

At **WHITEHALL PALACE.**

Jan 1, Sat New Year gifts.

Works: 'Setting up long tables for the New Year gifts'.

Also: play, by Lord Hunsdon's Men.^T

Among 200 gifts to the Queen:

by Sir Thomas Gerard: 'One snuskin [muff] of velvet embroidered with sundry pictures having the picture of a Queen in the midst';

by Francis Bacon: 'A cloak of black velvet, the ground gold with a flat lace of Venice silver about it, lined with ashcoloured plush';

by George Bishop, stationer: 'One fair Bible in Latin of the Vulgar translation'; by William Dethick, Garter King of Arms: 'One book covered with blue velvet of the Knights of the Order of the Garter that have been elected since her Majesty's coming to the Crown until this year'; by Petruccio Ubaldini: 'One book of Italian covered with vellum of the Florentine militia'.^{NYG}

Jan 1: Petruccio Ubaldini dedicated and gave to the Queen:

Militia del Gran Duca di Thoscana [Militia of the Grand Duke of Tuscany].

Italian. Dedicatory Epistle to 'the most serene and prudent Queen'.

From London the first day of 1597. From 'your Majesty's old and always faithful servant, Petruccio Ubaldini, Citizen of Florence'. 57p. (London, 1597).

Jan 1: William Tooker dedicated to the Queen: Charisma sive Donum Sanationis. [Charisma or the gift of Healing]. Latin, with Latin dedication.

Tooker (c.1558-1621), includes a description of the Queen 'touching for the King's Evil' in Gloucestershire. (See 1 Sept 1592). 156p. (London, 1597).

Jan 4, Tues: clandestine marriage: Arthur Gorges (1557-1625), Gentleman Pensioner, married (2) Lady Elizabeth Clinton (1573-1659), daughter of Henry Clinton, 2nd Earl of Lincoln; a god-daughter of the Queen.

Married in Widow Long's house 'in the Strand near the Savoy'.

Prior to the marriage Gorges had been committed to the Fleet Prison, but was released on Jan 2.^{APC} He had written to Sir Robert Cecil, 18 Nov 1596, having angered the Queen: 'what I have done is but a love matter, and that of the truest kind, which is marriage'.

He was barred from court for several months, writing to Cecil, April 20, from his house 'without Bishopsgate': 'I am a banished man from the court and a stranger to that part of the town'. [HT.vi.481; vii.166].

Jan 6, Thur play, by Lord Hunsdon's Men.^T

Jan 8: Francis Bacon dedicated to the Queen a brief book on Maxims of the Law. 'To her Sacred Majesty', presenting 'a sheaf and cluster of fruit of that good and favourable season, which by the influence of your happy government we enjoy' The Collection of some principal Rules and Maxims of the Common Laws of England was first published in 1630.

c. Jan 10: French messenger, Viergier, in England.

Upon news of Spanish preparations King Henri IV sent Viergier to entreat the Queen to join her forces with his to assail the enemy.

Sir Anthony Mildmay (Ambassador) to Sir Robert Cecil, 31 Dec 1596, Rouen: The King is sending 'one Viergier, a portmanteau extraordinary, a man of very mean quality. I suppose there was the rather choice made of such a one by cause of his speedy return, to the which I hear he is enjoined'.

I take his message to be all in writing. He deserves to be well used for his master's sake 'as I know he shall be'. [SPF List 7, 214].

Jan 16, Whitehall, Council's 'open warrant' for Dutch Agent: 'Monsieur Caron, a gentleman of the Low Countries here resident and Agent for the States of the United Provinces with her Majesty, is for special causes concerning her Majesty and this State to make his speedy repair into the Low Countries'. He is to have 12 post-horses for himself and retinue, and shipping.^{APC} (See February 2).

Jan 17: *St Clement Danes: burial: 'Robert Cecil, the son of Robert knight'.*

Jan 24: *death: Lady Cecil (1563-1597) died at her house in the Strand, following child-birth. She was Elizabeth (Brooke), daughter of William Brooke, 10th Lord Cobham, and wife of Sir Robert Cecil, the Queen's Secretary; she was a Lady of the Privy Chamber and of the Bedchamber. Her surviving children were William, 5, and Frances, 3. Her funeral: February 12.*

Jan 24: *Stationers entered: 'Essays of Master Francis Bacon, with the prayers of his Sovereign'. This entry was cancelled, and on February 5 was entered: 'Essays, Religious Meditations, Places of Persuasion and Discussion by Master Francis Bacon'. This first edition was dedicated to Francis's brother Anthony.*

Jan 27: *death: Dr Roger Gifford, one of the Queen's physicians since 1587. Will (January 27), includes a bequest to Sir Thomas Egerton 'Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of England, my honourable and very good lord, the jewel wherein the Queen's Majesty's picture is which I used to wear about my neck, in remembrance of my duty and unfeigned affection towards his lordship'.*

Court news. Jan 27, Sir John Stanhope to Sir Robert Cecil, of Lady Cecil, to be buried 'as a baroness': 'I learn...that my Lady Burgh was Chief Mourner for Mrs Blanche who was buried as a baroness [Blanche Parry, February 1590], so as the Queen will be fully provided now to satisfy anybody's envy'...

'I found her Majesty and the Lords [the Council] closed up in the Privy Chamber till it was candlelight. Since, she is at rest attended by my Lady Scrope'. [HT.vii.41].

Jan 30, Whitehall, Lord Burghley to Archbishop of York, Hutton: There is good news 'of an overthrow given by Count Maurice and other English forces commanded by Sir Robert Sidney and Sir Francis Vere of a number of the King of Spain's ancient soldiers, as the like hath not happened with such success to the States since the beginning of their wars'. [Surtees Society, 17 (1843), 113].

The 'Overthrow of Turnhout' became a play: described 1599 Oct 26,27.

February 2-April 30: *Dutch Agent's special mission to the Low Countries. Noel Caron, resident Agent, obtained the Queen's leave to depart, and sailed on February 2. By mid-February he was at the Hague with her ratification of a league with the States. He was back at the English court on April 30.*

Feb 6, Shrove Sunday play, by Lord Hunsdon's Men.^T

Feb 6: *News of Earl of Southampton's challenge to Earl of Northumberland. Henry Wriothesley 3rd Earl of Southampton (1573-1624); Henry Percy 9th Earl of Northumberland (1564-1632). Northumberland believed that the younger Earl had spoken offensive words of him; he had given Southampton the lie (which usually led to a challenge to a duel), and Southampton had promised to challenge him.*

[Feb 6] 'court this present Sunday', Earl of Northumberland to Anthony Bacon: 'I shall not come hastily from court, therefore I have sent you such letters as passed between the Earl of Southampton and myself; what was further proceeded in after the last I will briefly set down'.

'The gentleman he sent with his rapier came to do his message, who beginning to name Southampton instantly I embraced him, asking him if he brought me a challenge, which if he did I accepted it beforehand'.

'His answers were that he did not, only he brought his rapier, which the night before he had promised to send, withal appointing time and place that same day. My reply was that Southampton had not a novice in hand. I knew well when I was before or behind in points of honour, and therefore I had nothing to say further unless I were challenged'.

'After his departure he returned within the space of half an hour and brought me a challenge absolutely, but in my opinion stuffed with strange conditions, for he would both have assigned the place, the time, and have chosen the rapier single, because his arm was hurt with the ballon'.

'My reply was that I knew the Earl played not with his left hand, and that I would stay to press him till his arm were well, afterwards I would appoint everything apt in such a case. But within one hour after her Majesty's commandment was laid upon us, with the bond of allegiance. We went to court, where we were called before the Lords'.

'The conclusion was then that they assured of their honours they knew that he had not spoken those words, which afterwards he affirmed. My answer was that I rather believed them than any other, and therefore the lie I had given was nothing, and so revoked he his challenge and we made friends'.

[Ballon: a currently popular game at court, played with a large leather ball tossed with a wooden brace upon the arm]. [LPL 655/78; endorsed Feb 8].

Feb 7, Shrove Monday: marriage, at St Luke's Church, Chelsea:

William Howard (1577-1615), son of Charles 2nd Lord Howard of Effingham, married Anne St John, daughter of John 2nd Lord St John of Bletsoe.

Queen's gift to Lord St John's daughter, Feb 7: 'One carcanet containing five pieces of gold set with small rubies and small pendant pearls'.

[BL Add MS 5751A, f.245]. *Queen was godmother (Feb 1603) to Howard's child.*

Feb 8, Shrove Tuesday play, by Lord Hunsdon's Men.

Payees for their plays: John Heminges and Thomas Pope.^T

Heminges was a co-editor of Shakespeare's First Folio, 1623.

Feb 12, Sat: Westminster Abbey: Funeral of Lady Cecil.

Funeral certificate, signed by Sir Robert Cecil, Roger Manners (an Esquire for the Body), and Henry Brooke (Lady Cecil's brother):

Lady Cecil 'by her Majesty's especial commandment (for that she was a Lady of her Privy Chamber and one of the Bedchamber) was honourably buried as a Baroness within the Abbey Church of Westminster, where for her was erected a fair square hearse...furnished with velvet'...

'The proceeding of her said funeral was accomplished as followeth:

First two conductors with staves to lead the way. Then followed 50 poor women in gowns and kerchiefs. After them came the servants of Gentlemen, Gentlewomen, Ladies and Knights, in cloaks, to the number of 44. Then two other conductors with staves going before Mr Secretary's own yeomen and gentlemen, in cloaks, to the number of 42. Then followed of the Lord Treasurer's gentlemen and others, in cloaks, 12. After them of gentlemen in gowns, both Doctors of Physic and Divinity, Dr Andrewes the preacher, Mr Dean of Westminster, in number 17'.

'The great banner borne by Sir William Brooke, brother to the Lady deceased. After whom followed Robert Treswell, Bluemantle, and Thomas Lant, Portcullis, Officers of Arms; Clarenceux Lee, King of Arms, taking his place next before the body, which was borne by six of her own gentlemen. The four corners of the pall were supported by Sir Walter Raleigh, Sir Thomas Gorges, Sir Edward Dyer, and Sir George Carew, knights. The four bannerols borne by Sir Edward Hoby, Sir Edward Denny, Sir Edward Wotton, and Sir Anthony Cooke, knights'.

'Next after the body followed the Chief Mourner, Lady Cecil, wife to Sir Thomas Cecil, knight, on her right hand Mr Roger Manners, on her left hand Mr Henry Brooke, with her train borne by Mistress Manners. After her followed the six assistants, viz. Mistress Jerningham, Mistress Elizabeth Russell, Mistress Elizabeth Burgh, Mistress Elizabeth Brydges, Mistress Anne Russell (Barons' daughters) and the Lady Newton, one of the Bedchamber'.

'After them followed an usher, going before certain Knights' daughters, and other gentlewomen, waiting-women and maid-servants, in mourning gowns and white attires on their heads, to the number of 21. Last of all divers yeomen and serving-men in coats. And thus all the mourners, being 220 and odd, proceeded to the aforesaid Abbey Church of Westminster, where all being settled, and a psalm sung, the preacher held them an hour. The sermon ended, the offering and other rites performed, the aforesaid mourners in like order before mentioned returned to Mr Dean's house (from whence they came) and there dined'.

[J.G.Nichols, ed. *Collectanea Topographica et Genealogica*, iii.290].
Lady Cecil's monument in Westminster Abbey has rhyming epitaphs by Sir Robert Cecil. (St Nicholas Chapel).

Feb 13: Roger Aston arrived in London from Scotland, sent by King James.
Feb 14, James Hudson (resident Scots agent) wrote to Anthony Bacon of the arrival of Aston on Feb 13 and of his lodging with him; he requested a gift for the King of some bucks and some young fallow deer.

Aston left early in March, having 'carried himself well to the Queen'.
[Birch, ii.279-280; Scot.xii.481]. Sequel: March 7.

Court news. Feb 14, Strand, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney:
'Mistress Lettice Garrett shall be a Maid of Honour, and if my Lord Burgh cannot bring in his daughter to the Privy Chamber, tis thought she shall be another of the Maids'.^{SD} [Elizabeth Burgh was apparently not appointed].

Feb 16: Will proved of Francis Flower, a Gentleman Pensioner.
Will made 1st Jan 1597. Bequests include: To the Countess of Warwick and Lady Wolley, to each 'a round porringer and spoon of silver', value £6.13s4d; Sir William Hatton 'one diamond', value £50; Lady Hatton 'my gelding called Grey Butler'; 'Richard Smith, Doctor of Physic, one of her Majesty's physicians, the best of my horses or geldings which he will choose'; George Turner, Doctor of Physic 'my bay gelding called Bay Turner'; 'William Cordell, esquire, her Majesty's Master Cook, one piece of plate', value £4; 'Hugh Miller, gentleman, one of her Majesty's Footmen, my Dutch cloak of satin guarded with velvet'.
Legacies to 12 servants. To be buried at Eltham Church, Kent 'without any pomp or sumptuous funeral'.

Feb 17, Edward Reynolds (Essex's secretary) to Anthony Bacon, of Essex:
'My Lord is so private this day through his indisposition as I cannot yet have access to him...Her Majesty visited his Lordship this morning, which I hope will prove the best physic, and do more good than all the doctors'. [LPL 655/43].

Feb 18, Strand, Whyte to Sidney: The Earl of Essex is keeping to his chamber 'and few have access unto him...Her Majesty visited him yesterday in the forenoon; something there is that occasions this melancholy...I hear the Queen uses him very graciously in his own person; but in all other things his desires prevail little, either in matters of great or little moment...His train at court is lessened by the discharging of 20 men that attended him in ordinary'...

'Mr Secretary [Cecil] now attends at court; he is a great Councillor, and by her Majesty specially graced and favoured'.^{SD} The Queen proposed to send a fleet against Spain, but not to grant Essex sole command, as he much desired.

Feb 19, Sat dinner, Chelsea, Middlesex; Lord Howard.
Chelsea manor-house; Charles 2nd Lord Howard of Effingham (c.1536-1624),
Lord Admiral; wife: Katherine (Carey), the Queen's cousin (died 1603).

Feb 19, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney: 'My Lord of Essex keeps his chamber still. The Queen went today to Chelsea to my Lord Admiral's to dinner'..
'200 [Cecil] is in greatest credit here, 1500 [the Queen] passing the most part of the day in private and secret conference with him'.^{SD}

Feb 20, Edward Reynolds to Anthony Bacon, of the Earl of Essex:
'This day is a calmer day than all the rest, and the sun, that is her Majesty, hath favourably shined upon us by her gracious visitation, which seemeth to have much comforted his Lordship'. [LPL 655/45].

Feb 21, Strand, Whyte to Sidney: 'His keeping in is noted of all men... The Queen uses my Lord very well, and he doth often go privately unto her'.
'Mr Secretary keeps his table again and now waits publicly'.

Feb 22, Whyte: 'My Lord of Essex kept his bed the most part of all yesterday, yet did one of his chamber tell me he could not weep for it, for he knew his Lord was not sick. There is not a day passes that the Queen sends not often to see him, and himself every day goeth privately unto her'.^{SD}

Feb 23, Wed sermon, Whitehall: Richard Edes, one of the Queen's chaplains.
Text: Isaiah 5:20: 'Woe be unto them that call good evil and evil good'.
[Printed, 1604, entitled *A sermon of the Difference of Good and Evil*].

By Feb 24-mid March: Jacomo Marengo in England, with Essex and the Queen. Marengo, an Italian resident in France, sent the Earl of Essex regular news-letters, whose contents were communicated to the Queen. He now petitioned them both for financial assistance. (See March 9,12).

Court news. Feb 25, Strand, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney:
'My Lord of Essex comes out of his chamber in his gown and night-cap... Full fourteen days his Lordship kept in; her Majesty, as I heard, resolved to break him of his will, and to pull down his great heart, found it a thing impossible, and says he holds it from the mother's side; but all is well again, and no doubt he will grow a mighty man in our state'.^{SD}

Feb 26: death. Henry Noel, of Leics, unmarried; a courtier favoured by the Queen; minor poet, patron of musicians; took part in tournaments, 1581-1595.

Thomas Fuller: Henry Noel 'for person, parentage, grace, gesture, valour, and many other excellent parts (amongst which, skill in music), was of the first rank in the court. And though his lands and livelihood were small, having nothing known certain but his annuity and pension as gentleman to Queen Elizabeth, yet in state, pomp, magnificence and expenses, did ever equalise the barons of great worth. If any demand whence this proceeded, the Spanish proverb answers him, "That which cometh from above let no man question". Being challenged by an Italian gentleman to play at ballon, he so heated his blood that, falling into a fever, he died thereof, and by her Majesty's appointment was buried in the Abbey of Westminster, and chapel of St Andrew'. [Worthies, Leics].

In tribute John Dowland composed 'Lamentatio Henrici Noel', described as 'funeral psalms'. Thomas Morley as 'A reverend memorial of that honourable true gentleman Henry Noel Esquire' wrote 'Hark! Alleluia cheerly, With angels now he singeth, That here loved music dearly', and Thomas Weelkes wrote a madrigal 'Noel, adieu thou court's delight'. Several madrigals published in 1597 lamented a courtier known as 'Bonny-boots' (apparently Noel), and William Holborne wrote a canzonet 'Since Bonny-boots was dead'.

Court news. Feb 27, Strand, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney:

'The Queen used very many good speeches of you, that you were a very fine gentleman and had many good parts, but that your mind was too much addicted to the Presence Chamber...Yesterday a principal follower of my Lord of Essex told me that he saw two letters of yours, sealed with gold and the broad arrow-head, directed to two of the Maids, and that a knight, who was too open, had the charge to deliver them'.^{SD}

The Maids of Honour were based in the Presence Chamber. The Sidney coat-of-arms includes a 'broad arrow', called a pheon; seen, for example, on the flag of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, founded by Sidney's aunt, Frances (Sidney), Countess of Sussex.

