisted (as in earlier years) that she could not consider the matter until she had seen her proposed husband. [SPF.xi.125].

September: Woodstock entertainment.

'The Tale of Hemetes', with the rest of the entertainment, and the 'comedy' on September 20, was printed in 1585; the unique copy lacks the opening pages.

George Gascoigne translated 'The Tale' into Latin, French, and Italian, and presented it to the Queen at New Year 1576. His version ends when a Hermit leaves the Queen at the entrance to his Hermitage.

Modern edition: Nichols, Progresses (2014), ii.359-435.

'The Tale' was by Robert Garrett, a Fellow of St John's College, Oxford: Gabriel Heaton, Writing and Reading Royal Entertainments (Oxford, 2010), 17-48.

'The Tale' is much abridged here, but the list of Ladies and Gentlewomen of the Privy Chamber and/or Bedchamber, Maids of Honour, and their 'posies', each suited to the recipient, is given in full. The location was apparently Woodstock Great Park, where banqueting-houses were made ready twice in September.

c.Sept 4/10: Woodstock entertainment: first part; and banquet.

Two knights have been fighting before Gaudina. They are Contareus (her lover) and Loricus. Hemetes, a Hermit, stops the fight and 'bringeth them all to the place where the Queen's Majesty stood in a fine Bower made of purpose covered with green ivy, and seats made of earth with sweet smelling herbs'.

He begins 'Hemetes Tale', relating the previous history of Gaudina, the knights, and the Hermit.

Gaudina's father Duke Occanon, objecting to her love for Contareus, had her carried away by an enchantress, who told Contareus that in seven years he should have his reward, but 'first he should fight with the hardiest knight, and see the worthiest Lady in the whole world'. He would be helped by a blind hermit, who would recover his sight.

Gaudina set out to find Contareus, and by chance met Loricus. Together they journeyed to find contentment at 'a place where men were most strong, women most fair, the country most fertile, the people most wealthy, the government most just, and the Princess most worthy'.

Hemetes had himself been a renowned knight at court, but was struck blind at the Temple of Venus. Apollo promised that he would recover his sight when 'at one time and in one place, in a country of most peace, two of the most valiant knights shall fight, two of the most constant lovers shall meet, and the most virtuous Lady in the world shall be there to look on'.

Hemetes dwells in a Hermitage on 'this hill hard by'. Now by the Queen's 'most happy coming' the prophecies have been fulfilled.

'This learned or long Tale being brought to his end, the poor Hermit...begins to tread the way before the Queen, which her Majesty espying refused her steed, and betook herself in like sort to the use of her feet, and accompanying the Hermit (herself waited on of the rest) fell into some discourse and praise of his good Tale, which not ended...the Queen's Majesty had in sight the house, which indeed was a place by art so reared from the ground, as never before nor hereafter shall I see the like'.

'First it was encompassed the number of 200 paces round with lattice, the place of the Prince's entrance bedecked with ivy and spangles of gold plate... The ground from thence reared little and little to the altitude of 40 foot or more, the path in mounting covered with fresh turves...The way was railed with lattice, beset with sweet flowers and ivy'...

'Above in the house was a table made in order of a half moon or more, covered with green turves...replenished with...divers dishes belonging to banquet... At one end thereof...was placed another table (but round) with a chair costly made of crimson velvet, embroidered with branches and pictures of wild beasts and trees'...

'This mount made...about an oak, the top whereof was enforced by strength to bend down her branches to cover the house'...

'A number of fine pictures with posies of the noble or men of great credit was in like sort hanging there, wherewith many were in love, and above the rest the French Ambassador, which was present at these sights, made great suit to have some of them'...

'Hemetes having brought her Majesty to the entrance of this place said: Here most noble Lady, have I now brought you to this most simple Hermitage... I must here leave your Majesty, promising to pray...that whosoever wish you best may never wish in vain'.

'Thus the Hermit departs, and the Queen's Majesty addresseth herself with merry cheer to banqueting' whilst there was 'a divine sound' from 'instruments in the hollow room under the house'...

'Her Majesty thus in the midst of this mirth might espy the Queen of the Fairy drawn with six children in a wagon of state, the boys bravely attired and herself very costly apparelled'.

The 'Queen of the Fairy' made a speech in verse praising the Queen, for:

'No man throughout the world hath seen

A prince that may compare with th'English Queen'.

She asks her to accept 'this simple token wrought within this wood'.

The gift: 'A gown for her Majesty of great price, whereon the embroiderer had bestowed the sum of his cunning, which she received with yielding thanks'...

'To gratify the rest of the ladies present there was devised many excellent and fine smelling Nosegays made of all colours, to every one whereof was annexed a posy of two verses, given by a handmaid of the Fairy Queen, and one above the rest of greatest price for the Queen's Majesty with her posy in Italian'...

'The rest as they were given I have set down: every several posy was fair written and bordered about cunningly with several branches excellent to behold'.

Lady Derby: [*Margaret, Countess of Derby*]

The virtues four went wandering once and harbourless astray,
Till Derby gave them room to rest whereas they now may stay.

Lady Warwick: [*Anne, Countess of Warwick*]

If your deserts surpassed not my silly pen and speech,
Some other men should view them then, which now do pass my reach.

Lady Hunsdon: [*Anne, wife of Henry 1st Lord Hunsdon*]

For husband, children, and yourself, or ornaments of fame,
You are above comparison, a right thrice happy dame.

Lady Howard: [*Katherine, wife of Charles 2nd Lord Howard of Effingham*]

The means that make a mother blest, you have a fruitful race,
A noble dame, a patient wife, what's this but blessed case.

Lady Susan: [*Bourchier, daughter of the Earl of Bath*]:

Take heed lest in a mood Dame Venus work your woe,
For spite of right must work in her, you pass her beauty so.

Lady Mary Vere: [*Earl of Oxford's sister*]:

Where virtue, birth, and beauty too, are thus in one mould cast,
This place too simple is for her seat, with gods let her be placed.

Mistress Scudamore: [*Mary, wife of John Scudamore*]
Trusty and true, secret and sage, in place where you do serve,
With wise foresight these praises lo your worthiness deserve.

Parry: [*Blanche Parry, Queen's attendant since childhood*]:
For long and faithful service sake which hath abidden touch,
Good Parry is a paragon, show me another such.

Abington: [*née Dorothy Broadbelt*]:
Good liking upon choice made way, to bring you first in place,
Which you maintain by modest mean still in your Prince's grace.

Sidney: [*Mary Sidney, born 1561, married Earl of Pembroke in 1577*]:
Though young in years yet old in wit, a gest due to your race,
If you hold on as you begin who is't you'll not deface?

Hopton: [*Mary, daughter of Sir Owen Hopton, Lieutenant of the Tower*]:
When Phoebus saw fair Hopton come to court and leave the Tower,
He spread his beams with merry looks that erst before did lour.