Feb 28, newsletter from Venice: 'They write from Constantinople that the Queen of England has presented the Grand Turk with two pairs of beautiful gold clocks. One looks like a galley and strikes every hour, the other shows the movements of all the planets in the heavens'. [Fugger, 289-290].

c. February, Constantinople, Mehmed III, Sultan of Turkey, to the Queen, in Italian: 'To the most splendid, glorious and effulgent Elizabeth, Queen of all the great ones who follow Jesus, wisest moderatrix of all the affairs of the Nazarene generation, most serene and balmy shower of rain, fountainhead of splendid honours, sweetest of the sex, heiress to beatitude, the glory of the illustrious realm of England, whose favour is sought by all and every one, We wish prosperity in all her royal undertakings, and send greetings worthy of the friendship we bear her'. There follows a long description of the capture of Agria in Hungary, 1596. Mehmed asks that in honour of this victory: 'letters and persons be dispatched by your Highness to the ministers of your dominions, ordering them to cause the guns of all your fortresses to be fired, and to institute festivities and merriment'. [Ellis (3), iv.138-147].

Mar 1, Tues new appointment: Thomas 5th Lord Burgh was made Lord Deputy of Ireland. Burgh continued to be Governor of Brill in the Low Countries.

March 6: *death. William Brooke, 10th Lord Cobham (1527-1597), K.G., widower, died at Blackfriars, London. He was Lord Chamberlain, Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, Privy Councillor, and Keeper of Eltham Palace and Parks, Kent.*

Numerous bequests to sons included: to 1st son Henry Brooke: 'Quasto my eldest horse; my youngest horse also called Grey Canterbury; Grey Mott, and Bay Mott'.

To 2nd son Sir William Brooke: Bay Gainsford, Bay Sheppey, Grey Pembroke.

To 3rd son George Brooke: 'Those few pieces of hangings which I myself do usually occupy at her Majesty's court whilst I do attend there'.

Funeral: April 5, Cobham, Kent.

Henry Brooke (1564-1619) became 11th Lord Cobham.

March 6, at court, in haste, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney:

'About midnight my Lord Chamberlain died...The court is now full of who shall have this and that office'.

March 7, Strand: You 'can best judge...what good you may expect here, where to be a nobleman born is more respected than to be virtuous and worthy'...

'All the world being full of expectation where these offices will be bestowed, and her Majesty troubled with motions for them by most that speak unto her'.^{SD}

March 7: Henry Sackford, Master of the Toils, is to have £7 for 'providing of certain deer to be sent into Scotland to the Scottish King by her Majesty's direction'.^T Sequel: April 22, James Hudson's letter after delivery of deer.

March 9, Edward Reynolds to Anthony Bacon, of Jacomo Marenco, who had been summoned back to France by the King: The Earl of Essex has taken order with his officers to provide £100 for Marenco, besides a jewel and a present of a horse, and the defraying of the charges of his diet. [Birch, ii.295].

Mar 10, Thur Earl of Essex accepted post of Master of the Ordnance.

March 12, Strand, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney: 'My Lord of Essex stood for the Cinque Ports, but the Queen told him that the now Lord Cobham should have it. Whereupon he was resolved to leave the court, and upon Thursday morning, 10th March, himself, his followers, and horses were ready; he went to speak with my Lord Treasurer about 10 o'clock, and by Somerset House Mr [William] Killigrew met him, and willed him to come to the Queen'.

'After some speech had privately with her, she made him Master of the Ordnance, which place he hath accepted, and receives contentment by it'.^{SD}

March 12: *death*. Sir William Hatton (formerly Newport, c.1565-1597) died at Hatton House, Holborn. He was nephew and heir of Sir Christopher Hatton, Lord Chancellor, who died in 1591.

Bequest to the Queen: 'According as in duty I am bound to do with a grateful recognition of my most gracious Sovereign's infinite and endless favour begun in my dear uncle, and since his decease most princely and graciously continued unto me in my poor fortune, I humbly beseech that I may presume to remember her in this my last will for whose long and happy reign as in all my life I have with all dutiful regard made my hearty and earnest prayers (the best means so mean a man as myself hath to testify the memory of his duty and thankfulness), so do I even till the very instant of my last breathing make this prayer that her Highness may in number of years and happiness of government exceed all her noble progenitors whom she succeeds in this imperial throne. And with all humility I offer this last petition to my gracious Sovereign that she would be pleased graciously to receive into her favour and protection my poor wife and her two children and to accept at the hand of her unworthy servant this poor mite, which with the dutiful affection of a faithful subject I present unto her Highness - a jewel of £200 such as Mistress Mary Radcliffe shall like'.

Bequest of £100 'to my most dear friend Mistress Mary Radcliffe'.

[Gentlewoman of the Privy Chamber and Keeper of the Queen's Jewels].

Funeral: March 21, Holdenby, Northants. Hatton left one daughter by his 1st wife, one by his 2nd wife. The widowed Elizabeth (Cecil), Lady Hatton (Lord Burghley's grand-daughter), married (1598) Edward Coke, Attorney-General.

March 12, Anthony Bacon to Essex: Marenco desires me to refer two matters to you. The first is for a cipher, which Marenco said that the Queen mentioned particularly and enjoined him to demand, 'whether in jest or earnest your Lordship can best judge'. The second, some direction 'how to satisfy the French King's inquisitive humour [as to English affairs]'. [Birch, ii.296].

March 12, Anthony Bacon to Dr Hawkins: 'Signor Jacomo Marenco hath received great favour of her Majesty here in compliments and of the noble Earl in substance, to wit, her Majesty's picture in an agate beset with 40 diamonds, 200 angels, all his charges defrayed, and a fine gelding'. [LPL 656/44].

Mar 13, Whitehall: 'Passport for Signor Jacomo Marenco, an Italian that came hither out of France to see her Majesty and the realm, to return again into France without any let or molestation'.^{APC} Marenco left for France.

c.March 15: *death*. Gregory Lovell of Merton, Surrey, Cofferer of the Household. Funeral: April 12, St Mary's Church, Merton, where his monument remains, with figures of his two wives and nine children.

The widowed Mrs Dorothy Lovell married (2) Captain Henry Masterson, who was killed in Ireland in 1599; (3) Sir James Croft, died 1624.

March 16, Flushing, Sir Robert Sidney to Essex, sending an Antwerp man in 'a ship of war of purpose to carry him over unto you. The cause of his coming is to reveal a practice against the person of the Queen by a friar Capuchin, as he saith, who hath undertaken to kill her. The man he knoweth well... and therefore taketh this journey upon him to discover him if he do see him in England...The friar...hath disguised himself into ordinary apparel... In a matter whereupon depends the good of the whole state, not only of England but of all Christendom, there cannot be too much carefulness'. [HT.vii.116].

Court news. March 16, Strand, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney:

'My Lord of Essex...had granted unto him the Office of Master of the Ordnance, but as yet he cannot get his Patent signed. Sir John Fortescue offered it twice to her Majesty, but she found some exceptions, and this afternoon he took his Bill from him, and presented it himself, but for all that it is not done, which moves the Earl greatly'...

'Mr Lovell the Cofferer is dead, and old Foukes shall come in his place'.^{SD}

Bartholomew Foukes was still Master of the Household when he died in 1604 aged 69; his monument is in Flamstead Church, Herts.

Court news. March 19, Strand, Whyte to Sidney:

'Yesterday my Lord of Essex's Bill was signed, and this day is already passed all the Seals, and now is Master of the Ordnance'.

'This afternoon the Lords were at my Lord Treasurer's about the accounts of Sir Thomas Sherley...it is said he owes the Queen more than he is worth'...

'The Queen says that Sir Harry Cock shall be Cofferer, which makes all the Clerks of the house out of heart, that were in hope of rising'.^{SD}

[Sherley, Treasurer at War: see April 13].

March 22, Strand, Whyte to Sidney (who desired to succeed Lord Cobham as Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, and had sent a letter to the Queen):

'Upon Sunday in the afternoon [March 20] my Lady Scudamore got the Queen to read your letter..."Do you not know the contents of it?" said the Queen. "No, madam", said she...Her Majesty said "Here is much ado about the Cinque Ports". I demanded of my Lady Scudamore what she observed in her Majesty while she was a-reading of it; who said that she read it all over with two or three poohs'...

'I imparted to Mr Roger Manners your suit for the Cinque Ports'.

After Manners dined with Burghley 'coming forth he whispered me in the ear "The Queen hath sent word hither that my Lord Cobham shall be Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports".^{SD} Lady Scudamore: a Lady of the Privy Chamber; Roger Manners: an Esquire for the Body. Cobham was appointed on May 29.

Mar 24, Maundy Thursday ceremonies and alms-giving, Westminster Abbey.

By Anthony Watson, Bishop of Chichester, Queen's new Almoner; to 61 poor women, each 20s in a red purse and 63d in a white purse.^T

Works 'making six pair of trestles...for the Maundy to have been kept in the Minster Church at Westminster, mending other the Maundy forms'.

Mar 25, Good Friday sermon, Whitehall: Dr Lancelot Andrewes.

Text: Zechariah 12:10: 'And they shall look upon Me, whom they have pierced'. [Printed, 1629].

Court news. [March 26] Easter Eve, Strand, Whyte to Sidney:

'It is said that the Queen after the holidays will go to Theobalds and North Hall, and so come back to Greenwich'.^{SD}

Theobalds: Lord Burghley's house at Cheshunt, Herts; North Hall: Anne Countess of Warwick's house at Northaw, Herts. This short progress did not take place.

March: via Putney, Surrey, to Somerset House, Strand.
 Keeper of Somerset House, Crown property: Anne Lady Hunsdon.
 William Garrett, a royal waterman, with others, 'carrying her Majesty
 in a barge from Putney to Somerset House and so to Whitehall', 16s.^T

*April 1-July: Sir William Bowes was special Ambassador to Scotland.
 Sir William joined his uncle Robert Bowes, resident Ambassador.*

Apr 1, Fri new appointment: Sir Henry Cock: Cofferer of the Household.^{PS}

Apr 2, Sat French envoy, De Fouquerolles, at Whitehall for audience.
 To ask for men and money for King Henri IV.

April 3, Anthony Bacon to Dr Hawkins: 'Le Sieur de Fouquerolles...had
 yesterday audience, but very cold reception and entertainment in court'.
 [LPL 656/209].

April 3, Strand, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney:

'My Lord of Essex kept his chamber three days this week, troubled with a
 great heat in the mouth, which happened by overmuch exercise at ballon, but
 is now well again'...

'Twenty Captains appointed for Ireland are now again commanded to be at court,
 and attend their dispatch'...

'Here landed upon Wednesday Monsieur Fouquerolles from the French King.
 Yesterday he had audience, and the sum of his negotiation was for the contin-
 uation of the troops that are there, and for a new supply of as many more, upon
 the Queen's pay. Her Majesty's answer was in general that she would aid him if
 she saw that it would be any benefit unto him; that now her own preparations by
 sea and land for the defence of Ireland and England would be so chargeable unto
 her that she could not well tell what she would be able to do in his request.
 He desired that a conference might be by Commissioners appointed...This day in
 the forenoon he was at my Lord Treasurer's, to use some compliments with him'.

'Here is advertisements come from divers parts of the wonderful great prepar-
 ation in Spain, and how forward it is. And orders are given for to make ready
 all her Majesty's Navy'...

'My Lord Treasurer comes tomorrow to court, and lies in the Lord Chamberlain's
 lodgings. The Queen intended a progress to Theobalds and North Hall, but it is
 broke off, and now the remove holds before St George's Feast to Greenwich'.

Sir Walter Raleigh 'now again comes ordinarily to the Privy Chamber'.^{SD}

The French envoy went back promptly to France; in June King Henri IV sent
 Monsieur De Reau on a similar mission for aid.

Court news. April 4, Whyte to Sidney: 'The Queen was yesterday in Council at
 my Lord Treasurer's chamber [Lord Burghley's chamber] with all the Lords, about
 Irish, French and Spanish causes. Here is my Lord of Delvin and Lord Connell
 come to court [from Ireland] to complain of the miseries of that land, and to
 beseech her Majesty to succour their afflicted state with speedy relief'.^{SD}

Christopher Nugent, 3rd Lord Delvin; Richard 3rd Lord Bourke of Connell.

April 7, Whitehall, Queen's Instructions to Earl of Essex on his appointment
 as Master of the Ordnance: 'We would prevent your falling into the errors of
 your predecessors, and enable you to reform your inferior officers'.

Numerous detailed instructions, including: 'You shall take heed that there is
 no waste or lavish expenditure of powder and shot on the arrival or departure of
 any ambassador, or for welcoming any such person'. [SP12/262/105].

April 12–June 2: Thomas Edmondes was special Ambassador to France.

April 12: Pass for Edmondes to go to the French King, with servants and baggage, and to be provided with six post-horses and a guide until he embarks, and with convenient shipping; £50 for expenses. [SP12/262/116].

Court news. April 13, Strand, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney, with news of two of the Queen's attendants [Elizabeth Brydges; Elizabeth or Anne Russell]:

'The Queen hath of late used the fair Mistress Brydges with words and blows of anger, and she with Mistress Russell were put out of the Coffe Chamber. They lay three nights at my Lady Stafford's, but are now returned again to their wonted waiting...The cause of this displeasure said to be their taking of physic, and one day going privately through the Privy Galleries to see the playing at ballon'...

'These long expected places in court are not yet bestowed. My Lord of Hunsdon waits, and doth all things appertaining to the place, but hath not yet the white staff [as Lord Chamberlain]...My Lord Burgh is very brave in scarlet and gold, and departs hence the Monday after St George's Day [to Ireland]'.^{SD}

April 13: Sir Thomas Sherley, Treasurer at War 1587-1597, was committed by the Privy Council to the Fleet Prison.

April 16, Whyte: 'where he is to remain till the Queen be fully satisfied by him'. He was in the Fleet until c.January 1598 over huge sums embezzled, and for the rest of the reign attempted to pay off his debts to the Crown.

Court news. April 16, Whyte to Sidney, of Lord Burgh:

'This day he met Sir Oliver Lambert by the Garden door within the court, and asked him if he did not know him, and bid him put off his hat. The other said he owed him not that duty, in respect of his usage of him [in the Low Countries]. My Lord offered to pluck off his hat, which the other resisted, and willed him to call to mind the place where he was. I do, said my Lord, else would I have thrust a rapier through thee ere this; and so they parted. About dinner-time they met again at my Lord of Essex's, where my Lord Burgh secretly told him that he saw he braved him, and bid him look to himself, for he would disgrace him.

"So I will", said the other'.^{SD}

April 16, Anthony Bacon to Sir Thomas Chaloner: 'It is certainly thought the Lord Hunsdon shall be Lord Chamberlain, and the Earl of Sussex, Lord Mountjoy, and the Lords Thomas Howard and Hunsdon honoured with the Garter'. [LPL 661/68].

Sir Henry Lee was elected, not the young Earl of Sussex.

Apr 17, Sun new appointment: 'Sir George Carey, knight, Lord Hunsdon, was this day made Lord Chamberlain to her Majesty, and by her Majesty's express commandment was sworn of her Highness's Privy Council in the afternoon'.^{APC}

Court news. April 19, Whyte to Sidney: 'Upon Sunday in the afternoon my Lord Hunsdon had the white staff given him, and thereby Lord Chamberlain, and the Lords being in Council, her Majesty sent him to them, where he was sworn Councillor, and signed many letters that very day'.

Lady Huntingdon (Sidney's aunt) 'protests that better words can no Prince use of a subject than the Queen gives out of you'. But I told her "While the grass grows, the horse starves".

April 21, Strand, Whyte to Sidney: 'This afternoon Captain Crofts...returned to court from the coast of Spain, where he was sent in a pinnace to discover. And this he affirms to be most true that...he counted 229 sail of all sorts. Hereupon the Queen and the Lords were in Council, and tomorrow we shall hear more what preparation will be made to withstand it'.^{SD}

April 22, Edinburgh, James Hudson to Anthony Bacon: 'The occasion of my journey was only to present to the King from the Queen some deer, which arrived on April 21, only two being dead of thirty, which the King was much pleased with, and went the next day to see them at Leith'. [Birch, ii.332].

Apr 22, Fri Eve of Garter ceremonies, Whitehall.
The Queen appointed a Lieutenant, as customary. Later she summoned the Garter Knights to her private chapel, all others being excluded, when she explained her wishes respecting the rank of the persons who were to be chosen new Knights. She retired to prayer; the Knights proceeded to a scrutiny [vote]. [Ashmole].

St George's Day, Strand, Whyte to Sidney, of Sidney's children: 'I am going to wait upon the children to court. I borrowed yesterday of Sir John Fortescue his chamber for them, that they may see the Queen in her procession'.^{SD}

Apr 23, Sat St George's Day Garter ceremonies, Whitehall.
Queen's Lieutenant: Charles Lord Howard of Effingham. 9 other Garter Knights.
John Hayward: 'First, morning service in the Chapel with solemn music and voices, Dr Bull then playing, the Lords of the Order then present; then coming and retiring they make three *congés* to the seat Royal and so depart; and some hour after they come again before her Majesty with all the Officers of Arms, and then cometh the Queen, three ladies carrying her train, which then were the Countess of Warwick, the Countess of Northumberland, and the Countess of Shrewsbury, the Earl of Bedford carrying the Sword before her, six Pensioners carrying a rich canopy over her head; and then after their several *congés* there is short service, the clergy all in their rich copes, with the princely music of voices, organs, cornets and sackbuts; and in like order her Majesty goes on procession and so returns, and she and the rest of the Order offer at the high altar, and so service ends, and she departs; then goes many princely services, at the first sound many trumpets, after play two drums and the fife'. [Hawarde, 74-75].

Lord Howard made a dinner in his chamber for the Knights.
[Bodleian Ashmolean MS 1109].

Shakespeare's Merry Wives of Windsor was generally dated 1599/1600, after *Henry IV Parts 1 and 2* (in which Falstaff first appears) and *Henry V*, until a theory that it had its first performance before the Queen on 23 April 1597 by the Lord Chamberlain's Men was put forward by Leslie Hotson in *Shakespeare versus Shallow* (1931). Much was made of Lord Hunsdon being elected as a Garter Knight, and of a speech by Mistress Quickly as the Queen of Fairies, directing elves to make ready Windsor Castle for Garter Knights (which is not in the Quarto, 1602, but is an addition in the First Folio, 1623).

Hotson's theory has found favour with some editors of the play, but it is evident that St George's Day was a solemn day devoted each year to services, processions, and a dinner for the Knights (other detailed descriptions of the day: April 1561, 1595, 1598). It seems safe to date the play to 1599/1600.

[See also Richard Dutton, *Shakespeare, Court Dramatist*, 245-252].

Apr 24, Sun Final 1597 Garter ceremonies, Whitehall.
Five new Knights of the Garter elected:
Frederick Duke of Wurttemberg; Lord Thomas Howard;
George Carey, 2nd Lord Hunsdon, the Lord Chamberlain;
Charles Blount, 8th Lord Mountjoy; Sir Henry Lee.

The four English Knights were invested by the Queen, and were installed at Windsor, May 24.

The Duke of Wurttemberg (who as Count Mompelgart had been in England in 1592), was neither invested nor installed during the Queen's reign.

Court news. April 26, Lord Burgh (Lord Deputy of Ireland elect) to Sir Robert Cecil: 'I will tomorrow in the afternoon attend to kiss her Majesty's hands... I have yesterday been cut all over my leg with a lancet, and have a-bidden loathsome worms to suck my flesh; and of all this have I more anguish than I would wish almost my enemy to feel. Yet am I most unquieted in the relation that is made to me of the distempered estate of that kingdom wherein it hath pleased her Majesty to choose me'...

'I shall come with a swollen leg to her Majesty. She will pardon the blemish which I cannot help'. [HT.vii.175].

Court news. April 27, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney: 'The 24th being Sunday there were five Knights of the Order made...My Lord of Essex as I heard was exceeding earnest with his companions for their voices in the election of Sir Henry Lee, which he obtained; then had he much ado to bring the Queen to give her consent for him, but so earnest was he for him that he prevailed'...

'There is little credit given to the advertisements Captain Crofts brought hither [on April 21] of the great preparation of Spain; for two or three days ...the martial men attended at court in great numbers'...

'My Lady Leighton hath been a long suitor for Eltham Parks, but can have no grant made unto her of them; she is determined (as I hear) if the Queen give them any other, to leave the court; and here is already a whole dozen of ladies that would succeed her in the Bedchamber; but it is thought that either my Lady Hoby, my Lady Burgh, or my Lady Thomas Howard shall have it'.^{SD}

Elizabeth (Knollys), Lady Leighton, a long-serving Lady of the Privy Chamber and Bedchamber, did not become Keeper of Eltham Parks; she continued to receive her fee, but may have left for Guernsey, where her husband was the Governor.

Apr 30, Sat Dutch Agent at Whitehall on return from the Low Countries.
Noel Caron, resident Agent.

April 30, Strand, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney:

'This morning about 9 o'clock Monsieur Caron came to the court and went presently to Mr Secretary's, and they both went to the Council Chamber, where word was brought that the Queen would walk in the garden. They had long speech together'. About 11 o'clock Caron 'had audience in the garden' about reinforcing the horsemen in Flushing, as Sidney, Governor of Flushing, wished.

'Her Majesty answered that if the States found her Foot unserviceable she was pleased to cashier them, but would not agree they should be turned to Horse'.

PS. 'Our preparation to sea for her Majesty's own fleet goes well forward... on expectation of some secret enterprise against the common enemy'...

'My Lord Burgh hath not yet taken his leave, but will within a day or two'.^{SD}

Court news, of the Queen in Islington, Middlesex.

April 30, 'from my lodging in Swan in Strand', William Cecil to Sir Robert Cecil: 'I forgot to crave your Honour to prefer this [unnamed] bearer to be one of her Majesty's Guard, there being divers wanting, and he being a sufficient man for that place. And her Majesty, lately taking the air in Islington Fields, noted this bearer then there being a-shooting, and of her goodness said he was a fit man to attend her service. He is strong and active, and attended my very good friend Mistress Blanche Parry, his aunt, when he was a youth, and if God had pleased she would have preferred him to a better room, for that he is son to a good honest gentleman'. [HT.vii.180].

Blanche Parry, Chief Gentlewoman of the Privy Chamber, had died in 1590.

Works: 'Making four new bridges in the fields towards Islington, Pancras Church and St Giles; tiling a hay-barn for the deer near the Lady Grey's'.
[April 1596-March 1597].

April-May: 'Imperial Count' Thomas Arundell again in custody. Arundell's acceptance of the title of Earl or Count of the Holy Roman Empire had caused him to be imprisoned in February-March 1596 (see 1 February 1596).

In April 1597 he was 'restrained of his liberty by the Queen's commandment' for 'practising to contrive the justification of his vain title'. His offence was 'that of late he would have sent one Smallman, a soldier, to the Emperor's court that he might show his pedigree, whereby the Emperor should see that he had not bestowed that title of honour upon any base man'. He was confined to the London house of Robert Beale, a Clerk of the Privy Council.

By June 2 the Queen had remitted Arundell's punishment for his 'act of great contempt', out of favour to his father Sir Matthew Arundell, to whose care he was then committed. Sir Matthew had written to Sir Robert Cecil, Jan 24, that he had married a woman of the Queen's 'own breeding, till whose death I never left service in court (being 26 years)...Since with her leave I retired into the country'. [HT.vii.37,195,229]. Sir Matthew married Margaret Willoughby, a Gentlewoman of the Privy Chamber, at court in October 1559.

May 1/7: Robert Cranmer, a Jewel-house Officer, hired 'one bark from the court at Westminster to the Tower of London in conveying of plate not to be carried by land for danger of breaking more'.^T

May 2: Stationers entered: 'A book to be printed in Welsh, entitled in the English copy by which it was translated into Welsh 'A godly meditation of the soul concerning a love toward Christ our Lord', translated out of French into English by her Majesty, whereunto is added 'Godly meditations set forth after the alphabet of her Majesty's name'. Margaret of Navarre's 'Godly meditation' was translated by the Queen in childhood. For the 'English copy' see 1568, end.

May 4: Council: The Queen has sent Lord Burgh over 'to receive the sword and government of Ireland', replacing Sir William Russell as Lord Deputy.^{APC}

May 5, at Carlisle: 'Peace Treaty' between the Queen and King James, drawn up by English and Scottish Commissioners, after several months of negotiations to settle Border disputes. [Scot.xii.530].

Court news. May 5, London, Sir William Peryam to Nathaniel Bacon, his brother-in-law: 'There go presently to the sea ten or eleven of the Queen's ships under the government of the Lord Thomas Howard. The Lord Burgh (now Deputy of Ireland) departed from home thitherward on Tuesday last [May 3]'. [Bacon, ii.23-4].

May 5, Council's 'open warrant': 'Whereas the Lord of Cassillis, a nobleman of Scotland, having remained herein this realm some time with the good liking and allowance of her Majesty, and now intending to return into Scotland, is desirous to make his journey by the Bath for...his health', and is to have post-horses.^{APC}
John Kennedy, 5th Earl of Cassillis (1575-1615).

May 7, Sat visit, Lambeth Palace, Surrey; Archbishop of Canterbury. John Whitgift. Lambeth Church: 'Paid to the ringers when the Queen came from Whitehall to my Lord of Canterbury and from thence to Greenwich', 3s.

May 7, Sat **GREENWICH PALACE**, Kent.

St Martin in the Fields: 'For ringing the 7th of May at her Majesty's remove from Whitehall to Greenwich', 12d'.

Works: 'Framing and setting up of posts and rails about a spring on Blackheath where the water is fetched for her Majesty's own cup'; 'mending the stairs at Blackwall for her Majesty to land there'. [April-Sept 1597].

*May 7: Saturday, Highgate, Sir William Cornwallis (cousin of Thomas Cornwallis, Groom-Porter of Whitehall, who was dying) to Sir Robert Cecil:

'I entreat you to be a means to her Majesty that if God dispose of my old cousin she will accept the younger [also Thomas] into the office of Groom-Porter, in which he has done her service during the illness and age of the other for the last 16 years; it will be an utter undoing and disgrace to him if another of less standing in court, and with no title to the place, should prevail. I understand my Lord Buckhurst is a means for Mr Parker'...

'If her Majesty's disposition is not strong enough to my cousin to carry it alone, will you make motion to her to bestow the office between him and me, and say that I have said that as she would not make me one of her Council, yet if she will one of her court, by this means I may have a poor chamber in court, and a fire, and a title to bring a pair of cards into the Privy Chamber at 10 o'clock at night. So that I may be about her Majesty I care not to be Groom of the Scullery, and thus she may please two of us, one of whom has served her 26 years without office, fee, or suit. My thankfulness shall not be expressed in paper only. My cousin, Sir John Stanhope, is promised a friend...Lady Warwick and the Earl of Essex are also his friends, and the Queen gave him comfort of it to his face three months since'. [SP12/263/75]. Cornwallis's death: May 13. Parker: John, a Gentleman Pensioner: monument: Willingdon Church, Sussex.

May 8: New Bishop of London, Richard Bancroft, was consecrated.

May 8-September 24: Feogh McHugh's head and its travels.

Feogh McHugh, a notable rebel, long sought after, had been killed in Ireland.

May 8, Dublin, Lord Chancellor Loftus referred to 'That ancient and cankered traitor...whose head this day is newly come hither'.

After the customary head-money was paid the head was taken to England.

Sir Robert Cecil to Lord Burgh, May 26, Greenwich: 'Her Majesty is surely not well contented that the head of such a base Robin Hood is brought so solemnly to England'. [SP Ireland]. Privy Council to Lord Burgh, June 8: 'Whereas the head of the rebel hath been sent over hither into England...we do find that it would have pleased her Majesty much better that the same should have been kept there and bestowed among the like fragments of the heads and carcasses of such rebels than to be sent over into this realm. Nevertheless because the meaning was good the error was the less, and the best and most easy amendment thereof is to send the head back again by the same messenger, which we have caused to be done by her Majesty's commandment'.^{APC}

Further news of Feogh McHugh's head: Sept 24, Examination of John Durant of Enfield, gentleman, touching a head found in Enfield Chase, Middlesex (where the Queen had been hunting earlier in September):

'About a month past one John Lane brought the said head to my house in Enfield', saying that he had taken it to the Earl of Essex, who referred him to Sir Robert Cecil for his reward. 'But as the head-money had already been paid in Ireland, John Lane was told he might bestow the said head where he would. And having it with him he came to my house, and wished to leave it there. This I would not permit, nor let it be buried in my garden. He then gave the head to his boy to bury in Enfield Chase, who instead put it on a tree, where it was found on Wednesday last by two boys who went to fetch their cattle'. [HT.vii.395].

May 11: *death*. William Dunch (c.1508-1597), Esquire for the Body; of Little Wittenham, Berkshire. Bequest: 'I stand most bounden to the Queen's most excellent Majesty my dear and gracious Sovereign, first for that I was a sworn servant to her most noble father and to her brother and sister as also to herself, and have received good benefit and great princely favours from them all and therefore I am desirous to show at my last end my most humble duty and thankful remembrance to her excellent Majesty'.

'I do will that my executor do within three months next after my decease provide for her Highness one ring with a diamond or piece of plate of the worth and value of £40 and the same do present to her excellent Majesty as a poor legacy of my will, beseeching her Highness according to her accustomed clemency to accept the same, though much unworthy of her princely acceptation yet as proceeding from a faithful and loyal heart who all his life and even in his death hath been willing and desirous to honour and serve her both with his pains and his prayers'. Funeral: Little Wittenham.

Memorial brass: Dunch was 'Auditor of the Mints to Henry VIII and Edward VI; Esquire sworn extraordinary for the body of our Sovereign lady Elizabeth'.

May 13, Fri: death. Thomas Cornwallis, 'Groom-Porter of her Majesty's house', (c.1530-1597) died at East Horsley, Surrey. Funeral: June 1, East Horsley Church, where the memorial for himself, his wife and two children remains.

His widow, Lady Katherine, daughter of Thomas Wriothesley 1st Earl of Southampton, died in 1626. Thomas's cousin, Thomas Cornwallis esquire, Chief Mourner at his funeral, succeeded him as Groom-Porter. The Queen stayed with Sir William Cornwallis at Highgate, Middlesex, 12-19 Sept 1597.

May 14, Whitsun Eve, Greenwich, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney, of the new Knights of the Garter: 'Upon Monday come sennight [May 23] the four new Knights are to be installed. It was agreed upon between themselves that they would have but 50 men apiece, but now I hear that my Lord Chamberlain [Lord Hunsdon] will have 300, and Sir Henry Lee 200; the other two hold their first purpose, but they shall be all gentlemen'.

The Earl of Shrewsbury has sent to the King of France 'twelve fair couple of hounds, a fair running horse, a gentleman with it, a huntsman, and a boy, very well apparelled'. Sidney was also arranging to send the King a huntsman and twelve couple of hounds, for hunting the hare.^{SD}

May 15: Sir Thomas Egerton's accounts: 'Paid Mr Segar alias Somerset the Herald for her Majesty's picture, £9.10s'. William Segar, painter, author, and Herald. [Bodleian Rawlinson D.406].

May 16, Privy Council to the Lord Deputy and Council of Ireland:

'The Countess of Desmond having continued long time here in England and found great favour at her Majesty's hands, both for the pension that she enjoyeth and for other very gracious usage, is now desirous to return into Ireland and to live rather in that her native country than in this realm'...

'As the said lady hath thus long remained here with her Majesty's gracious favour so she now departeth hence with her knowledge and good liking'.^{APC}

Eleanor, Countess of Desmond, widow of Gerald 14th Earl of Desmond (the 'Rebel Earl' killed in Ireland in 1583) remarried in Ireland. Her son James FitzGerald was in the Tower (originally at her request) 1584-1600.

Court news. [May 19], Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney:

'My Lord Thomas [Howard] by the end of the next week goes to sea, and Sir Walter Raleigh with him. My Lord Southampton...hath gotten leave to go with them...in *The Garland*. The second fleet I hear my Lord Admiral will command, and my Lord Essex all the land forces'...

'Raleigh is daily in court, and a hope is had he shall be admitted to the execution of his office as Captain of the Guard before his going to sea'.

'His friends you know are of greatest authority and power here'.

As for sending hounds to the King of France: 'Lord Shrewsbury's kennel was fair, and 15 couple with a huntsman and a boy all in green'.^{SD}

May 20, court, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney (Governor of Flushing):
 'Here hath been much ado between the Queen and the Lords [of the Council] about the preparation to sea; some of them urging the necessity of setting it forward for her safety, but she opposing it by no danger appearing towards her anywhere, and that she will not make wars, but arm for defence...She was extremely angry at them that made such haste in it...No reason nor persuasion by some of the Lords could prevail, but that her Majesty hath commanded order be given to stay all proceeding, and sent my Lord Thomas word that he should not go to sea'...

'Monsieur Caron [Dutch Agent], being sent for in all haste, he spoke with the Queen, and before his going away told me...her Majesty being so unquiet, that he could not tell what to do or say'...

'Sir Thomas Gerard compounding with my Lord Chamberlain [Lord Hunsdon] for his place of Knight Marshal had a Patent signed by the Queen for it; but then understanding it was for term of life she presently tore it, and will not grant it but during pleasure, and so it stands yet'. May 22: The Queen has read a discourse by you 'on the wants of Flushing...and made others that were by acquainted with it, then put it in her pocket'. She said 'that you Governors were never well, but when you drew her to unnecessary charges'.^{SD}

May 22, in Dublin: Lord Burgh, new Lord Deputy of Ireland, 'took the Sword' from Sir William Russell, who promptly sailed for home.

Court news. May 23, William Fenton to John Harington, at Bath:

'I have not seen her Highness, save twice, since Easter last, both of which times she spoke vehemently and with great wrath of her servant, the Lady Mary Howard, forasmuch as she had refused to bear her mantle at the hour her Highness is wonted to air in the garden, and on small rebuke did vent such unseemly answer as did breed much choler in her mistress. Again, on other occasion, she was not ready to carry the cup of grace during the dinner in the Privy Chamber, nor was she attending at the hour of her Majesty's going to prayer'.

'All which now doth so disquiet her Highness that she swore she would no more show her any countenance, but out with all such ungracious flouting wenches; because forsooth she hath much favour and marks of love from the young earl, which is not so pleasing to the Queen, who doth still much exhort all her women to remain in virgin state as much as may be'.

'I adventured to say as far as discretion did go in defence of our friend... all which did nothing soothe her Highness's anger, saying "I have made her my servant, and she will now make herself my mistress; but in good faith William, she shall not, and so tell her". In short, pity doth move me to save this lady, and would beg such suit to the Queen from you and your friends as may win her favour to spare her on future amendment...It might not be amiss to talk to this poor young lady to be more dutiful, and not absent at meals or prayers; to bear her Highness's mantle and other furniture, even more than all the rest of the servants; to make ample amends by future diligence; and always to go first in the morning to her Highness's chamber'...

'The Queen...since the Irish affairs, seemeth more froward than commonly she used to bear herself toward her women, nor doth she hold them in discourse with such familiar matter, but often chides for small neglects; in such wise as to make these fair maids often cry and bewail in piteous sort, as I am told by my sister Elizabeth'. [*Nugae Antiquae*, i.232-233; the reference to 'Irish affairs' suggests that the year may be mis-dated by the editor, as in several letters].

Lady Mary Howard was apparently a Lady of the Privy Chamber, for a short time. It is often assumed that she is the 'Lady M.Howard' of whom Harington tells an anecdote (about the Queen and Lady Howard's rich clothes), but this took place many years earlier, when Harington was a boy.

See 'Anecdotes' (Harington).

May 23: new appointment: Sir Thomas Gerard was appointed Knight Marshal. In charge of law and order at court, and of the Marshalsea Prison.

May 23, Mon: Cavalcade of Garter Knights-elect from London to Windsor. Lord Thomas Howard; George Carey 2nd Lord Hunsdon, the Lord Chamberlain; Charles Blount, 8th Lord Mountjoy; Sir Henry Lee.

Herald's description:

'First Sir Henry Lee, with his company, came riding through the town from Staines-ward, all his men well mounted, and in blue coats and badges'.

'Next after him came riding the Lord Mountjoy, with all his men in blue coats, every one a plume of purple ostrich feathers in their hats, and his gentlemen chains of gold'.

'Thirdly and immediately after him came my Lord Chamberlain with a brave company of men and gentlemen, his servants and retainers, in blue coats faced with orange colour taffeta, and orange colour feathers in their hats, most part having chains of gold; besides a great number of knights and others that accompanied his Lordship'.