Katherine Howard: [*sister of Charles 2nd Lord Howard of Effingham*]:
For noble race, and virtue's gifts, compare you with the best,
Who list to seek, in you shall find, no less than in the rest.

Garrett: [*Elizabeth; married Ambrose Copinger*]
Why do men set their sights to feed on Pictures set in gold?
Since Garrett gives the very view of nature's modest mould.

Brydges: [*Eleanor; married George Gifford*]
In guess is guile, conjectures fail, your graces be well known:
Which who denies, fame saith he lies, by whom the bruit is blown.

Burrough: [*Mary Burgh, married Sir Richard Bulkeley*]:
Apollo seeing his Burrough's brows his Daphne did forget,
So stalled in stay, so rapt in love as he stands musing yet.

Knollys: [*Elizabeth, married Sir Thomas Leighton*]
You gallants give the room, a Dame of price doth come,
Conjecture what your brags may be when she hath cast the sum.

Frances Howard: [*married Earl of Hertford, 1585*]:
Some say Dame Nature took in care to keep Cornelia's mould,
But Howard's tis about her neck, framed in finest gold'.

'I have...repeated the names of those that were Ladies and Maids of Honour at these sights...Now her Majesty being risen, with good cheer, accompanied with the Queen of the Fairy and the Lady Gaudina, she cometh from her banquet'.
[As she left Gaudina spoke verses thanking Heaven for 'such a sacred Saint'].

'The day thus spent, her Majesty took her coach with joy in remembering what had passed, recounting with herself and others how well she had spent the afternoon, and...in her way homeward closely in an Oak she heard the sound both of voice and instrument of the excellentest now living, whose pleasantness therein bred a great liking with a willing ear'.

'The Song in the Oak' was a 'tragical complaint' by one who declares 'Despair my name', and ends 'there is no grief that may with mine compare'.
[By Edward Dyer (1543-1607), Steward of Woodstock 1570-c.1604].

'Now was it dark night, and her Majesty filled with conceits returneth home, leaving earnest command that the whole in order as it fell should be brought to her in writing'.

Sept 10, Sat French Ambassadors at Woodstock for audience.
La Mothe took leave of the Queen, after seven years as Ambassador.

Sept 10, La Mothe to Henri III: 'We have conferred on the details of the proposal for Monsieur your brother with the Queen and the Lords of her Council. Today is the fifth time we have met with her and with them, not without much opposition and difficulties which they make for us'.

La Mothe had asked for permission to visit the Queen of Scots. [vi.499].

Sept 10, Woodstock, Sir Thomas Smith to Burghley: 'La Mothe seems very angry that he is not suffered to visit the Scottish Queen, but the Queen's Majesty will none of it'. [Murdin, 288]. La Mothe's nephews were allowed to visit Mary.

Sept 11, Sun Dr Humphrey's oration, Woodstock.

Dr Laurence Humphrey, President of Magdalen College and Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University, made a lengthy Latin and Greek oration to the Queen.

He referred to Sylvanus, Neptune, and other gods in the Kenilworth entertainment, and to 'Gandina' in the Woodstock entertainment, asking whether all these gods and goddesses should present their sports, and 'our Minerva' (Goddess of Wisdom) not be seen. Dr Humphrey presented the Queen with a Bible; this was *Biblia sacrosancta* (Zurich, 1544). The presentation copy, at the British Library, is bound in green velvet, with Latin texts on the covers and edges.

The Oration was printed in London, 1575. Modern edition, with translation: Nichols, *Progresses* (2014), ii.435-474.

Also Sept 11, Woodstock: The Queen lost 'three pair of aglets of gold very small from a gown of black tuft taffeta'.

Sept 12, Woodstock: Queen lost 'the heads of three buttons of gold enamelled russet from the gown of black velvet with an edge of satin'. [Lost, 199, 201].

Sept 14: Queen's gifts delivered 'to Monsieur de la Mothe, late Ambassador lieger from the French King at his departure out of England' [with the names of the goldsmiths who supplied them, Robert Brandon and Affabel Partridge]: one basin and a lair gilt, Partridge; one gilt cup with a cover, Partridge; one other gilt cup with a cover, Brandon; one pair of gilt pots, Brandon; one pair of gilt flagons, Brandon; three gilt bowls with a cover, Partridge; two gilt lairs, Partridge; two gilt salts with a cover, Brandon; one basin and a lair gilt, Brandon; one pair of gilt pots, Partridge; one pair of gilt flagons, Partridge; three gilt bowls with a cover, Brandon; one pair of gilt lairs, Brandon; two gilt cups, Partridge; and two gilt salts with a cover, Partridge.^{NYG}

Sept 14: *The Achates*, which 'fetched over' the Earl and Countess of Pembroke from *Sluys in Flanders*, arrived in Kent.^N

Sept 15, London, Benjamin Gonson to Lord Burghley:

'Yesterday at the afternoon tide my Lord of Pembroke with his lady and train in *The Achates* arrived at Queenborough in safety, God be thanked'.

I ask 'to know your Lordship's good pleasure for the putting of the said bark in order with victuals and other things for the transporting to the other coast of Monsieur de Boisshot, Ambassador of the Low Countries, according to a letter received from my Lord Admiral for the accomplishing thereof upon the return of the said bark'. [SP12/105/41].

Sept 15, Theobalds, Lord Burghley to Lord Cobham: 'Our French Ambassador hath set afoot of new the French marriage, but I look for nothing of them but dalliance to use us to their advantage. And yet I am earnestly moved to seek her Majesty's marriage as far forth as I may...God send her to marry without respect of any my particular liking. For I take God to witness, I do not regard any private interest in her marriage'. [Murdin, 288].

Sept 16, Lord Burghley to the Earl of Lincoln (Lord Admiral):
 I am bold to use the service of The Achates, now on her way to Calais with Boischot, the Flemish Ambassador, in order to conduct over two persons to Dunkirk, sent by the Queen's order for the affairs of the Prince of Condé.
 From Sir Thomas Gresham's house in London, which I am forced to take for a refuge because of the sickness in Westminster. [HT.ii.111].

Sept 20, Tues Woodstock entertainment, second part: comedy, in verse.
 'The Queen being disposed to spend her time with some delights, this comedy was presented, acted before her Majesty...It was as well thought of as anything ever done before her Majesty, not only of her but of the rest'.
 'The Actors' names': Duke Occanon and his councillor Achates; the Duke's daughter Caudina and her lover Contarenus; her maids Roxane and Niphe; Fairy Queen; Pages, Alexandro and Guilfrido, who 'use a pretty act of sport'.
 The 'comedy' opens with Roxane recalling 'The Tale of Hemetes' in the previous Woodstock entertainment, when Caudina and Contarenus came to the court.
 Occanon has traced Caudina to the court; he and the Fairy Queen persuade her to give up Contarenus and return home, to make a more suitable match.
 At the end of the lengthy debate in verse Roxane concludes
 'That God loved us which made us stay,
 Where virtuous Queen doth stately sceptre sway'.