'Lastly the Lord Thomas Howard came immediately after with like troop and blue coats, faced with sad sea colour green taffeta, with feathers of the same colours, and many chains of gold, which made a goodly show, and the more for that they came all four together in order, and not dropping one after another, and out of order, as they did two years after [in June 1599]'.

[BL Stowe MS 595, f.45v].

May 24, Tues: at Windsor: Installation of new Knights of the Garter. Installed by the Queen's Commissioners:

Charles 2nd Lord Howard of Effingham, Lord Admiral;

Thomas Sackville, 1st Lord Buckhurst;

Henry Percy, 9th Earl of Northumberland.

'The Lord Admiral was lodged in Beauchamp's Tower. And the next morning thither came the other lords, all saving Sir Henry Lee (who was spared because of his gout) and so proceeded to the Chapter-house, where the Commission being read Garter came forth and brought in the Lord Thomas Howard, where the Commissioners received him, put on his kirtle and hood'. Howard was taken into the Choir between the Lord Admiral and Buckhurst 'and being come underneath his stall the Registrar gave him his oath, and so he was brought up and installed'.

[The other Knights were installed with similar ceremonial].

'Service being done they all went...up into the Castle to dinner, where honourable fare was prepared at the charges of the four new installed Knights, whose servants attended and served us (the Officers of Arms) of all things needful'.

[Bodleian Ashmolean MS 1108, f.75].

May 27, Paris, Sir Anthony Mildmay to the Earl of Shrewsbury, who had sent the King of France hounds, with a huntsman called Holland:

'The King liked your hounds very well'.

PS. 'Monsieur de Vitry saw your Lordship's hounds hunt and gave them great commendation which the King was glad of. Holland hath ravished all with his music, they wonder greatly thereat. The King himself and Monsieur de Vitry have assayed, but cannot wind any of his horns, and therefore his quality is highly esteemed'.

[LPL 3203/42].

May 29, Sun new appointment: Henry Brooke, 11th Lord Cobham, to be Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports.

Cobham, who succeeded his father as Lord Warden, was installed at Canterbury in August 1598, with much magnificence.

May 29, Middelburg in Zeeland, Hugh Broughton dedicated an 'Epistle to the Learned Nobility of England. Touching translating the Bible from the original, with ancient warrant for every word, unto the full satisfaction of any that be of heart'. In a concluding address, to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Broughton refers to his Concent of Scripture (presented to the Queen 17 November 1589).

'At my first printing much anger I had. When it came forth, the great Lord Chancellor [Sir Christopher Hatton] told the Queen, as he bragged, that in no case any countenance might be showed me'. I 'minded to have lived in Germany, till I heard the Queen's answer: That he commended, whom he condemned. For that the book was scholarlike and all for the State's good: where to know how to overreach others, and not to do it, argueth a mind bent to quietness'...

'When two hundred thousand pounds a year is spent by the Church upon such as cannot read a line of the Bible: and I...was commended by the Queen, whom I trow you will not check, I see not why I may not require my recompense: as the Realm hath put the Queen in trust to deal'...

'The Queen or a Prince should be the only Patron for one of my years spent in hard studies. And the Countess of Warwick told that the Queen would not for all the preferments in the Realm I went out of the Realm'. 56p. (Middelburg, 1597).

c.May: French poet with the Queen. Jean de la Jessé (1551-c.1597).

In Scotland during 1596-1597 King James had made La Jessé 'Historiographe au Roi D'Ecosse' and commanded him to 'blow abroad' a discourse on the King's title to England. [Tytler, ix.247].

Roger Aston to Sir Robert Cecil, Sept 7, Edinburgh, sending a pamphlet by one De la Jessé, a Frenchman who was in Scotland last winter, and had access to the King as he pleased, presenting sundry pamphlets and verses. He passed to England about May last; gave himself out there to have been a servant of the late Monsieur [Duke of Alençon] to get himself better entertained. He spoke twice with her Majesty, 'convoyed' by the Earl of Essex. He has been in Germany, and is now in Holland. 'He is a little old man and gives himself out for a poet, but as far as I can learn a crafty practising companion'. [Scot.xiii.79].

La Jessé wrote for Francis Bacon a Sonnet complimenting the Queen, and for Anthony Bacon an Elegy. [LPL 653/154; 660/175].

June 1, Fri Sir Walter Raleigh resumed attendance as Captain of the Guard. Raleigh had been out of favour since summer 1592, when his secret marriage to Bess Throckmorton became known, but he had remained Captain of the Guard.

Court news. June 2, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney: 'Yesterday my Lord of Essex rode to Chatham; in his absence Sir Walter Raleigh was brought to the Queen by 200 [Sir Robert Cecil] who used him very graciously, and gave him full authority to execute his place as Captain of the Guard, which immediately he undertook, and swore many men into the places void. In the evening he rode abroad with the Queen, and had private conference with her; and now he comes boldly to the Privy Chamber as he was wont. Though this was done in the absence of the Earl, yet it is known that it was done with his liking and furtherance'.

'Upon Sunday last my Lord Cobham was at court, the Queen had long speech with him, and told him that he should be Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, his Patent is a-drawing'...

'My Lord of Essex's Patent is drawing, and I hear that all his Officers of the Army are known...My Lord Mountjoy hath gotten leave and is Lieutenant-General... My Lord Southampton goes, so doth my Lord Grey, Lord Rich and Lord Windsor. Many Pensioners [Gentlemen Pensioners] and courtiers that were ordinary servants are by her Majesty's express command stayed'...

'Mr [Thomas] Edmondes is newly arrived from France'. The King has sent Monsieur Reau 'who hath audience tomorrow. It is credibly thought that the King shall receive no further aid from hence'.^{SD}

June 3, Sun French envoy, De Reau, at Greenwich for audience.
De Reau had been resident Ambassador to England, August-December 1596.
He left to return to France.

June 4: new appointment: Earl of Essex was made Lieutenant-General and Governor of the Army and Navy to serve in foreign parts against the Spaniards.
Essex was to command an expedition against the Spanish fleet and the treasure ships returning from the Indies (the 'Indian Fleet').
This became the 'Islands Voyage' to the Azores, August-October 1597.

June 6: death. William Hunnis, Master of the Children of the Chapel Royal since 1566.

June 7: *St Martin in the Fields*: burial: John Symonds, whose wife Elizabeth had been buried there on May 26. Symonds, of the Joiners' Company, who had been much employed by the Office of Works, made his will on June 1.

Bequests include: 'To Mr William Spicer, Comptroller of her Majesty's Works, my best case of latten [metal] compasses and all other tools in the same case'.

To two Clerks of the Works, each: 'A ring of gold with a death's head in the same of the value of twenty shillings apiece for a remembrance'.

'I give and bequeath for a recreation or drinking to be had and made among my fellow Officers of the Queen's Majesty's Works and their wives forty shillings, and for a recreation or drinking also to be had and made among the chiefest and ancientest of my neighbours three pounds'.

June 9: new Master of Children of Chapel Royal appointed: Nathaniel Giles.
Fee: £40 per annum for teaching and keeping the Children.
Commission to take up 'well singing Children': see July 15. Giles was Master 1597-1634, and Master of the Children of the Chapel Royal at Windsor 1595-1634.

June 9: *News of the Laird of Bomby, in England from Scotland since summer 1596 to go to Bath for his health. He wrote to Cecil, London, March 12, for safe-conduct for two servants to go home for provisions, purposing after their return to pass to the Bath again. June 9, to Burghley: 'My coming to this country... was only in hope that I might have prevented some disease of body which I was persuaded might have been helped by means of the Bath near unto Bristol'. As I am worse rather than better I think it best to return home, and I ask for a commission for post-horses for myself and servants. [Scot.xii.486;xiii.11].*

By June 10: new appointment: Sir John Peyton: Lieutenant of the Tower.

June 11: Newsletter from John Chamberlain (1554-1628), a Londoner.
John Chamberlain wrote regularly for decades to his friend and kinsman Dudley Carleton (1574-1632), of Oxfordshire, who was much abroad on official business, and who in the next reign became an ambassador and a peer, Viscount Dorchester.

Chamberlain's letters from 1597-1626, an invaluable source of court and general news, are edited by N.E.McClure, *The Letters of John Chamberlain*, (Philadelphia, 1939), 2 vols. Only one 1597 letter is extant; the next letters are in May 1598. Shown here as ^{CHA}.

The first surviving letter is dated 'from London this longest day of 1597'.

June 11, *St Barnabas Day*, was the longest day of the year until in 1752 Britain changed from the Julian Calendar to the Gregorian Calendar, as decreed by Pope Gregory XIII in 1582.

'Barnaby bright, the longest day, the shortest night'.

Court news. [June 11] John Chamberlain to Dudley Carleton, 'attendant on the Lord Ambassador for her Majesty at Paris', with news of Sir William Russell, former Lord Deputy of Ireland: 'The old Deputy is come home very fat they say both in body and purse, having made a lucky conclusion of his government with the overthrow and death of Feogh McHugh an ancient and troublesome rebel: upon which service he made three knights at his coming away, viz. Calisthenes Brooke, Thomas-Maria Wingfield, and one Trevire a Welshman [Robert Trevor]'...

'We have great preparation here for a sea voyage...The Earl of Essex is General both at sea and land, the Lord Thomas [Howard] Vice-Admiral, Sir Walter Raleigh Rear-Admiral...The provisions are hastened on very fast and it is said the Earl of Essex takes his leave at court on Sunday next the 12th...and hopes to be gone within ten days after'...

'Sir John Peyton is lately made Lieutenant of the Tower'.^{CHA}

June 12, Sun Earl of Essex at Greenwich to take leave.
In his absence the Earl of Worcester was Deputy Master of the Horse.

c. June 20, Sir Robert Cecil to Essex: The Queen 'sendeth this gentleman to be a relater of your setting sail, and how you go out'.

The King of Spain expects his treasure fleet in September or October.

'The Lord of Heaven send it you, and if you bring home something, we shall thank you, but bring home yourself, and take my word we will not chide you'...

'I do remain eternally, Yours affectionately, R. Cecil'.

[PS] 'The Queen says because you are poor she sends you five shillings, which Ned Denny gave her and Mathias, for playing on the three lutes'.

[Sir Edward Denny: a Groom of the Privy Chamber; Mathias Mason: one of the three royal lutenists; described in 1603 as 'Lute of the Privy Chamber'].

[Devereux, i.346-7: June 1597].

By June 21: Queen's Printer, Christopher Barker, printed 'Certain Prayers set forth by authority, to be used for the prosperous success of her Majesty's Forces and Navy'. Some copies begin with a prayer by the Queen herself, addressed to 'God all-maker, keeper, and guider'. [Liturgy, 671].

The Queen ordered her prayer to be removed from the book. (See July 11).

Court news. June 22, Sir Robert Cecil to Lord Burgh, who had succeeded Sir William Russell as Lord Deputy of Ireland: 'Sir William Russell hath been barred the Queen's presence, and I think will be a while, only for his disobeying the Queen's commandment in not staying [the Earl of] Tyrone in the beginning'...

'The General with all his army is at the Downs, and ready for wind... His purpose is to burn the fleet at Ferrol [Spain] and to take Terceira [in the Azores] if he can, and keep it, and to intercept the Indian fleets'...

'Herewith receive a declaration of the causes moving the Queen to this action'.

[PS] 'I send you also a prayer made by the Queen, as you may perceive by the delicate style'. [SP Ireland].

June 24, St Peter Westcheap: 'For a prayer book for the Navy, 3d'.

1597. Allhallows Staining: 'For a prayer book to be read in the church for the good success of the Navy, 3d'.

Holy Trinity the Less: 'For a prayer book to be read in the church for the good success of her Majesty's fleet and army, 3d'.

St Giles Cripplegate: 'To the Summoner for a prayer book for the good success of the fleet, 3d'. St Lawrence Jewry: 'Paid for six prayer books for the happy success of her Majesty's Navy the sum of 18d'.

St Margaret Moses: 'For a prayer for her Majesty's forces abroad, 2d'.

St Martin in the Fields: 'For a prayer book to be read in the church for the preservation of her Majesty's ships and Navy Royal, 16d'.

*St Matthew Friday Street: 'For a book of prayer for her Majesty's Navy, 3d'.
St Michael le Querne: 'For a prayer book for the Fleet, 3d'.*

June 25, Sandwich, Earl of Essex to the Queen, with thanks for sending a 'worthy knight to deliver your blessing to this fleet and army' and for 'bestowing on me that fair angel which you sent to guard me'. [*Devereux*, i.414]. [A jewel, medallion, or coin known as an angel, which bore the Queen's head].

June 25, Bedford House, Sir William Russell (returned from Ireland) to Sir Robert Cecil, of 'the torment which of late I have endured, being deprived of access unto her Highness'.

To the Privy Council: 'Please to consider in what state I stand by this my separation from her Majesty's royal presence, whom I have ever held the comfort of my life...I beseech you...to be mediators for me...I do confess my great grief for having done that which hath displeased her. My error was derived from a misunderstanding of her Royal speeches'...

'From a pensive heart and a mind that shall be restless till by beholding her Majesty it may be comforted'. [HT.vii.269-271].

The Queen stayed with Russell at Chiswick in July 1598.

July 6, Wed, Greenwich. Proclamation (786): Enforcing Statutes and Proclamations of Apparel. The 'inordinate excess in apparel' has not been reformed by former Proclamations. Now 'decay and lack of hospitality appears in the better sort in all countries, principally occasioned by the immeasurable charges and expenses which they are put to in superfluous apparelling their wives, children, and families; the confusion also of degrees in all places being great where the meanest are as richly apparelled as their betters, and the pride that such inferior persons take in their garments driving many for their maintenance to robbing and stealing by the highway'.

Her Majesty 'hath commanded the execution...of those laws that be most agreeable to this time and easy and necessary to be observed'.

There follow precise lists of materials permitted for the Apparel of Men and Women, according to the rank of the wearer.

July 6, from Weymouth, after a Council of War, Essex sent his cousin Fulke Greville to Greenwich 'to move her Majesty' for an extra month's victual for the fleet and army. [HT.vii.291]. [The fleet was at Portland by evening].

July 6, Portland Road, Essex to the Queen, thanking her for a gracious letter, and 'for so high favours as your Majesty's five dear tokens, both the watch, the thorn, and above all the angel which you sent to guard me'. [*Devereux*, i.419].

Essex had declared that he would 'put a thorn in King Philip's foot'.

July 10: The fleet of 120 ships left Plymouth.

Court news. July 11, Sir Robert Cecil to the Archbishop of Canterbury (John Whitgift): 'May it please your Grace, I have presented unto the Queen your book of printed prayers, and have read unto her three or four of them, of all which she taketh so great liking as she hath willed me to give you many thanks for the same, and hath commanded some of them to be read in the Chapel, as they were. But I must tell you withal, that she is much troubled that her own prayer is in print, and therefore hath commanded me to require you in any wise to make stay of it, and that the same may be taken out of all the books that are printed. This I hope your Grace will effect, and hereof I mean (when I shall see you) to speak with you further'.

PS. 'I assure you her Majesty requests this very earnestly to be done'.

[Steven W.May, ed., *Queen Elizabeth I*, 258-9].

July 15, the Queen 'To all Mayors, Sheriffs, Bailiffs, Constables, and other our Officers greeting...For that it is meet that our Chapel Royal should be furnished with well singing Children from time to time, we...do authorise our well beloved servant Nathaniel Giles Master of our Children of our said Chapel...to take such and so many Children as he...shall think meet in all Cathedral, Collegiate, parish Churches, Chapels or any other place or places'.

And to have 'necessary horses, boats, barges, carts, carres and wagons for the conveyance of the said Children...by land or water'...

'And also to take up sufficient lodging for him and the said Children when they for our service shall remove to any place or places'.

[Records of Early English Drama: Ecclesiastical London, 228-9].

July 18: The fleet had been scattered by storms and was forced to return. John Donne (1572-1631), who was to be famed as poet and preacher, was aboard the fleet during the storm, and also in September when part of the fleet was becalmed near the Azores. He wrote Verse Letters: 'The Storm', and 'The Calm'.

July 18: Sir Walter Raleigh was back at Plymouth, and sent news to Sir Robert Cecil of the 'stormbeaten fleet', and that although many ships had arrived at Falmouth in Cornwall, the 'Lord General', the Earl of Essex, was not among them.

July 20: Raleigh informed Cecil that on July 19 Essex 'put into Falmouth in great extremity and imminent peril of sinking in the sea...I beseech you to work from her Majesty some comfort to my Lord General'. [Latham, nos.108,109].

(See Lord Howard's letter, July 22).

Court news. c.July 20, Sir Robert Cecil to the Earl of Essex:

'Lord Cumberland is a suitor to go a royal journey in October. The plot is very secret between her Majesty and him; it is to be wished that his spirit which loves action should be well cherished'. [Williamson, 174].

The Earl of Cumberland sailed in March 1598 in *The Malice Scourge* on his 12th voyage, an expedition to Puerto Rico.

July 20, Wed dinner and hunting, Eltham, Kent. Crown property. Thomas Conway made ready 'the lodge at Eltham in the Middle Park against her Majesty going from Greenwich to Scadbury to Mr Walsingham's house; two standings for her Majesty's hunting in the Middle Park of Eltham'.^T

July 20, Wed **SCADBURY**, Chislehurst, Kent; Mr Walsingham.^T

Scadbury manor-house, Chislehurst; owned by Thomas Walsingham (c.1563-1630), a second cousin of Sir Francis Walsingham and formerly a patron of Christopher Marlowe; wife: Audrey (Shelton) (1568-1624), a second cousin of the Queen. Thomas Walsingham was knighted; his wife later became a Lady of the Bedchamber and the Privy Chamber. There was country dancing: see July 24, Cecil's letter. Tradition: Queen planted oak and fig trees, which survived to the 20th century.

July 22, Fri dinner; Richard Carmarden. [Chislehurst, Kent]. Mr Carmarthen.^T Chislehurst house of Richard Carmarden (c.1536-1603), Surveyor-General of the Customs. 2nd wife: Mary (Allington).

July 22, Mr Carmarden's, Lord Admiral Howard to the Earl of Essex: 'The comfort we have received by a letter from Sir W.Raleigh of your arrival into Falmouth is to us, your true friend, unspeakable, and do give God deep thanks for it...The like weather at this time of the year was never seen by man'...