Also Sept 20, Woodstock: The Queen lost 'from a gown of black wrought velvet the ground satin four buttons of gold like ciphers [monograms]'. [Lost, 202].

Also Sept 20, Woodstock: Council: 'A Proclamation touching the Fair of Woodstock, that great heed be taken to such as shall come or send to the Fair from places infected with the plague'.^{APC}

Sept 20, London, La Mothe to the Earl of Leicester, asking him to thank the Queen for her good treatment of him, favour towards him, and her liberality in giving him a cupboard of silver gilt plate far exceeding his merits. She will always find him a devoted and affectionate servant. [SPF.xi.139].

Sept 20, La Mothe and Mauvissière to King Henri III:
 'The Queen and all her people used us both with much courtesy and favour for the reception of one of us and the *congé* of the other, and we were very graciously given our leave by her...I, La Mothe, will depart as soon as my nephews have returned from the Queen of Scots'. [vi.504-5].
 The Achates (Nicholas Gorges, Captain) took the French to Calais.^N

Sept 22, London, Frederick Schwartz, Baron von Ruissingen, to Lord Burghley, in Latin: I intend within a few days to return to Germany, but will first pay my respects to the Queen. [SPF.xi.142].

Sept 24, London, Benedict Spinola to Lord Burghley, in Italian:
 Carrera marble for the Queen will shortly be ready for shipment at Leghorn [Livorno, Tuscany], about which order should be taken that the charges may be reasonable, as the stone will serve for ballast.

A Deposition was made on 8 March 1576 before the Captain of the Port of Leghorn concerning the refusal of certain captains of English vessels to convey to London certain marble belonging to the Queen. [SPF.xi.143,264].

Sept 29: Oxford Chamberlains (account ending 29 September 1575):
 'To the Queen's bearward, 10s; paid for charges bestowed upon Mr Gascoigne the Queen's Post Master, 22d; paid to Mr Spenser for wine that was bestowed of the Steward at the Queen's removing, 5s'.

Oxford Key Keepers (account ending 29 September 1577):
 'Paid to Richard Lloyd for him and his companions for posting with the Queen's Majesty's letters when she lay at Woodstock', 50s.

October 1: Don Pedro de Valdes and a Spanish fleet in England.

King Philip was sending some ships to the Low Countries, and wrote to Antonio de Guaras, Aug 27, to inform the Queen and to ask that if by weather or accident they should enter her ports, she would receive them in a friendly manner.

Valdes, Captain-General, anchored at Dartmouth in Devon on October 1. He sent the King's letter to De Guaras, and sent Juan Cipres to court with another letter from the King, and to report that 24 ships were at Dartmouth, others at Plymouth, others missing in a great storm. [Span.ii.500,504].
 (See October 7 and 8).

c.Oct 4, at Woodstock: knightings:
 Gerard Croker; Edmund and John Fettiplace, cousins.^M

October 4: The Queen left Woodstock.

Hugh Underhill, Officer of the Wardrobe of Beds, 'for the charges of himself, his man and their horses, and other two servants of the same office, remaining behind at Woodstock for lack of carts to send away' wardrobe stuff 'from thence to Rycote and Bradenham', 40s.^T

Oct 4, Tues **HOLTON**, Oxon; Sir Christopher Browne.^{C,T}
 'Wheatley'.^W Holton and Wheatley are adjacent parishes.

Holton manor-house; owned by Sir Christopher Browne (or Brome), died 1589.
 2nd wife: Eleanor (Windsor), daughter of William 2nd Lord Windsor.

Oct 5, Wed **RYCOTE**, Oxon; Lord Norris.^{C,W}
 Rycote, near Thame; owned by Henry 1st Lord Norris (c.1525-1601);
 wife: Margery (Williams), daughter of Lord Williams of Thame; died 1599.
 Lord and Lady Norris were close friends of the Queen.

Oct 7, Fri Spanish messenger, Juan Cipres, at Rycote with the Queen.

Oct 8, Sat **BRADENHAM**, Bucks; Lord Windsor.^{C,T}
 Bradenham manor-house; owned by Frederick, 4th Lord Windsor (1559-1585).

Oct 8: Antonio de Guaras at Bradenham for audience.

Oct 10, Bradham, De Guaras to Secretary Zayas: 'On the 8th I...left for the court with all speed, and requested audience of the Queen, which was duly granted...She told me that the Spanish gentleman bearing the King's letter had been with her on the previous day'. She had already ordered that the fleet 'should be received and those on board of it welcomed as if they were her own subjects'. I am remaining at court until the fleet leaves. [Span.ii.505].

Oct 10, Mon dinner, Wooburn, Bucks; Sir John Goodwin.^C
 'Osborne'.^T Bishop's Wooburn manor-house, called Wooburn House, at Wooburn Green; owned by Sir John Goodwin, died 1597.
 2nd wife: Anne (Spencer), daughter of Sir William Spencer of Yarnton, Oxon.

Oct 10, Mon **WINDSOR CASTLE**, Berks.^c

Hugh Underhill, of the Wardrobe of Beds, his man and two horses, 'being sent by her Highness's commandment from the court at Woodstock to Greenwich to carry certain wardrobe stuff from thence to Windsor for her Majesty's service...and for the hire of a wherry boat to carry the same stuff from Greenwich to Windsor', 6s8d.^T

Oct 13: Plans for a New Year's gift for the Queen from the Countess of Shrewsbury. Oct 13, court at Windsor, Anthony Wingfield (Gentleman Usher) to his wife (Elizabeth, half-sister of the Countess): 'I have dealt with my Lady of Sussex and my Lady Cobham for my Lady's gift unto the Queen, and my Lady of Sussex's opinion was that my Lady should have given the fair bed that my Lady makes to her hangings, and my Lady Cobham would in nowise that it should be so, but would have my Lady give forty pound in money, or a cup of gold about that value, but in anywise my Lady of Sussex would have my Lady give a safeguard and a cloak of some watchet [light blue] satin or peach colour, and embroidered with some pretty flowers and leaves with sundry colours made with gold spangles and silk. These fantastical things will be more accepted than cup or jewel, and my Lady of Sussex would have Walter Fish [the Queen's Tailor] to have the doing of it'. [Folger X.d.428, no.127]. For the sequel see December 13.

c.Oct 20: Envoys from Low Countries at Windsor with the Queen. William Prince of Orange had already sent an Agent, Calvert. The States of Holland, unknown to the Prince, sent Colonel Edward Chester to the Queen. [For her response see her Instructions to John Hastings, October 29].