'I protest before God I did never see creature receive more comfort than her Majesty did when she saw by Sir W.Raleigh's letter that your person was safe. She showed the dear love she beareth you, for with joy the water came plentiful out of her eyes'. [HT.vii.306].

July 22, Fri **GREENWICH PALACE**, Kent.

Thomas Conway made 'an alteration at Greenwich against her Majesty's coming back thither from Scadbury Mr Walsingham's house'.^T

July 23: Proclamation (787): Dispensing certain persons from the Statutes of Apparel. Particularly referring to the Queen's servants.

July 23, Broughton [Oxon], Sir Richard Fiennes to Cecil: German visitors to Oxford included 'the sons of the Lord Chancellor to the Landgrave [of Hesse]' and 'another subject of his of great birth called Monsieur Bodenhowsen'.

July 23, Fiennes to Sir John Stanhope: 'Monsieur Bodenhowsen, whom her sacred Majesty spoke unto one day most graciously as she came from the Chapel, returneth forthwith to his country'. [HT.vii.309].

July 23-August 15: **Polish Ambassador** in London and at court.

Paul Dzialynski, a Polish nobleman, arrived in London on July 23 as Ambassador from King Zygmunt III of Poland. King Zygmunt was also King Sigismund of Sweden, having succeeded his father King John III of Sweden. In King John's youth, when his title was John Duke of Finland, he visited England, Sept 1559-April 1560.

The Ambassador came to deal for the privileges of the Hanse merchants, and to propound some means for a peace with Spain. He had already been received at the Hague, and had made a long Latin harangue to the States General.

On the day of his arrival the Council began to arrange for a suitable house.

July 23, Privy Council to the Lord Mayor of London (Sir Henry Billingsley):

'Whereas there is a gentleman sent in embassy unto her Majesty from the King of Poland who is already arrived at Flushing and is daily expected to come over hither, her Majesty's pleasure is that your Lordship shall cause some convenient citizen's house that hath good furniture in it to be prepared and made ready in London where he may be lodged and received for the time he shall make his abode here, whereof we pray you to have care and to certify us what house you shall think meet for that purpose. We think it fit if there be any Danzig merchant's house that shall be convenient that he may be there placed'.

July 24, Council to the Lord Mayor: 'Whereby he was required to see a certain gentleman that was sent from the King of Poland to be placed in the house of Sir John Spencer, being a convenient house to lodge him in and standing at this instant unused by reason of Sir John being in the country, who also was required to see his said house conveniently furnished with household stuff, etc'.^{APC}

Sir John Spencer, clothworker, Lord Mayor 1594-1595, owned Crosby House, Bishopsgate, and also Canonbury House, Islington, Middlesex.

Court news. [July 24], Sunday, Sir Robert Cecil to the Earl of Essex:

'The Queen, as she sat at service today, being Sunday, absolutely ordered the enclosed letter to be drawn'. [Instructions if Essex finds the Spanish fleet at Lisbon; the Queen also sent a private letter to the Earl].

PS. 'Here is company that wants Sir W.Raleigh and Hugh Beeston's company that danced so bravely on shipboard, for this is true which I will tell you, that my Lord Chamberlain [Hunsdon] with my Lady Sheffield, and my Lord Cobham with my Lady Marquis [of Northampton], and divers other of our courtiers danced country dances at Mistress Walsingham's, now dubbed a Lady, for four hours together on a green, till my Lady Sheffield all persons doing it in good sadness [earnestness] had never a leg to stand on. My Lady Marquis, surely you know, dances bravely, and he that danced with her very loftily'. [SP12/264/54].

July 24, Plymouth, William Browne to Sir Robert Sidney:

'This storm hath killed the hearts of many voluntary gentlemen, who are returned already from Plymouth'.^{SD}

July 25, Mon Polish Ambassador at Greenwich for audience.

Sir Robert Cecil to the Earl of Essex, July 26, Greenwich:

'There arrived three days since in the city an ambassador out of Poland, a gentleman of excellent fashion, wit, discourse, language, and person'.

'The Queen was possessed by some of our new Councillors...that his negotiation tendeth to a proposition of peace. Her Majesty, in respect that his father the Duke of Finland had so much honoured her, besides the liking she had of this gentleman's comeliness and qualities, brought to her by report, did resolve to receive him publicly in the Chamber of Presence, where most of the earls and noblemen about the court attended, and made it a great day'.

'He was brought in attired in a long robe of black velvet, well jewelled and buttoned, and came to kiss her Majesty's hands where she stood under the State, from whence he straight returned ten yards off, and then began his oration aloud in Latin, with such a gallant countenance as in my life I never beheld'.

'The effect of it was this that "the King hath sent him to put her Majesty in mind of the ancient confederacies between the Kings of Poland and England; that never a monarch in Europe did willingly neglect their friendship, that he had ever friendly received her merchants...that she had suffered his to be spoiled without restitution...out of mere injustice". And "because there were quarrels between her and the King of Spain she therefore took upon her, by mandate, to prohibit him and his countries, assuming thereby to herself a superiority (not tolerable) over other Princes, nor he determined to endure"...concluding that if her Majesty would not reform it he would'.

'To this I swear by the living God her Majesty made one of the best answers extempore in Latin that ever I heard, being much moved to be so challenged in public, especially against her expectation. The words of her beginning were these..."Is this the business your King has sent you about? surely I can hardly believe that if the King himself were present he would have used such language.. Although I perceive you have read many books, to fortify your arguments in this case, yet I am apt to believe that you have not lighted upon the chapter that prescribeth the form to be used between kings and princes; but were it not for the place you hold, to have so publicly an imputation thrown upon our justice, which as yet never failed, we would answer this audacity of yours in another style; and for the particulars of your negotiations, we will appoint some of our Council to confer with you, to see upon what ground this clamour of yours hath his foundation, who showed yourself rather a herald than an ambassador"...

'I assure your Lordship...I must confess before the living Lord that I never heard her (when I knew her spirits were in a passion) speak with better moderation in my life...Because the Queen told me she was sorry you heard not his Latin and hers, I promised her to make you partaker of as much as I could remember...I pray you to take notice that you were pleased to hear of her wise and eloquent answer. The Queen is now so disposed to have us all love you, as she and I do talk every night like angels of you'. [*Wright*, ii.478-480].

John Speed: The Queen 'lion-like rising, daunted the malapert Orator...and turning to the train of her attendants, thus said: God's death my Lords (for that was her oath ever in anger), I have been enforced this day to scour up my old Latin, that hath lain long in rusting'. [*History of Great Britain* (1611)].

July 25, Privy Council to Mr Russell, Governor of the Merchants trading the East Countries: 'You shall hereby understand that her Majesty hath given audience this day unto the Ambassador of Poland, to whom because as yet it is not resolved particularly what to answer, we do hereby require you to make known to the merchants that trade to Danzig or to any other parts in the East Countries that they forbear all offices of ceremony toward him, as of visitation, sending presents or whatsoever else of like gratification until you shall receive further direction from us'.^{APC}

Court news. July 27, in haste, Sir John Stanhope to Sir Robert Cecil:

'Her Majesty sent for me about 10 o'clock in great haste, commanding me presently to write to you that...she liked my Lord your father's speech which he had drawn in answer of th'Ambassador's of Polack above anything that she had ever heard in that nature, and that she said I would have left admiring that little she had spoken to have wondered at the great learning expressed in his Lordship's speech, with the elegancy of words and deepness of judgement'.

The Queen directs how the Ambassador is to be received by the Council.

Lord Treasurer Burghley's speech was in Latin. [HT.vii.320].

July 27, Wed: 'The Ambassador of Poland was conferred withal by the Lords, at my Lord Treasurer's house in the Strand'.^{MK}

July 27, Robert Beale (a Clerk of the Council) to Sir Robert Cecil, from my poor house in London, in haste:

Yesterday one Lisman, from Danzig, came to see me.

'He told me that he found some discontentment in the Polish Ambassador, and feared that if he should receive any sharp or hard answer at the first, things were like not to have so good and friendly success as were to be wished for... He looked to have been received with more honour than he was'...

'On Monday night upon his return from the court, when mention was made of providing another house for him, he should answer that it was good enough, for he thought he should not stay long'...

'At this time I had heard nothing of the said Ambassador's insolent behaviour towards her Majesty, as is now commonly reported in this city'. [HT.vii.319].

July 28, Privy Council to the Justices of Middlesex nearest to London:

'Her Majesty being informed that there are very great disorders committed in the common playhouses, both by lewd matters that are handled on the stages and by resort and confluence of bad people, hath given direction that not only no plays shall be used within London or about the City, or in any public place during this time of summer, but that also those playhouses that are erected and built only for such purposes shall be plucked down - namely *The Curtain* and *The Theatre* near to Shoreditch, or any other within that county'.

Similar order to the Justices of Surrey: 'for the playhouses in the Bankside, in Southwark or elsewhere in the said county'.^{APC}

The City of London authorities had been urging the Council to take this action, but the playhouses remained intact.

July 28, 'from aboard *The Bonaventure*', Earl of Essex to Sir Robert Cecil:

'I have received your packet, wherein you sent me the manner of her Majesty's encounter with that braving Polack, and what a princely triumph she had of him by her magnanimous, wise, and eloquent answer. It was happy for her Majesty that she was stirred, and had so worthy an occasion to show herself. The heroes would be but as other men if they had not unusual and unlooked for encounters; and sure her Majesty is made of the same stuff of which the ancients believed the heroes to be formed; that is, her mind of gold, her body of brass'.

[SP12/264/58].

July 29, William Browne to Sir Robert Sidney:

'But for the honour of my Lord of Essex, many are already weary of their journey...I pray God send us a prosperous wind'.^{SD}

July, at Greenwich: Edward Squire's attempt to poison the Queen.

Edward Squire, of Greenwich, scrivener and deputy Purveyor of the Queen's Stable, returned in July to England from Spain; he prepared poison.

Squire's confession (23 Oct 1598): 'On the Monday after my coming home from Spain, and after I had obtained leave to go with the Earl to sea, understanding that her Majesty's horses were preparing for her to ride abroad, as the horse stood ready saddled in the stable-yard I went to the horse, and in the hearing of divers thereabouts said "God save the Queen", and therewith laid my hand on the pommel of the saddle, and out of a bladder which I had made full of holes with a big pin I poisoned the pommel, it being covered with velvet, and soon after her Majesty rode abroad'.

In August Squire also attempted to poison Essex: 'I carried the poison to sea in the Earl's ship...and applied it to the Earl's chair, where he used to sit and lay his hand...I did this of an evening, a little before supper time, when the Earl was at sea'. [SP12/268/89]. None of this came to light for a year. For fuller details see Squire's examinations at the Tower: 1598 Oct 19 and 23.

Aug 1, Greenwich: Lord Dudley was by the Council's warrant 'committed to the Fleet'. ^{APC} For not paying maintenance to wife, Theodosia: sequel: November 1.

Aug 1: death. Henry FitzGerald, 12th Earl of Kildare (1562-1597), died in Drogheda, Ireland. Funeral: Kildare Cathedral. His brother William FitzGerald became 13th Earl of Kildare (drowned 1599). The 12th Earl's widow, Frances (Howard), Countess of Kildare, was granted an annuity of £200.

She married (1601) Lord Cobham.

c.Aug 3-5: Essex and Sir Walter Raleigh at Greenwich with the Queen. The fleet commanded by Essex was still unable to put back to sea. Many ships were damaged, some volunteers had left, and a change of plan was requisite.

Aug 3, William Browne to Sir Robert Sidney: 'My Lord of Essex went on Monday last [August 1] up to the court, to solicit the thorough dispatch that somewhat may yet be effected; my Lord of Southampton is likewise gone after him'... 'Sir Walter Raleigh is gone with my Lord General'. ^{SD}

Aug 6, court, Sir Robert Cecil to the Earl of Essex: 'I received from your Lordship a letter from Staines [Middlesex]...When you were here...I saw the Queen glad to possess you'. Aug 21, court, to Lord Burgh: 'The Earl made a posting journey from Plymouth hither...Sir W.Raleigh came up with the Earl and both were with the Queen very graciously used'. [SP12/264/74; HT.vii.361].

Aug 6, Worksop [Notts], Gilbert Earl of Shrewsbury to Cecil, whose letter he had received whilst hunting a stag in Sherwood Forest: 'I do admire the most pregnant, wise and excellent speech used by her Majesty to the Polish Ambassador. Such wisdoms are no less easy to her Highness in nature than to the wisest of the world besides with longest study'. [HT.vii.337].

Aug 8, in Lancashire the Earl of Derby, who had married Lady Elizabeth Vere at court in January 1595, received news from court of her infidelity; there were similar rumours in 1596 linking her with the Earl of Essex.

She was at court from April-July 1597, when she joined her husband.

Aug 9, Knowsley, Edward Miller to Sir Robert Cecil: When she arrived the Earl had been less frenzied and violent than when 'her Ladyship lived at court in the eye of the world'. 'But now here yesterday, upon letters from my Lord Cobham, the Countess of - , and my Lady Raleigh, he is in such a jealous frame as we have had such a storm as is wonderful'. Miller refers to 'my Lord's madness and my Ladyship's patience, whose only defence was patience with tears'. He 'looked to go to the court, and leave my lady here to shift for herself'. However his servants praised her and persuaded him to remain at home. [HT.vii.339-340].

'Notes by an ill-used wife', assigned to the Countess of Derby and 1597, relate to her mother Anne (Cecil), Countess of Oxford, who died in 1588. The Earl signed a statement at Greenwich about his wife in 1596. [HT.xiv.19-20].

Dr John Dee, in Manchester, noted that on 19 August 1597: 'The Earl and Countess of Derby came to Alport Lodge' [Lancashire] and on 21 August they 'had a banquet at my lodging'.^D Rumours persisted.

c.Aug 9, Sir Robert Cecil to the Earl of Essex: The Queen is unable to sign letters. 'The Queen hath a desperate ache in her right thumb, but will not be known of it, nor the gout it cannot be nor dare not be, but to sign will not be endured'. [SP12/264/77].

Aug 10, 'in haste from the court', Henry Maynard to Michael Hicks (of Ruckholt, Leyton, Essex; both were Lord Burghley's secretaries), with news of the Polish Ambassador, and a proposed progress to the county of Essex:

'This Polack has so troubled us here, as no day hath escaped my Lord from writing something for his dispatch, and this evening it is engrossed to be signed'...

'About the middle of the next week...the Queen meaneth to be with you, if the jesses [itinerary] hold, which after many alterations is so set down this day to be with you on Wednesday night [August 17], to stay there all Thursday, on Friday to dine at Mr Knyvett's, and so to Havering to bed. If any alteration shall happen, as I hope there will (for we are greatly afraid of Theobalds) you shall hear thereof'. Knyvett: of Claybury, Ilford. [BL Lansdowne 85/23].

Aug 11, from *The Due Repulse, Essex and six commanders to the Privy Council, of the state of the army*: 'We thought it necessary to send up some man...by whom her Majesty and your Lordships might be thoroughly informed. For which purpose we have made choice of Sir A.Sherley', who, now being Serjeant-Major, 'is best acquainted with the state of the troops, and who hath also been a hearer of all our opinions and disputations every way'. [HT.vii.346].

Aug 12, court, Henry Maynard to Michael Hicks: 'I am sure you hearken how our progress proceedeth, for that you are like to be the Queen's first host... It were therefore in mine opinion not amiss that you came hither to advise with your friends better of the matter than you can do there. We greatly fear that from Havering the Queen will to Theobalds, but as yet it is not set down. I would be glad to be gone here, but this progress much troubleth me, for that we know not what course the Queen will take'. [BL Lansdowne 85/24].

c.Aug 13, Sat Sir Anthony Sherley at Greenwich from the fleet.
Aug 13, Essex to Sir Robert Cecil: 'I dispatched away my cousin Sherley on Thursday night, and I hope this day he will be at the court'. [HT.vii.350].

[August] Cecil to Essex: 'Sir Anthony Sherley, his instructions and letter, were read by the Queen, and he himself presented by the Lord Admiral and me, used with great favour, both in the Privy and Drawing Chambers'.

[Devereux, i.347]. Essex sent home much of the 'land army'.

Aug 15, court, Henry Maynard to Michael Hicks: 'There is no alteration as yet of the progress, nor no conceit that it will change. This morning I was with my Lord Chamberlain...I told him you had been here yesterday, and that Mr Bowyer [Gentleman Usher] appointed to be with you this morning, who would report to his Lordship at his return the state of your house and lodgings'.

'Some speech he had with me touching your house: saying that he understood that it was scant of lodgings and offices, whereupon I took occasion to tell his Lordship that it was true, and that I conceived it did trouble you that you had no convenient place to entertain some of her Majesty's necessary servants'.

'His answer was that you were unwise to be at any such charge, but only to leave the house to the Queen, and wished that there might be presented to her Majesty from your wife some fine waistcoat, or fine ruff, or like thing, which he said would be as acceptably taken as if it were of great price'.

'He said that two days since, upon speech of your house and of your marriage [to the widow of Henry Parvis, a merchant], the Queen fell into an exceeding commendation of Mr Parvis, as that she never had such a merchant in her Kingdom, whereupon his Lordship saith that himself and others standing by gave the like commendation to her of your wife. It seemeth the time will be two nights as was first appointed; and though no speech be thereof, he verily thinketh that she will come to Theobalds, though she should remain there but three or four days'.

Aug 15, Loughton, Robert Wroth to 'my very good friend Mr Michael Hicks': 'If I can I will send you some partridges, but not so many as my will is, for that I think some of the train will fall into my house. Thinking her Majesty would have stayed one night at Mr Knyvett's, I sent my brother John to Mr Secretary's [Cecil] desiring his Honour to have lodged at my house, but it seemed by his Honour that she would not stay there'. [BL Lansdowne 85/25,26].

Aug 15, Mon Council's passport for the Polish Ambassador 'for his safe return home into his country and such as were his servants and followers'.^{APC}

c. Aug 15: Sir Anthony Mildmay, Ambassador to France 1596-1597, returned.

August 17-October 19: 'Islands Voyage'.

The fleet set out again from Plymouth, with Essex in *The Due Repulse*, Raleigh in *The Dreadnought*, intending to burn the Spanish fleet at Ferrol, and then to go to the Azores to intercept the Spanish treasure fleet ('the Indian fleet').

*Aug 17, Wed dinner, Hackney, Middlesex; Lady Hayward.

Richard Brackenbury made ready 'the Lady Hayward's house at Hackney'.^T

Catherine, Lady Hayward (c.1564-1617), daughter of 'Customer' Thomas Smith and widow (2nd wife) of Sir Rowland Hayward (c.1520-1593), twice Lord Mayor; she married (2) Sir John Scott, of Kent. From 1583 onwards the Queen several times visited the Haywards at Kingshold manor-house, called King's Place.

Start of SHORT PROGRESS in Middlesex, Essex, Herts, Surrey.

Kingshold manor, Hackney, and the manor-house were purchased on 2 Sept 1597 by the Countess of Oxford and three others; this was a device to protect the property from the Earl of Oxford's many creditors. [Nelson, 368].

Aug 17, Wed **RUCKHOLT**, Leyton, Essex; Mr Hicks.

'Ruckholt, Mr Hicks' house'.^W Simon Bowyer, Gentleman Usher, and his men made ready 'Mr Hicks' house called Rookwood'.^T Ruckholt manor-house, Leyton.

Owned by Michael Hicks (1543-1612), Lord Burghley's patronage secretary; wife: Elizabeth (Colston) widow of Henry Parvis, of Ruckholt (died 1593); she died 1635.

St Mary, Leyton, has a monument to Hicks and his wife.

*Aug 18: hunting, Leyton Walk, Waltham Forest, Essex.

Simon Bowyer made ready 'a standing for her Majesty in Mr Colston's walk within the Toil'.^T Ralph Colston, skinner, whose sister Elizabeth was the wife of Michael Hicks; their father was Gabriel Colston, a London grocer. Ralph Colston in 1592 became Keeper of Leyton Walk, one of nine 'Foresters' Walks' in Waltham Forest. [Toil: netted enclosure used in hunting].

After the Queen's visit to Ruckholt.

Michael Hicks to John Stanhope (a Gentleman of the Privy Chamber):

'I assure you I was very much troubled before her Majesty's coming to my house, out of the care and desire I had she might find all things there to her good liking and contentment. But since I have been much more troubled and perplexed, having heard by some (who overheard it) that her Majesty took some conceit and note towards myself for my silence, although (in her princely favour) it pleased her to like of my house, with the mistress of the house, and all things besides. Truly sir I am very sorry it hath so fallen out. And though I shall like the better of my house and my wife (because it pleased her Majesty to like of them) yet I know I shall like the worse of myself as long as I live'...

'But to confess to you truly, I was purposed in as few words as I could to have expressed the great joy and comfort I took to see her Majesty at my poor house, my most humble thankfulness to her Majesty that it pleased her Majesty to vouchsafe to honour my house with her princely presence, and my like humble request that it would please her to pardon and cover all the faults and defects she should find there with the veil of her gracious and favourable acceptance. But the admirable majesty and splendour of her Majesty's royal presence and princely aspect did on a sudden so daunt all my senses and dazzle mine eyes, as for the time I had use neither of speech nor memory'.

'For the which, though I be very sorry that it so fell out, yet am I not much ashamed, remembering, as I think both her Majesty and you can remember, that men of great spirit and very good speech have become speechless in the like case, as men astonished and amazed at the majesty of her presence. Sir, you have known me long and...have loved me also...I beseech you...help to restore me to her Majesty's good opinion'. [BL Lansdowne 108/51; undated, probably not sent].

Aug 19, Fri dinner, Claybury, Ilford, Essex; Mr Knyvett.

Simon Bowyer made ready 'a dinner house for her Majesty at Mr Knyvett's house in the Forest called Claybury'.^T

Thomas Knyvett (c.1545-1622), Groom of the Privy Chamber, Keeper of Whitehall Palace; wife (married on 21 July 1597 at St Pancras Church, London): Elizabeth (Hayward), daughter of Sir Rowland Hayward of Hackney by his 1st wife, and widow of Richard Warren of Claybury (died 25 March 1597).

Thomas Knyvett was created Baron Knyvett, 1607; he died 27 July 1622; Lady Knyvett died 5 Sept 1622. Their monument: Stanwell Church, Middlesex.

Aug 19, Fri **HAVERING**, Essex; Crown property.

Simon Bowyer made ready 'Havering House', and 'a standing for her Highness's hunting in Havering Park'.^T

Hornchurch, Essex, churchwardens: 'Paid to the ringers when the Queen came to Havering and her birthday [September 7], 4s'.

August 20/30: dinner, Pyrgo, Havering, Essex; Sir Henry Grey.^T

Pyrgo estate, Havering; owned by Sir Henry Grey (1547-1614), Keeper of Waltham Forest, Master of the Royal Buckhounds, Lieutenant of the Gentlemen Pensioners 1589-1603; wife: Anne (Windsor) (1549-1605), a former Maid of Honour.

August 20/30: hunting, Waltham Forest, Essex.

Works: 'reparations done upon the removing standing and old standing in the Forest near Havering Park'. Simon Bowyer made ready 'a standing for her Majesty's hunting in Waltham Forest near Havering'.^T

By August 28-Sept 30: **Danish Ambassadors** in England.

The Chancellor of Denmark, Arild Huitfeldt (1546-1609), and Christian Barnikou (1556-1612), on their way home from the Low Countries came to propose their young King Christian IV as a mediator for peace between England and Spain, to ask for free traffic and navigation at sea, and return Frederick II's Garter.

Work at the Tower of London: 'Masonry done upon the common stairs at the waterside and wharf there against the landing of the Ambassador of Denmark'.^W

Aug 28, Council to the Lord Mayor (Sir Henry Billingsley): 'We are in her Majesty's name to require your Lordship to cause the houses wherein Alderman Houghton dwelt or that which was Mr Customer Smith's, or both, to be presently made ready and to be well and handsomely furnished with hangings, beds and all other necessary provisions of household stuff for to lodge and receive the Ambassador and so many of the principal gentlemen as may conveniently be placed there, and to take up such other houses and lodgings near to those houses as may serve for the rest of his train and retinue, and advertise me, the Lord Chamberlain, what provision you have made and how soon the same may be in readiness. Herein your Lordship is to use all care and expedition'.^{APC}

Alderman Peter Houghton died 31 December 1596 'at his house near Fenchurch'. 'Customer' Thomas Smith died in 1591; his house was in Fenchurch Street.

The Danish Ambassadors stayed in Fenchurch Street before moving to Enfield, Middlesex, to be near the Queen whilst she was at Theobalds, Herts.

Whilst in England they kept a diary in Latin. [*HMC 45th Rep. App II, 53*].

c. Aug 31, Wed **LUXBOROUGH**, Chigwell, Essex; Mr Stoner.^T

Luxborough manor-house, Chigwell; owned by Robert Wroth of Chigwell.

*Occupied by Francis Stoner, widower, died 1604; brother of the previous owner John Stoner, whom the Queen had twice visited.

Sept 1/3: hunting, Chigwell, Essex; Mr Wroth.

Simon Bowyer made ready 'a standing for her Majesty's hunting in Mr Wroth's grounds near Luxborough'.^T Robert Wroth (c.1539-1606) owned Chigwell Hall manor, and leased Loughton Hall; he was knighted in 1597;

wife: Susan (Stoner), niece of Francis Stoner of Luxborough.

Court news. Sept 4, Henry Maynard to Sir Robert Cecil:

'My Lord [Burghley] willed me to let you know that, contrary to the report of Duck the Way-maker, at his coming this afternoon from the court he found the ways unmade from the house that was the Widow Bracy's, where the Queen appointeth to drive tomorrow, into the meadows, but afterwards from the entering into the meadows the way is made, but the meadows are rough and rugged as he thinketh you shall befriend such ladies as you favour to advise them rather to use their horses than their coaches through the meadows. If your Honour shall please to send for the Way-maker and to charge him to have more care hereof it will be to good purpose, otherwise her Majesty shall find the way between the dining house and the meads both bad and deep with water'. [HT.MS 55/114].

Duck: William Duck, 'Surveyor of her Majesty's Gates and Bridges and Guide of her Highness's ways about her Majesty's houses and manors'.^T

Sept 5, Mon dinner, Edmonton, Middlesex; Mr Woodward.

Richard Coningsby made ready twice at Edmonton.^T

Edmonton house of John Woodward, a London ironmonger, died 1601;

wife: Katherine (Bressie), died 1613.

'Widow Bracy': Mrs Woodward's mother, the widow of Thomas Bressie, whom the Queen visited at Edmonton in 1585; she had died in October 1596.

Sept 5, Mon **THEOBALDS**, Cheshunt, Herts; Lord Burghley.
Theobalds; owned by William Cecil, 1st Lord Burghley (c.1520-1598),
Lord Treasurer, widower. The last of the Queen's many visits.

Description of Theobalds by Roger Wilbraham, 1599: 'Three courts, the first for offices, the second for lodging, wherein was the Queen's lodging... The dining chamber with [carved] oak, apple, cherry trees...A large gallery, one side all the Emperors beginning with Caesar, the other the pictures of the chief in Europe; another lesser gallery with other common pictures; and three galleries painted with the [family] trees of each shire...A fine oratory, a little hall, a large and costly garden...Some 24 towerets; in the Queen's chamber written over the chimney, Semper eadem'. [Wilbraham, 23].

The Queen's motto: 'Semper eadem': 'always the same'.

Richard Coningsby, Gentleman Usher, and his men made ready Theobalds 'for her Majesty against the coming of the Ambassador of Denmark'.

Three men were paid £20 'for the hire of 20 coaches with their furniture for the bringing of the Ambassadors of the King of Denmark to the court at Theobalds ...and for their attendance there...four days with their said coaches'.

Thomas Rowles, Gentleman Usher, and his men made ready 'Mr Skinner's house at Enfield for the Ambassador of Denmark'. [Vincent Skinner's house].

Thomas Rowles and his men 'for their attendance upon the Ambassador of Denmark at Enfield, four days, where he continued at her Majesty's charges during the same time', £22.^T

Three Jewel-house Officers, Robert Cranmer, Nicholas Hottoste, and Nicholas Pigeon, 'for the hire of five horses to go from the court at Theobalds by night to the Tower of London and back again to fetch plate, and for the hire of one cart with the draught of horses to convey plate from the Tower of London to the court at Theobalds, and for the like hire of one other cart to return the same plate to the Tower again, by two days' space. And for the hire of two horses to convey rich crystal from the Tower to the court at Theobalds and back again by the space of two days', with riding and attendance charges, £11.^T

Note: Whilst the Queen was at Theobalds a silver ink-stand was stolen from her and two silver dishes from Burghley, by Black Jack, Thomas Travers, and William Lankford. For enquiries into the thefts see 'Miscellaneous': Theobalds.

Sept 7: Queen's birthday celebrations, e.g. St Mary Woolnoth: 'Spent upon the ringers on the Queen's birthday, 18d; for candles on that night, 5d'.

Sept 7, Wed Danish Ambassador at Theobalds for audience.

'The Ambassador having his audience the day that her Majesty was born, took thereby occasion to say that it hath pleased God on that day...to glorify the world with so gracious a creature, who had brought so great happiness to the realm and the neighbour kingdoms'.

The principal requests were that the amity between England and Denmark should continue as in the previous King's time; and that the Queen would permit the King of Denmark to attempt to negotiate a peace between England and Spain.

'Her Majesty presently answered without pause to every point of their embassy', assenting to the first request, rejecting the second. The Danes returned the Garter insignia of the deceased King Frederick II. [Stow, *Annals*].

Sept 9, Fri hunting, with Danish Ambassador; Enfield Chase, Middlesex.
Works: 'Setting up the Queen's standing in Enfield Chase, and making a new one there for the Ambassador'. Richard Coningsby made ready 'two standings at Enfield Chase for the Queen's Majesty against the Lord Ambassador of Denmark's coming thither'.^T The Danes noted that on Sept 9 the Queen invited them to a hunt, where she shot some deer with her bow. The Danes returned to London.

Sept 9, Elizabeth Lady Wolley to Lord Burghley, as a suitor on behalf of her father (Sir William More of Loseley) that her brother George More may be knighted: 'Presuming that at this time her Majesty will honour your bountiful entertainment with making of such knights as your Lordship shall name unto her, among others may it please your good Lordship that my brother may be one'.

[BL Lansdowne 84/64]. George More was knighted on 26 February 1598.

*Sept 10, Sat dinner and hunting, Enfield, Middlesex; Sir Robert Cecil.^T Enfield House, Crown property. In the keeping of Sir Robert Cecil (1563-1612), the Queen's Principal Secretary; widower; younger son of Lord Burghley.

Description by Sir Robert Carey (1560-1639, a cousin of the Queen).

Deputy Warden of the East March (the eastern Border districts), unpaid; he was trying to get 'some allowance to support me in my place'.

'I adventured without leave to come up' from Berwick.

'The Queen lay at Theobalds, and early in a morning I came thither'.

[Carey went first to Sir Robert Cecil, 'Mr Secretary', and then to his own brother George Carey Lord Hunsdon, the Lord Chamberlain; both urged him to return to his post before the Queen knew that he had left it].

'I was much troubled and knew not well what to do. The Queen went that day to dinner to Enfield House, and had toils set up in the park to shoot at bucks, after dinner. I durst not be seen by her, these two Councillors had so terrified me. But after dinner I went to Enfield, and walking solitary in a very private place, exceeding melancholy, it pleased God to send Mr William Killigrew, one of the Privy Chamber, to pass by where I was walking, who saluted me very kindly, and bade me welcome...He perceiving me very sad, and something troubled, asked me why I was so. I told him the reason'. He 'bade me comfort myself, for he would go presently to the Queen, and tell her of my coming up, on such a fashion, as he did warrant me she would take it well, and bid me welcome'.

'Away he went, and I stayed for his return. He told the Queen that she was more beholden to one man, than to many other that made greater show of their love and service. She was desirous to know who it was. He told her it was myself; who not having seen her for a twelvemonth and more, could no longer endure to be deprived of so great a happiness, but took post with all speed to come up to see your Majesty, and to kiss your hand, and so to return instantly again. She presently sent him back for me, and received me with more grace and favour than ever she had done before; and after I had been with her a pretty while she was called for to go to her sports. She arose, I took her by the arm, and led her to her standing. My brother and Mr Secretary seeing this, thought it more than a miracle'.

'She continued her favour to me the time I stayed, which was not long; for she took order I should have five hundred pounds out of the Exchequer for the time I had served, and I had a patent given me under the Great Seal to be her Warden of the East March'. [Carey, *Memoirs*, 42-44].

12 Sept 1597-June 1599: Thomas Edmondson was Agent in France.

Sept 12, Mon **HIGHGATE**, Middlesex; Sir William Cornwallis.^{T,W} Highgate house owned by Sir William Cornwallis (c.1549-1611); 1st wife: Lucy (Nevill) (c.1548-1608), daughter of John Nevill 4th Lord Latimer.

Nicholas Hottoste, Jewel-house Officer, 'for the hire of two horses for himself and his man at 2s6d for either of them by the space of five days to go from the Tower of London to the court at Highgate and Richmond to carry plate for her Highness's service, and also from thence to London and back again to make provision of plate to be given away to the Ambassadors from the King of Denmark'.^T

Sept 13: Highgate, Treasurer's warrant.

Court news. Sept 13 [Theobalds], Lord Burghley to Sir Robert Cecil, his son: 'By your letter, I understand that her Majesty would have me with my presence to advise how to answer this Danish embassy, for which purpose she would have me come to London, where she hath appointed my Lord Keeper, my Lord of Buckhurst, and Sir John Fortescue, to join with me, and to consider what were fit to be said to them in answer, and thereof her Majesty being first advertised, so her Majesty to allow or disallow as shall please her, and thereupon consequently to give them an answer at my house'. [Wright, ii.485].

Sept 14, The Wardrobe, Sir John Fortescue (Master of the Wardrobe and Privy Councillor) to John Manners, at Haddon, Derbyshire: 'The Denmark Ambassador offereth his master's travail to make peace between her Majesty and Spain. It seemeth other princes are associate in this request. He is very honourably entertained and Commissioners appointed to deal with him, whereof I am one'.^{RT}

Court news. Sept 15, Clapham near London, Noel Caron (resident Dutch Agent) to the States General, of an audience with the Queen, who had confessed to him that it was as easy for her to make black white as to make peace with Spain.

I had agreed, saying: "There is as much chance for your Majesty and for us to make peace, during the life of the present King of Spain, as to find redemption in hell". [Motley, *United Netherlands*, iii.436-7].

[Sept 15] Thursday, Highgate, Lord Hunsdon to Sir Robert Cecil, of the Queen's sickness. 'It did nothing content me to find her hands so burning hot, her complaint of distemperature in all parts, with the feeling of a soreness in her body, back, and legs; which I pray God be no beginning to the fit of an ague'... 'Her Majesty removeth not till Monday'. [HT.vii.385-6].

c.Sept 16: Robert Knollys at Highgate from the fleet. When the fleet reached the coast of Spain, Knollys, the Earl of Essex's uncle, was dispatched on August 28 from Cape Finisterre with Instructions from Essex: 'Make all speed to the court and tell Mr Secretary that you have a letter from me to her Majesty. When you are admitted into her royal and sweetest presence you shall present my letter and inform her' of what had happened to the fleet since leaving Plymouth on August 17, and that after making no attempt to burn the Spanish fleet at Ferrol 'we are now gone to lie [in wait] for the Indian fleets'. Knollys had arrived at Plymouth on September 13. [HT.vii.368-9,384].

Sept 19, Mon dinner, Kensington, Middlesex; Mr Cope.^T West Town manor-house; owned by Walter Cope, who built Cope Castle, Kensington, subsequently called Holland House; he died in 1614; wife: Dorothy (Grenville); she married (1621) Sir Thomas Fowler; she died in 1638.

Walter Cope, a Member of the Society of Antiquaries, had a private museum in his Strand house, described by several foreign travellers.

Thomas Platter in 1599 visited Cope 'a citizen of London who has spent much time in the Indies', and was led into a room 'stuffed with queer foreign objects in every corner'; he listed many. [Platter, 171-173].

Sept 19, Mon **PUTNEY**, Surrey; Mr [John] Lacy.^T

Sept 20, Tues Putney: Privy Council meeting.