Oct 27, Thur: *christening*. Queen was godmother to Lord Russell's daughter. Parents: John, Lord Russell, son of Francis Russell, 2nd Earl of Bedford; Lady Russell: Elizabeth (Cooke), widow of Sir Thomas Hoby. First child: Elizabeth Russell, born Oct 22; christened Oct 27 at Westminster Abbey. Anthony Wingfield made ready at Westminster. Queen's gift: 'One gilt cup with a cover...bought of Affabel Partridge'.^{NYG} Queen's Deputy: Anne (Russell), Countess of Warwick (Lord Russell's sister). Other godparents: Earl of Leicester; Frances (Sidney), Countess of Sussex.

Anonymous description: 'Lady Russell, by reason of the plague in London, obtained so much favour of Dr Goodman, Dean of Westminster, that she had his lodgings within the late Abbey of Westminster, where on Saturday...22 October 1575 the said noble Lady was happily delivered of a daughter. The Queen's Majesty being at Windsor sent the Countess of Warwick...as her Majesty's Deputy; and upon her attended Mr Wingfield, Gentleman Usher, who directed all things in the same Cathedral Church in manner following:

'First, he caused a Travers of crimson taffeta to be set on the right side of the high table, near to the steps within the Chancel, and therein placed a carpet, chair, and cushions of state; then, a great basin being set in the middle near to the high table, a yard high, upon a small frame for that purpose, covered with white linen, and the basin set thereon with water and flowers round about the brim of the said basin'.

'Preparations in the house'. In 'the Countess's chamber': a rich bed of state; a rich pallet covered with a counterpane; a rich cupboard; 'and to appoint a secret Oratory within or near the same chamber, for necessaries'.

In the second chamber: a cloth of state for an Earl; 'a Travers, which shall never be drawn until the Purification be past; and in that chamber (if the christening be not public) shall be placed the font, and two Ushers to attend on the same, for the straining of the water and keeping it warm'.

'In the outer great chamber shall be the cupboard for the Ewery, and instead of men officers shall be women to fetch the board cloth at the Ewery and such other affairs during the time of her childbed, or keeping her chamber'.

'The child to be brought out of the Nursery unto the christening. The child may have a mantle which may be furred with ermine. To appoint officers of Household for an Earl, viz. Steward, Treasurer, Controller'.

'Note, that if the Queen's Majesty do come to be godmother to the child, then all things to be directed by the Gentlemen Ushers to her Majesty'.

On Thursday October 27: 'All things now being ready...at 10 o'clock the witnesses and the rest being all assembled, they proceeded out of the said Dean's lodgings through the Cloister into the Church in manner following: First, the gentlemen that accompanied the Lords and Ladies went on before. Then, Knights in their places; Barons and Earls in their degrees; then the Earl of Leicester, godfather'.

'Then the child, in a mantle of crimson velvet guarded with two wrought laces of gold, having also over the face a lawn striped with bone lace of gold overthwart and powdered with gold flowers and white wrought thereon, borne by the midwife, Mrs Bradshaw. Then the Countess of Sussex, godmother; a Gentleman Usher; the Countess of Warwick, Deputy for the Queen, with her train borne; then the Lady Burghley, sister to the Lady Russell; the Lady Bacon, sister to the Lady Russell; other Ladies and Gentlewomen many'.

The Christening: 'When they were entered and placed in the Church, then the Dean began a brief collation [oration]; all which time the Deputy remained within the Travers and the other ladies without. Now as soon as the Dean had made an end the Lady Bacon took the child and brought it to the font, where the Dean attended in his surplice; then the Earl of Leicester and the Countess of Sussex approached near to the Travers and there tarried until the Deputy came forth, from whence they leisurely proceeded to the font, the Deputy's train still borne, where they christened the child by the name of Elizabeth; which done, the Deputy retired back into the Travers again, and the midwife took the child and came down and there dressed it'.

'In the meantime Mr Philip Sidney came out of the chapel called St Edward's Shrine, having a towel on his left shoulder, and with him came Mr Delves bearing the basin and ewer and took the assay; then the Deputy came forth, her train borne, and they two kneeling she washed'.

'Then other gentlemen, with two basins and ewers and towels, came to the Countess of Sussex and the Earl of Leicester, and they having washed immediately came from the aforesaid place of St Edward's Shrine gentlemen with cups of hippocras and wafers. That done, they departed out of the Church through the Choir in such order as before, the Lady Bacon carrying the child; and so the said ladies and godfather went into the Lady Russell's chamber'.

The Dinner: a sketch-plan shows a long table with six on each side, and the Countess of Sussex 'at the board's end alone'. There was a separate table for the gentlemen. 'The other gentlewomen sat in another place at dinner'.

Banquet: 'The first and second course being ended, voidance was made of all things on the table, salt and all. Then came in a costly and delicate banquet at the upper table only, which, being ended and voided, and grace said by the Lord Russell's chaplain, the lords washed, and after rose and returned again into the Bedchamber and presently departed thence'.

'Presents given: The Queen's Majesty, a great standing cup; Countess of Sussex, a standing cup; Earl of Leicester, a great bowl. The Queen's Ordinary Reward: to the midwife, £3; to the nurse, 40s. Note, that they sent their presents privately into the bedchamber'.

[College of Arms: Vincent 151, p.150-154; also described in SP12/105/65].

Elizabeth Russell (1575-1600) became a Gentlewoman of the Privy Chamber.

Oct 28, Strasbourg, Henri de Bourbon, Prince of Condé, to Lord Burghley, sending 'le Sieur de Wilkes' [Thomas Wilkes, English Agent] to inform the Queen of the state of our affairs, and to apply for a loan.

Nov 1, Heidelberg, Duke Casimir to Burghley: I consider that Wilkes would be more agreeable to the Queen as an envoy than one of our own adherents. The Elector Palatine also wrote in favour of Wilkes, and asking for money. [Murdin, 289,291; SPF.xi.172].

Oct 29, Instructions for Robert Corbet, being sent to Requesens, Spanish Governor of the Low Countries. The Queen desires 'to have these so long dangerous wars and troubles to be ended'. She offers her mediation with the French to stop 'the French intermeddling' in the Low Countries'.

Oct 29, Instructions for John Hastings, being sent to Holland to William Prince of Orange. The Queen refers to 'messages lately sent hither from Holland, first from the Prince by means of one Calvert, a servant of the Prince's abiding in London, and lastly of one other from three persons of the States of Holland by Edward Chester, without knowledge of the Prince'. Calvert had asked for aid to defend the States against Spain; they would accept an offer from France 'if otherwise we would not take them into our protection'. Before the Queen lends money she desires to know the resources of Holland and Zeeland. [KL.viii.2-16].

Oct 29-January 1576: Two special Ambassadors to the Low Countries. John Hastings (c.1525-1585) and Robert Corbet (1542-1583).

Corbet 'was of great estimation with the Queen's Majesty and nobility because he could speak perfectly sundry foreign languages by reason of his long absence in his youth out of England in foreign countries'. [Hasler].

Edward Chester returned to the Prince of Orange.

November: dinner, Philberds, Bray, Berks; Sir Thomas Neville.^T Philberds manor-house, Bray; leased from St George's Chapel, Windsor, by Sir Thomas Neville, died 1582; wife: Isabel, died 1585.

Nov 4: News of Lord Hunsdon, Governor of Berwick, from Captain Cockburn, a frequent messenger between Scotland and the English court.

Nov 4, Edinburgh, Cockburn to Lord Burghley: 'The good Lord of Hunsdon hangs all the Scotch thieves. He takes as great pleasure in hanging thieves as other men in hawking and hunting'. Signed: 'Your Lordship's right humble and obedient with service to command for ever and longer'. [SPF.xi.175].

c.Nov 10: Thomas Wilkes arrived at Windsor from Casimir and Condé. [For his new appointment and return to Germany see November 25].

Nov 13, Windsor: Privy Council meeting: John Giffard of Chillington, Staffs, where the Queen stayed in August, who had been one of seven Catholics called before the Council at Worcester on August 17 and 19, now 'promised to repair to his parish church at some times upon the Sundays and holy days' and at other times to go to 'the Common Prayer in the chapel belonging unto his house'.

He was 'discharged of his further attendance, and suffered to go home'.^{APC}

Nov 13, Madrid, Sir Henry Cobham to the Queen: Secretary Zayas was sent to me this morning from the King to declare his thanks for your favour shown to Pedro Valdes, lately driven with his fleet into the port of Dartmouth. [SPF.xi.180].

Valdes, in Devon in October, became in 1588 one of the commanders of the Spanish Armada. He was captured and was a prisoner in England from 1588-1593.

Nov 13: Painter-Stainers' Company petitioned the Queen 'to consider of your poor subjects the Painter-Stainers within your Grace's City of London':

'Whereas divers devices are used and made in slight workmanship of painting by such as never have been brought up in the knowledge of painting, as well in counterfeiting of your Majesty's picture and the pictures of noblemen and others, as also in all manner of other works which show very fair to sight, and your subjects which of mere good will buyeth the same, and thereby very much deceived, for that such pictures and works are not so substantially wrought as by skilful men trained in the same science have been and are wrought, the which slight workmanship is not only a slander to the whole Company of Painters but a great decay of all workmanship in the said science, and also a great discouraging to divers forward young men very desirous to travail for knowledge in the same....Both Plasterers and others do intermeddle in the same science, for that they perceive that the Painters have no power to restrain them, to the great slander of the art and science of painting'. [BL Lansdowne 20/9].

The Painters' complaints were met by a Bill presented in the 1576 Parliament, containing the provisions of a Charter which was granted to the Company in 1581.

The Painters painted on wood, and the Stainers on cloth. [W.A.D.Englefield, *The History of the Painter-Stainers Company of London* (1923), 56-57].

Nov 17, Thur: **Accession Day** celebrations, e.g.

Allhallows Staining Church: 'Paid the 17th of November for bread, drink and candles for the ringers at the entrance of the 18th year of the Queen her most excellent Majesty's reign (and God grant her to reign many years, to the pleasure of God), 16d'.

St Botolph Aldgate: 'Paid for the ringing the Queen's day, 2s'.

St Botolph Bishopsgate: 'For bread and drink and other meat for the ringers when they rang for the Queen's Majesty's reign, 2s; for a pound of cotton candles the same time, 3d'.

St Martin in the Fields: 'To the Sexton for ringing at the proclamation of the Queen's Majesty's reign, 4s'.

St Mary Woolnoth: 'Paid for bread, cheese and drink bestowed on them which did ring the 16th and 17th of November...at the change of the Queen's Majesty's reign, 2s'.

St Peter Westcheap: 'For two little books of service for the 17th day of November, 4d'.

Battersea Church, Surrey: 'Spent of the ringers on the day of the reign of the Queen, 3s'.

Bishop's Stortford, St Michael: 'For bread, drink and cheese for ringing of St Hugh's Day in rejoicing of the Queen's prosperous reign, 2s8d'.

Bramley, Hants: 'To the ringers for the Queen's Majesty's honour, 4d'.

Heckington Church, Lincs: 'For candles and grease for the bells on the ringing day, 6d; for bread and ale to ringers of St Hugh's Day, 10d'.

Nottingham Chamberlains: 'Given to the ringers that did ring at St Mary's Church for the Coronation of the Queen's Majesty, 12d'.

Rowington Church, Warwickshire: 'For two gallons of ale given to the ringers on St Hugh's Day, 8d'.

Warwick, St Nicholas: 'Paid to the ringers for ringing on the Queen's holy day being the 17th day of November, 20d'.

Wattisfield Church, Suffolk: 'The ringers had victuals the Coronation day at night for ringing, 2s'.

Nov 17: *Edward Hake* 'set forth': 'A Commemoration of the most prosperous and peaceable reign of our gracious and dear sovereign Lady Elizabeth... newly set forth this 17 day of November, being the first day of the 18 year of her Majesty's said reign. By Edward Hake, gent'.

Dedicated to my cousin, Edward Eliot, 'the Queen's Majesty's Surveyor of all her honours, manors, lands, and possessions, within her Highness's county of Essex'. 'Being entered...into the meditation of the rare government of our renowned Queen Elizabeth'. 'At Barnard's Inn, this joyful eve of our 17 day of November 1575, with his hand, whose heart loveth this instant day, and you'.

In verse, beginning: 'Jehovah! with our joined hands
and hearts replete with joy,
We praise thee for our noble Queen,
the shield of our annoy!...

Ending: Lord grant, that none within this land,
no one that beareth breath,
Refuse in heart to cry - "God save
our Queen Elizabeth!". Amen'.

Verses 'to all the Queen's Highness's most honourable Councillors', and a prayer by 'a learned and worshipful gentleman': 'A Meditation wherein the godly English giveth thanks to God for the Queen's Majesty's prosperous government hitherto, and prayeth for the continuance thereof to God's glory'. (London, 1575).

Nov 17, Thur: News of *Venetian noblemen in England*.
Zuanne Falier and three other noblemen who had been in Paris with the Venetian Ambassador to France came to England to see the country and the court, planning to be back in Paris before the Ambassador, *Michiel*, left to return to Venice.
Michiel had been Venetian Ambassador to England during Queen Mary's reign.