Sept 20, Tues **RICHMOND PALACE**, Surrey.

Richard Coningsby made ready 'her Majesty's standing house at Richmond'.^T

Chelsea, Middx, churchwardens paid a fine: 'To the Lord Almoner's officers for not ringing at the Queen's remove from Kensington to Richmond, 4s'.

Also Sept 20: new appointment: Sir Thomas Norris was made President of Munster in Ireland, succeeding his brother Sir John Norris, who died in Sir Thomas's arms on September 3; the news reached court on September 11.^{MK}

Sept 20, Richmond, Queen to Lord Burgh, Lord Deputy of Ireland:
 'With great grief we have received the news of the death of John Norris, knight, President of our Province of Munster'. [SP63/200/130].

Sept 22, Richmond, Queen to Lady Norris (mother of Sir John and Sir Thomas Norris, and wife of Lord Norris, of Rycote, Oxon), letter of condolence, headed in her own hand 'Mine own Crow, harm not yourself for bootless help; but show a good example to comfort your dolorous yokefellow':

'Although we have deferred long to represent to you our grieved thoughts... we resolved no longer to smother either our care for your sorrow or the sympathy of our grief for his loss... We do assure you by this true messenger of our mind that nature can have stirred no more dolorous affection in you, as a mother for a dear son, than gratefulness and memory of his service past hath wrought in us, his sovereign, apprehension of our miss of so worthy a servant. But now that nature's common work is done, and he that was born to die hath paid his tribute, let that Christian discretion stay the flux of your immoderate grieving, which hath instructed you both by example and knowledge that nothing of this kind hath happened but by God's divine providence'.

We 'your loving and gracious sovereign... have dispatched this gentleman to visit both your lord and you to condole with you'. [Elizabeth, *Works*, 389].

Sept 23: News of the capture of the Governor of Dunkirk.

Don Francesco d'Aquila Alverado, a Spaniard, described by his wife in 1599 as 80 years old with nine dependent children.

Sept 23, Privy Council to Sir Henry Palmer (a sea-captain): 'The Governor of Dunkirk hath been taken prisoner of late by some of the garrison of Ostend' and 'is now in the custody of Sir Edward Norris [Governor of Ostend]'. The Queen requires the prisoner to be 'speedily brought over hither'. You are 'to ply over to Ostend' and bring him to the Lieutenant of Dover Castle.

After a few days at Dover the Governor was taken to Deptford and delivered to Sir Henry Norris, brother of Sir Edward Norris.^{APC} Lord Norris (their father) took the Governor into his custody in October. (Sequel: Dec 26: Whyte).

Sept 23, Fri Danish Ambassadors at Richmond for audience; leave-taking.

Sept 24, London, Noel Caron, Dutch Agent, to the States General:
 To the Danish Ambassadors, who had come with proposals of mediation with Spain, the Queen replied that the King of Spain had attacked her dominions many times, and had very often attempted her assassination; that after long patience she had begun to defend herself, and had been willing to show him that she had the courage and the means, not only to maintain herself against his assaults, but also to invade his realms; therefore she was not disposed to speak first, nor to lay down any conditions. Yet if she saw that the King had any remorse for his former offences against her, and wished to make atonement for them, she was willing to declare that her heart was not so alienated from peace, but that she could listen to propositions on the subject.

The Queen said too that such a peace must be a general one, including both the King of France, and the States of the Low Countries, for with these powers she had but lately [in 1596] made an offensive and defensive league against the King of Spain, from which she would never swerve one jot.

[Motley, *United Netherlands*, iii.437].

Sept 27, Tues Earl of Essex's messenger, Osborne, at Richmond.
 From *The Due Repulse* on Aug 31, Essex and his commanders sent a message to the Council by Osborne, Essex's servant, that they had news that the Spanish fleet 'was gone to the Islands to waft home the Indian fleet', and had 'resolved we should shape our course directly for the Islands [the Azores]'.
 This was 'received at Richmond the 27th by Mr Osborne'. [HT.vii.371].

Sept 27: Queen's gifts to the Danish Ambassadors, presented in London.
 To the Chancellor of the King of Denmark: one basin and ewer gilt; two pairs of gilt flagons; four gilt bowls with covers; one pair of gilt salts with a cover; one bowl with a cover; two gilt cups with covers.
 To Christian Barnikou: one basin and ewer gilt; two pairs of gilt pots; two gilt bowls with covers; one pair of gilt salts with a cover; one gilt cup with a cover; one double Almain cup gilt; one Portuguese cup with a cover gilt.
 To Hans Neukom, 'a gentleman sent by the King of Denmark, one chain of gold'.
 All from Hugh Keal, goldsmith.^{NYG} The Danes prepared to go to their ships.

The Danes also put their case to the States-General in Holland.
George Gilpin reported to Sir Robert Sidney, Oct 17, Hague:
 'Our Danish Ambassadors have had their answer in writing...That a good peace were to be wished for, but is no ways convenient for them to agree with the Spaniard...They must on all sides have patience for the time. And so paid all their charges, and bestowed on each Ambassador a chain of 1600 florins'.^{SD}

Sept 28: Stationers entered: 'A Demonstration of God in his works, with a preface to England of her present estate, written by George More'.
 Published as: 'A Demonstration of God in his works. Against all such as either in word or life deny there is a God'. By George More.
 Epistle Dedicatory 'To the most excellent and most renowned' Queen.
 'It hath pleased the God of heaven so to bless the realm of England by the continuance of your Majesty's reign, as that like happiness no former commonwealth hath been known, no foreign kingdom at this day can be said to enjoy... You are, not only for your high place of rule over many, the living image of God, but for defence of his true religion, above all other Princes, his chief Lieutenant upon earth'. Your people are 'the best Subjects through the world, of the best Sovereign under heaven'.

Also 'The Preface to England'. (18 pages of praise of the Queen).
 'England my dear Country give me leave, out of love and duty, a dutiful and loving Servant to speak unto thee...I compare the woeful plight of thy distressed neighbours, with the joyful estate of thy blessed self'.
 Thou art 'ever looked unto with the watchful eye of the greatest Mistress, the most worthy Princess of the earth'. (London, 1597).
 The Queen knighted George More in 1598, and visited him in Surrey in 1601.

October, Richmond, Lord Burghley to all Justices of Peace, requiring them to aid the bearer, John Norden, gentleman, who has very diligently and skilfully travailed to the more perfect description of the several shires of the realm, having already imprinted certain of his labours, to his great commendation, and intending to proceed in the rest as time and his ability will permit.
 [HT.vii.459]. John Norden dedicated several works to the Queen.

Oct 4, Richmond, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney: 'Here is a daily expectation of Sir Edward Stafford and Sir Edward Wotton being made Councillors. I will believe it when I see it. The Queen will be in London upon Thursday come fortnight [Oct 20]. They are now repairing and new painting of Whitehall'.^{SD}
 Sir Edward Wotton became a Privy Councillor in December 1602.

[Oct 5], Liège, Peter Petit [to Thomas Phillips], of King Henri IV:

'He mocks at her Majesty, when she and her ministers demand towns in France for retreat of her forces, and says "J'aime autant être mordu d'un chien comme gratigné d'un chat", meaning he had rather be bitten by the King of Spain than scratched in giving her a town'. [SPD 1595-97, p.509].

Oct 6: christening. Queen was godmother to 'Mr William Petre's daughter'.^T

Parents: William Petre (later 2nd Lord Petre), son of Sir John Petre of Ingatestone, Essex, and of Petre House, Aldersgate, London;

wife: Lady Katherine Somerset, daughter of Edward Somerset 4th Earl of Worcester; a former Maid of Honour. 'At Sir John Petre's house in London'.

Queen's Deputy: Countess of Cumberland.^T

Queen's gifts, October 6: two gilt bowls with covers.^{NYG}

1st child: Elizabeth Petre (1597-1656); married William Sheldon.

Oct 8: Privy Council 'warrant to the Keeper of the Marshalsea to release Gabriel Spencer and Robert Shaw, stage-players, out of prison, who were of late committed to his custody. The like warrant for the releasing of Benjamin Jonson'.^{APC} Committed in August for acting in Thomas Nashe's (lost) play *The Isle of Dogs*; Gabriel Spencer was killed by Ben Jonson, 22 Sept 1598.

Oct 8, Sat new appointment: Sir Robert Cecil was sworn Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

Oct 9, Richmond, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney:

'Mr Secretary was yesternight at 11 o'clock made a Chancellor of the Duchy'...

'Here is now great speech of creation [of peers], and you nominated'...

'Here are come this morning from my Lord of Essex...that he purposes not to be at home yet this six weeks. The Admiral of the Dutch...brought these letters to Plymouth'.^{SD}

[Oct 10] court this Monday, Lord Howard of Effingham to Lord Burghley (father of Sir Robert Cecil): Her Majesty 'saith although you have brought up your son as near as may be like unto yourself for her service, yet are you to her in all things and shall be *alpha* and *omega* [the beginning and the end]'...

'I protest my heart was so filled with her kind speeches of your Lordship as I watered my eyes'. [Ellis (3), iv.148-9].

Oct 11, Tues French Agent, La Fontaine, at Richmond with the Queen. Robert le Maçon, Sieur de la Fontaine, French Protestant Minister in London, Agent for King Henri IV of France, who for most of 1595-1598 had no resident ambassador in England.

Oct 12, Blackfriars, Lord Cobham to Sir Robert Cecil:

'La Fontaine came yesterday from the Queen greatly discontented, as he conceives the Queen disdaineth his employment to her from the King; and he assureth me oftentimes she did repeat unto him the scorn that the King offered unto her in not having an ambassador resident here. The poor man is much perplexed and will procure his discharge with as much speed as he may'...

'I think you have the proclamation which the Emperor hath proclaimed in all Germany forbidding absolutely the trade of Englishmen, and that they are within certain days to avoid the country, both they and their goods'. [HT.vii.429].

The Emperor's action led the Queen to expel Hanse merchants: see 13 Jan 1598.

Oct 13, Strand, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney:

'It is given out at court that the Princess of Orange will come to London to see the Queen, and her Majesty said that she would remove this day sennight lest she come to London before her'.^{SD} The Princess is not known to have come.

Oct 13: *Lord Mayor's Precept to the 12 principal Livery Companies 'and also to the four or five inferior', to attend the Mayor 'at my mansion house' at 1 p.m. on October 20 to go to meet the Queen and escort her from Chelsea to Whitehall on horseback, by torch-light, in velvet coats with gold chains. [London: Journal 24].* Lord Mayor: Sir Henry Billingsley.

Oct 14, in Ireland: death: Thomas 5th Lord Burgh (c.1558-1597), K.G., Lord Deputy of Ireland and Governor of Brill, died at Newry of 'an Irish ague'.

In his Will (October 12), he bequeathed his soul to God and 'my body to be buried where and how it shall please her Majesty. I will that in token of my duty and love to her Majesty, my most sovereign lady and mistress, there be presented unto her sacred person my best Garter and George, together with my letter and instructions concerning this kingdom, and my own private estate: hoping that of her gracious goodness she will be pleased to receive my wife and children into her protection, myself having spent my patrimony and ended my days in her service'. Burgh failed to sign the will. [SP63/201/14].

A pinnace carried Burgh's body back to England: see October 30.

Lady Burgh and their five young children were in England; their son Robert Burgh (c.1594-1602) became 6th Lord Burgh.

The widowed Frances (Vaughan), Lady Burgh, died in 1647.

Oct 15, Sat At Richmond the Queen informed Lord Howard of Effingham that she proposed to create him an Earl; he gave the Heralds 'secret intelligence' to prepare his robes and Letters Patent. [BL Harl 293, f.218].

Oct 16, Queen to the Earl of Essex: 'We do wish the safe return of you and our fleet under your charge, as a prince that knows the value of such our dear and beloved servants...but when we do look back to the beginning of this action which hath stirred so great expectation in the world and charged us so deeply, we cannot but be sorry to foresee already how near all our expectations and your great hopes are to a fruitless conclusion'...

'If now the Indian fleet should be missed...we should think ourselves in much worse case than when the action did begin'. [HT.vii.433].

The Spanish treasure fleet ('Indian fleet') had got safely into harbour; another Spanish fleet was now approaching England or Ireland.

Oct 19, Earl of Essex to the Privy Council, from aboard her Majesty's good ship *The Due Repulse*, sending Sir Thomas Jermyn 'to carry the news of the coming of this [Spanish] fleet upon our own coast'. [HT.vii.437].

Oct 20, Thur morning visit, Putney, Surrey. [John Lacy]. Richard Coningsby made ready 'certain rooms and other provisions for the resting and warming of her Majesty at Putney'.^T

Also Oct 20: dinner, Chelsea, Middlesex; Lord Howard.^T Chelsea manor-house; Charles 2nd Lord Howard of Effingham, Lord Admiral; wife: Katherine (Carey), died 1603.

Royal household dined at Lord De La Warr's house at Chelsea. Thomas West, 2nd Lord De La Warr (c.1556-1602); wife: Anne (Knollys), sister of Sir William Knollys, Controller of the Household. Richard Coningsby made ready 'the Lord Delaware's house for a dinner house for the whole service of her Majesty's chamber, her Highness's own diet only excepted'.^T

Oct 20, Thur **WHITEHALL PALACE.**

Herald: 'The Queen's Majesty removed from Richmond to Chelsea to dine at the Lord Admiral's house, and that night her Highness came by St James's house to Westminster on a great horse, attended by all the lords...and the Mayor and Aldermen and Companies of London, also on horseback'. [BL Harl 293, f.218].

St Martin in the Fields: 'Paid the 20th of October for ringing at her Majesty's remove from Richmond to Whitehall, 12d'.

Grocers' Company: 'Paid for 23 staff-torches and one link used and spent as well on the day certain of the company attended the Lord Mayor to meet her Majesty at St James's Park, as also to light the Company when they attended the Lord Mayor to Paul's [November 17], 23s4d. More paid to 11 men which carried the said staff-torches at the meeting of her Majesty, 8d apiece'.

Ironmongers' Company: 'For a pottle of sack when the Company rode to meet her Majesty, 16d; for torches at the same time, 5s'.

Court news. Oct 22, Strand, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney:

'Here was a resolution taken that her Majesty would create Earls, and call such to be Barons as seemed to have titles...I proceeded with all your friends at court, that you might not be forgotten'...

'I was with my Lord Admiral...I hear that he only shall be created tomorrow Earl of Nottingham. The Heralds have been with him, he hath borrowed my Lord of Pembroke's robes; his coronet is made, and his Patent a-drawing'...

'It is marvelled that my Lord Treasurer [Burghley] is not called to a greater dignity...Her Majesty goes on Monday in state to the Parliament House'.^{SD}

Sir Robert Sidney was created by King James: Baron Sydney of Penshurst (May 1603); Viscount Lisle (1605); Earl of Leicester (1618).

Oct 22, Sat New Heralds and Pursuivants created, Whitehall.

William Camden, historian, Headmaster of Westminster School 1593-1597, was created Richmond Herald, prior to his promotion next day.

Thomas Lant: Windsor Herald; Mercury Patten: Bluemantle Pursuivant.

William Smith: Rouge Dragon Pursuivant.

Samuel Thompson: Portcullis Pursuivant; Robert Treswell; Somerset Herald.

Oct 23: William Camden was created Clarenceux King of Arms.

John Raven: Richmond Herald; William Segar: Norroy King of Arms.

Oct 23, Sun **Peerage creation: Earl of Nottingham;** at Whitehall.

Charles, 2nd Lord Howard of Effingham (c.1536-1624), Lord Admiral, who had commanded the Fleet against the Armada in 1588, was created Earl of Nottingham.

Herald: After morning prayers in the Great Closet [a chapel] the Queen went to the Presence Chamber, where Howard was brought in. The Queen made a speech, and put on him the sword, cap and gold coronet. The new Earl left as trumpets sounded, and dined in the Council Chamber, where the Heralds proclaimed the Queen's style and the Earl's style. [BL Harl 293, f.218v].

Also Oct 23: new appointment: Earl of Nottingham was made Lord Steward of the Household. [Hawarde, 84].

Court news. Oct 23, Strand, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney:

'As the Queen came from the Chapel this day she created my Lord Admiral Earl of Nottingham; my Lord Cumberland carried his sword, my Lord of Sussex his cap and coronet. He was brought in by the Earls of Shrewsbury and Worcester. Her Majesty made a speech unto him, in an acknowledgement of his services, and Mr Secretary read the Letters Patent aloud, which are very honourable, all his great services recited in anno 88, and lately at Cales [Cadiz]'...

'My Lord Treasurer [Burghley] was in the Presence Chamber at the creation of the Earl, and no speech of his desire to be greater'.^{SD}

Robert Naunton, of the Earl: He was 'for his person as goodly a gentleman as the times had any'. He was 'a brave, honest and good man, and a faithful servant to his mistress, and such a one as the Queen out of her own princely judgement knew to be a fit instrument for her service, for she was proficient in the reading of men as well as books'. [Fragmenta Regalia (1641)].

His son William Howard took the courtesy title Lord Howard of Effingham.

Oct 24: 'The Order of receiving Queen Elizabeth in the College Church of Westminster, the first day of the Parliament', October 1597.

'The Queen's Majesty to be received at the north door of the said Church. But before her entry into the porch of the said door a form with carpets and cushions to be laid, where her Majesty is to kneel and to receive a staff of gold, having the image of a dove in the top, and to pronounce a prayer. The Dean of the said Church is to deliver the said staff, and to show the said prayer. At her Majesty's entry into the Church, the Dean of her Majesty's Chapel, with all the company of the Chapel, and the Dean of Westminster with his brethren and company in copes, to meet her Majesty at the north door of the Church'.

'The whole choir then to sing a solemn psalm, going before her Majesty. The Queen's Majesty to come to the body of the Church, and so to enter in at the west door of the Quire, and so up to the travers by the Communion Table. Upon her entry into her travers *Te Deum* to be sung; after that the Litany. Then the sermon. After the sermon a solemn song, with a Collect for the Queen. That being ended, the whole choir to go before her Majesty singing to the south-east door, where the Dean kneeling, with two of his brethren, is to receive of her Majesty the golden staff with the dove in the top'. [BL Sloane 4712, f.63].