Nov 17, Windsor, Sir Thomas Smith to Lord Burghley:
'I moved the Queen's Majesty for the coming of the noblemen of Venice, and showed what haste they made and why, according as your Lordship had written. Her Majesty's answer was that your Lordship should make answer that her Highness had taken a great cold, and therefore would keep her chamber a day or two; but if they could tarry until Saturday they should be welcome, for then indeed the court would be furnished. My Lord of Leicester, my Lord Admiral, and a great number of the noblemen now being absent, which by that time will be returned. Other answer than this...I could not get. Her Highness liketh well that you do appoint a gentleman...to attend upon them'. [Ellis (2), iii.40-41].

An Accession Day Tilt at court had not yet become customary. The noblemen were at Windsor on Sunday November 20, when the Council met there.

Nov 18, Windsor, Francis Walsingham to Lord Burghley, of Walter 1st Earl of Essex's return from Ireland via Wales after a dangerous voyage:
'At my return to the court I met with a messenger sent from the Earl of Essex with letters unto her Majesty...that he was arrived within this realm, and that he greatly desired that he might have leave to come to see her Majesty. Whereupon her Majesty willed me to signify unto him that she was glad of his arrival, and was well pleased that he should repair to the court...I judge that he will be here within five or six days'. [Wright, ii.27-8].

[c.Nov 18], Walsingham to Essex: Her Majesty 'seemed greatly to rejoice at your safe arrival'. Your access 'shall be no less acceptable unto her, than desired of you. Notwithstanding, for that she understandeth that your Lordship hath been greatly tormented on the sea...she would not have you make more speed than may stand with the good health of your distempered body'...

'I find her Majesty's affection towards your Lordship such as your best friends can desire'. [Devereux, i.124].

Nov 20, Sun Venetian noblemen at Windsor.

Report by the noblemen to the Senate of Venice:

'After remaining three days in London we went to Windsor...and on being conducted to the palace were introduced into what is called the Presence Chamber, and at the hour when her Majesty was to pass through on her way to chapel. The apartment was very crowded, and the nobility assembled there greeted us most cordially with every mark of honour'.

'After a short interval the Queen made her appearance, and on our presenting ourselves her Majesty said, in our own language "Are you Venetian noblemen?".

Falier, as the senior, answered how much they had heard from Ambassador Michiel and others of England and of the Queen, and 'we one by one kissed hands. The Queen listened to us graciously and said "I thank you for the trouble taken in coming here", adding "Well, what think you of the sights?" We made answer... our expectations, although great, have been far surpassed'.

'To this she rejoined "If what you have seen pleased you, you now see the worst, to wit, the mistress"; and she thereupon moved on towards the chapel where she remained about twenty minutes until the service there ended'.

'This service consisted, first of all, of certain Psalms chanted in English by a double chorus of some thirty singers. A single voice next chanted the Epistle; after this another voice chanted the Gospel and then all voices together chanted the Belief'.

'This concluded the service, and we with the rest then returned into the Presence Chamber to see the Queen once more...Her Majesty enquired "How fares the noble Michiel?...Salute him", said she, "in my name, and thank him both for this present favour and for many others which he did me when accredited here to Queen Mary", adding "Although at that time I...was then only a poor Princess, I received many marks of honour and esteem from your Republic, yet since I became Queen I have been held in small account, and this neglect continues, but we must have patience". To this we made answer that the Signory bore as much good will towards the English Crown, and especially towards her Majesty, as to any other Sovereign..."I shall live in hope then", said she, as she moved onwards'.

Lord Burghley, at the Queen's command, took the Venetian noblemen to dine with him and the whole Privy Council, eight in number, almost all of whom spoke Italian or at least understood it.

'They spoke of naval affairs, and of the daily news, and above all of the wrong done to England...through our not having an Ambassador at the court'...

'We were told that the Queen intended giving us an entertainment to which ladies were to be invited but...we received instead a message from an Italian, a Bolognese, whose acquaintance we made on arriving in London'...

'He is one of the Grooms of the Queen's Chamber and enjoys extreme favour with her Majesty on account of his being an excellent musician'.

The Queen 'having seen us in our riding gear, which showed that we were in great haste to mount post, was therefore loth to detain us'. [Ven.vii.524-6].

Also Nov 20, Windsor: Privy Council's Passport for the Venetian gentlemen 'to pass to the sea coast quietly, and to be served of post-horses and shipping and other necessaries favourably for their money'.^{APC}

Next day the Italian musician returned to London to take leave of the Venetians 'and said he had told the Queen about our intention of making such representations as we understood were desired by her; and that her Majesty answered him saying "They will not produce any effect".

*One of the Queen's musicians was Alfonso Ferrabosco, from Bologna.
Sequel to the Venetians' visit: December 19.*

November 20: The Bishop of Ely, Lord North, and the Queen.

Richard Cox was Bishop of Ely 1559-1581. The Queen had asked that Christopher Hatton (Captain of the Guard, and one of her favourites) might have the keeping of Ely House, Holborn, Middlesex, one of the Bishop's palaces.

In summer 1575 the Bishop had denied the Queen a lease of his palace at Somersham, Hunts; he denied the request for Ely House also and was backed by his formidable second wife Jane (Awder), widow of William Turner, Dean of Wells; one of the Bishop's tenants referred to her as 'Jezebel'.

Roger 2nd Lord North (1531-1600), a long-standing acquaintance, and a neighbour in Cambridgeshire, wrote to remonstrate with the Bishop.

Court news. Nov 20, London, Roger Lord North to the Bishop of Ely:

'Being now in the court I understand her Majesty did very zealously recommend Mr Hatton to be the Keeper of your house in Holborn, a man much favoured of her Highness, and much esteemed of the best and honest sort of England'...

'Well! this last denial...hath moved her Highness to so great disliking as she purposeth presently to send for you, and to hear what account you can render for this strange dealing toward your gracious Sovereign. Moreover, she determineth to redress the infinite injuries which of long time you have offered her subjects' and 'hath given me order...to refer those complaints before her Majesty's Privy Council...She hath given order for your coming up...you shall have a taste to judge how well she liketh your loving usage'.

'Suffer me, my Lord, I pray you, to put you in mind who it is that you deny: it is our dread Sovereign Lady, our most gracious and bountiful Mistress, who hath abled you even from the meanest estate that may be unto the best Bishopric in England, a thing worth £3000 by year...Ingratitude you know, my Lord, is noted...between the subject and Sovereign a horrible monster'...

'Now to advise you. My Lord, I wish you from the bottom of my heart...humbly to reconcile (by yielding) yourself unto her known clemency. She is our God in earth; if there be perfection in flesh and blood, undoubtedly it is in her Majesty. For she is slow to revenge and ready to forgive. And yet, my Lord, she is right King Henry, her father. For if any strive with her, all the Princes of Europe cannot make her yield. Again who so humbly and lovingly submitteth himself to her desire, she doth and will so graciously receive and recompense him, as every that knoweth her doth honour and entirely love her'...

'You will say unto me that you are determined to leave your Bishopric in her Majesty's hands to dispose thereof...Your wife hath also counselled you to be a Latimer in these days, glorying as it were to stand against your natural Prince. ...It is, I confess, but a small matter to forgo a Bishopric...but it is a great matter to forgo or lose the Prince's favour (and that deservedly), and it is the greatest matter of all to hazard your credit'.

'You see that to court you must come. The Prince's good favour and grace will be altered from you. Your friends will be strange, it will be no ease for your age to travel in winter...My Lord, it will be no pleasure for you to have her Majesty and the Council know how wretchedly you live within and without your house, how extremely covetous, how great a grazier, how marvellous a dairy man, how rich a farmer, how great an owner. It will not like you that the world know of your decayed houses, of the lead and brick that you sell from them, of the leases that you pull violently from many...of the tolls and imposts which you raise, of God's good ministers which you causelessly displace. You suffer no man to live longer under you than you like him. And to be flat, you nourish the ill and discourage the good'...

'All this which I have written I am to prove against you...Wherefore if you love peace, the preservation of your credit, and the continuance of her Majesty's favour, conform yourself and satisfy her request'. [HT.ii.120-2].

[Latimer: Hugh Latimer, Bishop of Worcester, Protestant martyr, burnt as a heretic at Oxford in 1555 in Queen Mary's reign].

Cox remained Bishop; in 1576 Christopher Hatton obtained a lease for 21 years of the Ely House gate-house, garden, orchard, and part of the buildings, the rent being a red rose at midsummer, 10 loads of hay, and £10 per annum.

The Bishop reserved to himself and his successors the right of walking in the gardens and gathering 20 bushels of roses annually.

Hatton several times entertained the Queen at Ely House after he became Lord Chancellor in 1587.

November 21: News of a forthcoming embassy from William Prince of Orange, coming to offer the Queen the Sovereignty of Holland and Zeeland.

Nov 21, Rotterdam, John Hastings (special Ambassador) to Lord Burghley: 'This Prince, these States and this country is wholly prepared to her Majesty's devotion, rather as their Lady than Protectrix: a means of great peace, great strength, great wealth, great surety and immortal renown to her Highness and her Majesty's posterity for ever...They do send over the Advocate-General of this country, another learned man of North Holland, and Monsieur de St Aldegonde, persons learned and of importance'. [KL.viii.46-47].

c. Nov 24: Earl of Essex arrived at Windsor.
Walter Devereux, 1st Earl of Essex (1539-1576).

He spent most of 1573-1575 in Ireland, and after a dangerous voyage went first to his house in Wales. The Countess of Essex had remained in England during his absence, mainly at their house at Chartley, Staffs; she was also at Kenilworth when the Queen was there visiting the Earl of Leicester.

Earl of Essex's accounts, April-November 1575, include a list of 'Bedding and furniture for chamber against the Earl his coming to the court out of Ireland', and of 'Apparel for the Earl'. Also 'Allowance to the Countess of Essex, per annum, for her private expenses, £200'. The Earl's annual income was about £4900, his current expenditure £6500. [Devereux, ii.477-9].

25 November 1575-June 1576: Thomas Wilkes was English Agent with the Huguenot army in France.

On November 25 the Queen gave Wilkes a message to take to the Count Palatine, who 'in the defence of the common cause of religion' is willing to 'spend his treasure', and 'to venture his dearest son, Duke Casimir'. [SPF.xi.188].

Duke John Casimir came to visit the Queen in 1579.

By Nov 26: Sir William Fitzwilliam at Windsor, on return from Ireland. Fitzwilliam, former Lord Deputy of Ireland, had been replaced by Sir Henry Sidney. Nov 26, 'from my lodging at Windsor', Fitzwilliam to Lord Burghley: 'Her Highness's gracious acceptation of me, and favourable allowance of my service, do give me such singular comfort'. I have been 'attacked with a spice of my Irish infirmity, accompanied with a fit of a fever'. [SP63/53/70].

Dec 4, Windsor, Council to the Lord Keeper (Sir Nicholas Bacon) and the Lord Treasurer (Burghley): 'Her Majesty having been advertised of numerous highway robberies which have lately been committed in divers parts of the realm, and that it is a common thing for the thieves to carry pistols whereby they either murder out of hand before they rob, or else put her subjects in such fear that they dare not resist, their Lordships are requested to take such steps as may be necessary to redress this mischief; and also to suppress the numbers of tall men calling themselves discharged soldiers of Ireland, who, especially in the neighbourhood of London, go about the highways begging and are suspected when they see an opportunity of robbing and spoiling her Majesty's true subjects'. [HT.ii.123].

Dec 5: News of scandal involving the Countess of Essex and Earl of Leicester. Dec 5, London, Antonio de Guaras to Secretary Zayas: 'As the thing is publicly talked about in the streets there is no objection to my writing openly about the great enmity which exists between the Earl of Leicester and the Earl of Essex, in consequence, it is said, of the fact that whilst Essex was in Ireland his wife had two children by Leicester. She is the daughter of Sir Francis Knollys, a near relative of the Queen and a member of the Council, and great discord is expected in consequence'. Dec 20: 'The Earl of Essex...came from Ireland... and on arriving at home found the shameful news about his own house, that I have mentioned'. [Span.ii.511,516].

No more is heard of children. From December 1575 until he returned to Ireland in May 1576 the Earl of Essex lived mainly at Durham House, Strand; he died in September 1576; his widow Lettice (Knollys) secretly married the Earl of Leicester in September 1578.

Dec 9: News of scandal involving the Queen. Dec 9, Madrid newsletter: The Papal Nuncio in Spain 'has let it be known that the pretended Queen has a daughter, 13 years of age, and that she would bestow her in marriage on someone acceptable to his Catholic Majesty [King Philip]. I have heard tell before of the daughter, but the English here say they know naught of such a matter'. [SP Rome, ii.238].

[1575] Dec 13, court, Anthony Wingfield to his wife, about a New Year gift for the Queen from the Countess of Shrewsbury:

'I could not speak with my Lady of Sussex till yesterday...Then I dealt with her for her judgement for the New Year's gift. And this is her mind, that she would have the colour to be of a light watchet satin and guarded with...carnation velvet. And upon the guard embroidered with pansies of all fashions so that in them be all manner of colours, and to be trimmed with glistering gold and silver to the best show. And not with great pearl but to the best show of small pearl. The guard to be a good inch broad and not above, for in a narrow guard the pansy flower will show best because that small flower and leaf will show best in a small guard'.

'This is my Lady of Sussex's opinion, and, as she says, the Queen likes best of that flower, and to have the satin a light watchet because she hath no garment of that colour already and she hath sundry garments of ash colour already and begins to be weary of the colour'. [Folger X.d.428, no.128].

For the Countess's gifts see New Year 1576, and for the Queen's pleasure in her gifts see Mrs Elizabeth Wingfield's letter, January 2.

Court news. Dec 17, De Guaras to Secretary Zayas:

'I have received trustworthy information that on Thursday last [December 15] the Queen very loudly declared that she was against sending forces openly to Zeeland and Holland. She entered her chamber alone, slamming the door after her and crying out that they were ruining her over this business, and those who were there, her ladies-in-waiting and others, were much distressed, saying that if she did not open the door they would burst it open, as they could not bear her to be alone in such trouble'.

'Her grief arose from her having received news that Orange was sending to her, with Chester and Hastings, Aldegonde and Count Culdenburg and another of the principal persons of his States, who were all in Flushing awaiting an opportunity for passing over. It is supposed they come to offer on behalf of Orange the possession of Zeeland and Holland to the Queen'. [Span.ii.515].

Dec 19, Paris, Dr Dale to the Queen, of Venetians at Windsor in November:
 'Your Majesty's favourable entertainment of the Venetians was well bestowed,
 for they cease not to give most honourable report of your most noble virtues
 and personage, and of the happy state of your court and realm'. [SPF.xi.204].

*In 1576 the Venetian Senate, after having the report by the noblemen read,
 took a vote on a proposal that a resident Ambassador should be sent to England.*

*There voted ayes 44, noes 131. [Ven.vii.526-7; in this the report and vote
 are dated in error 26 February 1575].*

No Venetian Agent was sent to England until January 1603.

Dec 20, Tues dinner, Colnbrook, Bucks; at an inn.
 Inn-keeper: Peter Colborne, who was paid 26s8d.^c

Dec 20, Tues **HAMPTON COURT**, Middlesex.^c

Court news. Dec 20, De Guaras to Zayas: 'The coming of persons...being sent as
 an embassy by Orange to the Queen is now made public...The court arrives today
 at Hampton Court, where the whole of the Council is ordered to meet tomorrow to
 discuss this matter before the arrival of the envoys'. [Span.ii.515].

Dec 24, Sat Queen signed the *cong  d' lire* to the Dean and Chapter of
 Canterbury for choosing Edmund Grindal (Archbishop of York) to be Archbishop
 of Canterbury. Grindal was nominated on December 29. [SPF.xi.468].

Dec 26, Mon play, by Earl of Warwick's Men.

Dec 27, Tues bear-baiting;

play, by the Children of Windsor Chapel.

Dec 28, Wed play, by Earl of Leicester's Men.^T

1575 or 1576: Gift to the Queen by Peter Bales (1547-c.1610), a well-known
 writing-master.

Described by John Stow, under the year 1576:

'The tenth of August a strange piece of work, and almost incredible, was
 brought to pass by an Englishman, born within the City of London and a Clerk
 of the Chancery, named Peter Bales, who by his industry and practice of his pen
 contrived and writ within the compass of a penny, in Latin, the Lord's Prayer,
 the Creed, the Ten Commandments, a prayer to God, a prayer for the Queen, his
 posy, his name, the day of the month, the year of our Lord, and the reign of
 the Queen'.

'And upon the 17th of August next following at Hampton Court he presented
 the same to the Queen's Majesty in the head of a ring of gold, covered with a
 crystal, and presented therewith an excellent spectacle by him devised for the
 easier reading thereof, wherewith her Majesty read all that was written therein,
 with great admiration, and commended the same to the Lords of the Council, and
 the Ambassador, and did wear the same many times upon her finger'.

[John Stow, *Chronicle to 1580* (London, 1580)].

*ODNB (Bales) dates this as 10 March 1575, but the Queen was at Richmond.
 Holinshed, Chronicles, dates it as 17 August 1575, but she was at Worcester.
 Stow dates it as 17 August 1576, but she was on progress in Hertfordshire.*

She is known to have been at Hampton Court on August 17 only in 1559.

1575? Otto de Backere to the Queen: I have dedicated to your Majesty Le Trésor de la Noblesse, and hope that in consideration of my homage you will authorise me to bring into England 1600 pieces of cloth free of duty.
[KL.vii.400: French].

1575: Ulpian Fulwell published: 'The Flower of Fame. Containing the bright renown, and most fortunate reign of King Henry the VIII...Hereunto is annexed ...a short treatise of three noble and virtuous Queens'.

Queen Anne Boleyn, the Queen's mother, is the phoenix 'whose ashes yields another bird', and she 'hath of her cinders sent
A noble Imp, a worthy Queen
Ere she from world went'. (London, 1575).

c.1575? Henry Goldingham wrote:

'The Garden Plot: an allegorical poem, inscribed to Queen Elizabeth'.

Addressed to the Queen, beginning: 'In the Lord Madam, in regard of your Majesty's mild government over your subjects, and in token of my bounden duty and allegiance to your Highness, I have framed this present'...

'Your Majesty's most loyal Henry Goldingham'.

Verses set in a garden. Rhyming stanzas describing the garden, with its walks, maze, bowers of birds, knot garden, etc. Interspersed with descriptions in prose of various flowers, eg. primrose, marigold. 708 lines. Unfinished and undated.

Henry Goldingham was in the service of the Earl of Leicester, and contributed to and acted in his Kenilworth entertainment, July 1575.

'The Garden Plot' was edited by Francis Wrangham (1825).

1575: William Patten published: The Calendar of Scripture.

'Wherein the Hebrew, Chaldean, Arabian, Phoenician, Syrian, Persian, Greek and Latin names, of Nations, Countries, Men, Women, Idols, Cities, Hills, Rivers, and of other places in the holy Bible mentioned, by order of letters are set, and turned into our English tongue'.

'Elizabeth', the name and the Queen, is given 30 pages, and the running title becomes 'ELIZABETH'. The Queen, born on the seventh day of the seventh month, speaks seven languages, rules seven lands, and embodies the seven moral virtues: faith, hope, charity, prudence, justice, fortitude, temperance.

With a Latin poem celebrating the Queen and her Councillors. 200p.
(London, 1575). Patten wrote verses for the Kenilworth entertainment, July 1575.

1575: George Turberville published 'The Book of Falconry or Hawking, for the only delight and pleasure of all Noblemen and Gentlemen'.

Dedicated to Ambrose, Earl of Warwick.

With an illustration of the Queen on horseback, hunting, captioned 'To fly at the Heron'. 371p. (London, 1575).

c.1575 or 1576: 'The Phoenix Portrait' of the Queen, so named from a phoenix jewel worn by her. Attributed to Nicholas Hilliard.
Reproduced in *Dynasties*, ed. Karen Hearn, 80.