Oct 24, Mon Opening of Parliament.

Ceremonial procession to Westminster Abbey (also called 'the College Church') and to Parliament. Richard Brackenbury made ready 'the whole Parliament House with all thereunto belonging', and the Abbey of Westminster.^T

St Martin in the Fields: 'For ringing the 24th of October at her Majesty's going to the Parliament House being the first day of the same Parliament, 12d'.

'Divers people were smothered and crushed to death, pressing betwixt Whitehall and the College Church, to have seen her Majesty and nobility riding to the said Parliament, Sir Thomas Gerard Knight Marshal and his men making way before them'. [Stow, *Annals*].

Between 9 and 12 o'clock the Knight Marshal cleared the way. Then came Judges, peers, bishops, Officers of the Household, the Lord Keeper, the Earl of Cumberland carrying the Sword, the Marquis of Winchester carrying the Cap, the Earl of Worcester leading an 'empty horse'. Then the Queen, drawn in an open chariot by two white horses with red manes, then an 'empty horse' and an 'empty rich coach'. 'Then the ladies, upon good horses. By good report there were eight or ten killed in the press. The Lord Chief Justice of England was unhorsed and in great danger. It was one o'clock before the Queen came'. [Hawarde, 84-85].

Journal by Hayward Townshend, M.P. (c.1577-c.1603), law student, grandson of Sir Rowland Hayward, twice Lord Mayor of London:

'About one o'clock in the afternoon her Majesty with most or all of the nobility with others in great state and comely manner came from her palace of Whitehall towards Westminster Abbey, riding in a chariot opened, all covered overhead canopy-wise with cloth of tissue or cloth of silver, where after she had heard a sermon she went on foot to the Parliament House'.

Sermon by the Bishop of Chichester, Anthony Watson. During the sermon the Members of Parliament had taken the Oath of Supremacy at the Commons.

'By which time notice was given to us that her Majesty was set in the Upper House, and it was her pleasure we should repair thither, which every man did that could get in with great thrusting'.

Lord Keeper Egerton made the customary oration setting out the causes for calling Parliament. 'The great and princely care which her Highness now hath... to preserve her kingdoms in peace and safety from all foreign attempts hath caused her at this present to assemble this honourable and great Council of her Realm to advise on the best and most needful means whereby to continue this her peaceable and happy government, and to withstand the malice of her mighty and implacable enemies...You are to consider how to provide needful and convenient aid in some measure to maintain and support her Majesty's exceeding charge, which at this present she is at and is to continue for the defence of the Realm ...To give is to give to ourselves, her Majesty's part only being carefully to bestow what is delivered into her hands'. Egerton concluded, as customary, by requesting the Commons to make choice of a Speaker. [Parl.iii.226,185-6].

Oct 25: St Martin in the Fields, Westminster: burials, noted in Latin: Sarah Taylor and Jane Evans, being among eight or nine women and boys suffocated in the crowd when the Queen came to open Parliament. St Michael Cornhill: burial: Cicely, wife of Edward Harris, 'smuldered at Whitehall in the press'.

Oct 26, Plymouth, Earl of Essex to Sir Robert Cecil: 'The Spaniards are upon the coast; upon which, if we do not bestir ourselves as never men did, let us be counted not worthy to serve such a Queen...I will instantly out with as many ships as I can...Though we eat ropes' ends and drink nothing but rain water we will out that we may be partly the instruments to make a final end of this proud nation that is destined to destruction'. Endorsed 'For life, for life, Essex'. [HT.vii.445].

Court news. Oct 26, Strand, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney: 'This day about noon the assured death of my Lord Burgh, Deputy of Ireland, came to the court...This morning a gentleman came to court with news that, going to sea in a pinnace, he discovered the Spanish fleet...They were to make their rendezvous at Falmouth [Cornwall]. This was 30 leagues distant from Scilly. The Lords sat in Council this afternoon about these matters'.^{SD}

Oct 26, Whitehall, at 11 in the night, Sir Robert Cecil to Thomas Edmondes (in Paris): 'This very day advertisement is come to the Queen of the fleet of Spain, which is issued from Ferrol and the Groyne [Corunna] the 8th of this month, being 120 sail with 10,000 soldiers, 2000 mariners and many mills for corn, many women, 300 horse and many materials for fortifications'. This 'hath given her Majesty just cause to look about her, having now no fleet in readiness to fight with them at sea, but...trust to the land defence...Either it is for Ireland or England'. We are 'expecting hourly to hear of their arrival if the storm have not forced them to their own coast again'. [Edmondes, 303-4].

Oct 27, Thur Queen at Parliament, for presentation of new Speaker of Commons. Christopher Yelverton (c.1537-1612), Serjeant at Law.

The Queen went by water. James Russell, shipwright, 'repairing of her Majesty's barges against her Highness going to the Parliament House'.^T

Yelverton made the customary disabling speech, to which Lord Keeper Egerton replied on behalf of the Queen accepting him as Speaker, and Yelverton made the usual second speech. On the Queen's instructions Egerton then adjourned Parliament until November 5 (as a Spanish fleet was approaching).

Yelverton noted: 'After her Majesty had confirmed me for Speaker, and after that I had then ended my oration, her Majesty passing by me pulled off her glove, and gave me her hand to kiss; and said "You sir, you are welcome to the butts, sir", and laid both her hands about my neck, and stayed a good space; and so most graciously departed. And in her Privy Chamber after, amongst her ladies, said she was sorry she knew me no sooner'. [Parl.iii.206].

butts: archery targets. Christopher Yelverton was promoted to Queen's Serjeant in 1598, a Judge of the Queen's Bench in 1602. His monument, with his wife, is in Easton Maudit Church, Northants.

Court news. Oct 27, Strand, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney:

'My Lord Chamberlain [Lord Hunsdon] is commanded to go presently toward the western coast, to command all such forces as shall be fit for the resistance of the enemy if they land, and Captains are appointed to attend him. All or the most part of the gentlemen of every county are commanded to go home for the defence of the sea coast. And yet for all this some are of opinion the Spaniards will not land, but hover up and down and wait the return of our Fleet'.

Oct 28: 'This morning my Lord of Essex's own letters came to court of his safe landing in Plymouth. That he had unfortunately missed the King's own ships with the Indian treasure, and fell upon the merchants' fleet. Four of them he hath taken, and brought home safe, and sunk many more'...

'The Spanish Fleet...hovers up and down upon our coast, but as yet hath not landed. My Lord of Essex put in to victual and to have fresh men, and with all possible speed to go to sea again'.^{SD}

Oct 29, Sat new appointment: Earl of Ormond to be Lieutenant-General of all the Queen's forces in Ireland. [SP Ireland].

Thomas Fleming, Captain of her Majesty's pinnace *The Merlin*, with a man and a guide: 'attendance upon the Earl of Ormond riding up and down the coast of Ireland for her Majesty's special affairs', 17 days.^N

The post of Lord Lieutenant or Lord Deputy of Ireland remained vacant until the Earl of Essex was appointed Lord Lieutenant in 1599.

Court news. Oct 29, Strand, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney:

'Mr Wiseman came this morning to the court, he tells me that there are only nine knights made...The forces of France are sent for to come to Dover and the Downs. But let me tell you that Mr Wiseman said that his Lord heard of a Spanish fleet being at sea, but he saw none'.

'All gentlemen are commanded to the country, and not to leave their dwelling upon the sea coast...The Lord Cobham is sent to the Cinque Ports'...

'Direction is sent to Ireland that two Justices do govern the civil policy, and my Lord of Ormond Commander of the Wars, till her Majesty send a Deputy'...

'My Lord Grey is in great displeasure, and the Queen threatens to imprison him for his presumption to go without leave. And many other Pensioners upon their return shall suffer for their faults' [Gentlemen Pensioners]...

'At my Lord of Essex coming to court I will observe all I may, and methinks I found the countenance of the court somewhat changed already'.

'Wiseman...hopes the four ships brought in will go near to make it a saving journey'.^{SD} Robert Wiseman, of Greenwich, a Gentleman Pensioner.

Essex's new knights included Arthur Gorges and William Browne.

Storms in the English Channel forced the Armada to turn back to Spain.

Essex left Plymouth for court, staying there only a few days.

Oct 30, Privy Council to the Council of Ireland, of Lord Burgh, deceased:
 'We are to let your Lordships understand that her Majesty, having been moved by his friends that the funerals may be performed here in England, is pleased that the corpse shall be brought over in her Majesty's pinnace which is there attending'.^{APC}

Robert Ratcliffe, mariner, was paid 100s for bringing Lord Burgh's corpse from Newry, where he died on October 14, to Dublin by sea.

George Thornton, Captain of her Majesty's ship The Popinjay, received £91.13s4d 'for the wages and victualling of 30 men, officers and sailors, transporting of the corpse of the Lord Burgh...into England, for 55 days, beginning 29 December 1597 and ending 21 February next', and 3 ship-keepers and one shipwright. Thornton also received £20.12s6d for victualling sailors in The Popinjay 'over and above her Majesty's ordinary rates, in regard of the present dearth'. Payment: 23 March 1598. [SP Ire.vii.104,491].

Whyte to Sidney, Strand, [1 Feb 1598]: 'My Lord Burgh's body is come over, and within these two nights is to be buried at Westminster. I do not hear that there shall be ceremony used'.^{SD}

Nov 1, Tues Lord Dudley at Whitehall before the Privy Council.
 Edward Sutton 5th Lord Dudley (1567-1643) married aged 14 Theodosia Harington.

They were living apart and in summer 1597 Lady Dudley had complained to the Queen that Dudley had broken a Council order for payment of maintenance.

The Queen referred the matter to the Council. Lord Dudley ignored letters summoning him to court. On August 1 the Council sent him to the Fleet Prison. On August 7 he was ordered to continue the existing arrangements for payment to his wife and four children 'unless it shall please God to put in their minds to cohabit together'. He was to appear before the Council November 1 'at such place where the court shall be', when he was ordered not to depart without licence.^{APC}

These were not Dudley's only confrontations with the Council. He wasted his estates in supporting his mistress Elizabeth Tomlinson and their 11 children. She was described as 'a lewd and infamous woman, a base collier's daughter'.

Court news. Nov 5, Strand, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney:

'You will expect, now that the Earl of Essex is returned, to hear from me what is done. For himself, he is already disquieted, keeps in, and went not this day to the Parliament; and I heard her Majesty is not well pleased with him for his service at sea, wherein it is alleged he might have done more than he did'.

'Moreover I hear that his proceedings towards Sir Walter Raleigh, in calling his actions to public question before a Council of War, where by a full court he was found worthy of death, is greatly disliked here. Sir Walter Raleigh is happy to have so good and constant friends...to protect him and comfort him'.^{SD}

Essex, pleading sickness, stayed away from court not only because of criticism of his conduct during the Voyage, but in annoyance that during his absence the Earl of Nottingham had been given the most credit in the Letters Patent for his Earldom for the success of their joint Voyage to Cadiz in 1596, and as new Lord Steward now took precedence over himself.

Essex was absent from Privy Council meetings, November 3-December 22, although he returned to court on December 2.

Nov 5: News of Lord Grey, out of favour with the Queen.
 Thomas Grey, 15th Lord Grey of Wilton (c.1575-1614) went with Essex on the Islands Voyage, after being forbidden by the Queen to go (as some young courtiers were). He wrote from Plymouth in August to Sir Robert Cecil that 'my present offence is sufficient to draw me high displeasure'.

Nov 5, *Whitefriars, Bridget Countess of Bedford to Cecil, of Grey's 'rash and unadvised attempt', his offence proceeding from his desire 'to do her Highness service'; he now knows 'that God and princes do more respect obedience than sacrifices'. Grey wrote to Cecil from his lodging Nov 10 of 'this restraint', and also during November wrote from the Fleet Prison. [HT.vii.374,470,476,499].*

Nov 7, Mon visit, Lambeth, Surrey; Lady Burgh.
Lambeth Church: 'To the ringers the 7th day of November when the Queen came to my Lady Burgh's house, 4s'. Visit of condolence.

Lambeth Marsh house of Frances (Vaughan) (c.1562-1647), former Maid of Honour, widow of Thomas 5th Lord Burgh, Lord Deputy of Ireland and Governor of Brill, who died October 14; she was left with five young children and in some poverty.

Nov 7 and 8, *in the Commons: There were speeches 'touching sundry enormities growing by Patents of Privilege and Monopolies, and the abuses of them'.*

Nov 10, Thur: A Committee was set up to consider the matter. [Little was done, but at the Close of Parliament in 1598 the Speaker read a speech penned by the Committee concerning Monopolies, and the Queen promised reformation].

Nov 11, *in the Commons: Several Members complained of 'sundry great abuses by Licences for Marriages without Banns, granted by Registers and other inferior officers'. Another Committee was set up. [D'Ewes, 554-5].*

Nov 13, Sun Two Members of Parliament summoned to Whitehall by the Queen. Sir Robert Cecil, and Sir John Fortescue, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Nov 14, Mon, *in the Commons: Sir John Fortescue 'showed that her Majesty did yesterday last call Mr Secretary and himself unto her...telling them that her Highness had been informed of the horrible and great incestuous marriages discovered in this House and...commanded them to take information of the grievances in particular of the Members of this House, that her Highness, having certain notice thereof, may thereupon give order for the due punishment and redress accordingly'. [D'Ewes, 556].*

Nov 15, *at Berwick: death. Robert Bowes (c.1535-1597), Ambassador to Scotland since 1589. George Nicholson, his Secretary, was Agent to Scotland 1597-1603.*

Nov 16, Wed Dutch Agent at Whitehall for audience.
Noel Caron, resident Agent, to the States-General, Nov 24, Clapham:

The Queen told me she was aware that the King of France had for long been in communication with Cardinal Albert (Governor of the Spanish Netherlands) over a peace. She expressed her amazement at the King's conduct, so soon after their Treaty was sworn to [in 1596]. "And now, they propose to send an Ambassador to inform me of the whole proceeding, and to ask my advice and consent in regard to negotiations which they have, perchance, entirely concluded".

The Queen discussed King Henri's proposals for a truce between the States and Spain; I repeated again and again that as long as King Philip lived peace was an impossibility for the States. The Queen listened patiently, and assured me that not even to gain another kingdom would she be the cause of the return of the United Provinces to Spanish rule. She would do her best to dissuade Henri from his peace negotiations, but would listen to De Maise, who was coming as special envoy, and would then faithfully report to me, by word of mouth, the substance of the conversation. The States-General did not deserve to be deceived, nor would she be a party to any deception, unless she were first cheated herself.

She ended by saying: "I feel indeed that matters are not always managed as they should be by your government, and that you have not always treated princes, especially myself, as we deserve to be treated. Nevertheless, your State is not a monarchy, and so we must take all things into consideration, and weigh its faults against its many perfections". [Motley, *United Netherlands*, iii.437-9].

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

St Alban Wood Street: 'Ringers on the Queen's Coronation day, 3s; for a new rope for the little bell and for oil against the Queen's Coronation day, 16d'.

St Martin in the Fields: 'For ringing the 17th of November at the exchange of her Majesty's reign, 6s'.

St Mary Magdalen Milk Street: Nov 15: 'Paid for a new baldrick, and mending an old one, 16d; for iron work for the bells and for oil, 15d; for a man's work one day about them, 16d; for splicing a rope, 4d; all against the Queen's day'.

Nov 17: 'To Brisley [parish clerk] for his attendance this day in the church, and for candles, and to bestow in drink amongst the ringers, 3s'.

St Stephen Walbrook: 'For wine, sugar, bread, beer, cheese, candles, etc. on the Crownation night, 10s'.

Bristol Chamberlains: 'Paid unto the trumpeters on the Queen's holiday, 6s8d; paid for wood for a fire before Mr Mayor's door and hauling, 3s; paid for making and keeping of the fire there, 6d'.

Canterbury Chamberlains: 'To the Keeper of the Queen's Park for his reward for bringing the fat doe by my Lord Cobham bestowed upon Mr Mayor and his Company at The Sun on the Queen's day, 6s8d; the same day for wine at The Sun expended by serving-men more than ordinary which was by the Mayor and Aldermen so agreed on, 4s; the same day to the Waits for their pains in music there bestowed, 5s; for the officers and the Waits' dinners at The Sun, 5s'.

Heckington Church, Lincs: 'The charges of the Queen's Anniversary day, 14s'.

Houghton-le-Spring Church, Durham: 'At the Coronation for soap, 4d; to the ringers and our charges that day, 8s'.

Oxford Chamberlains: 'Bread and wine on the Queen's day, 14d; a gallon of sack on the Queen's day, 4s'.

South Newington Church, Oxon: 'On the Queen's holiday for bread, ale and candle, 9d'.

Thaxted Church, Essex: 'To the ringers on Crownation day, 3s4d'.

Robert Twist, of Westminster School, dedicated to the Queen complimentary verses in Latin and Greek. 21 Westminster School boys, including Twist, dedicated similar verses to the Queen. [BL Royal MS 12 A.VIII; 12 A.XLI].

At Colchester, Essex, on 'Coronation day' a local man fought in Holy Trinity Church and drew blood. [Emmison, Morals, 114].

Nov 17, Thur **Accession Day Tilt**, 1597. 11 pairs.

Earl of Cumberland	v	Lord Mountjoy
Earl of Southampton	v	Sir Robert Dudley
Earl of Bedford	v	Sir Edward Wingfield
Lord Howard of Effingham	v	Robert Knollys
Lord Compton	v	Sir Robert Carey
Lord Dudley	v	Charles Howard
Lord Windsor	v	Sir Thomas Gerard
Sir Charles Blount	v	Henry Carey
Sir James Scudamore	v	Edward Howard
Sir Alexander Radcliffe	v	Sir John Lee
Carew Reynell	v	John Needham.

*Nov 19, St Elizabeth's Day: Tournament: Tilt.

Richard Brackenbury made ready 'the Gallery at Whitehall for her Majesty against the Running two several times', and 'a place for the Judges in the Tiltyard two several times'.^T [Tilt-list for Nov 17: College of Arms MS M.4, f.52].

Nov 22-1598 Jan 5: **French special Ambassador** in London and at court.

André Hurault de Maise (1539-1607), formerly French Ambassador to Venice, was sent by King Henri IV. His mission, lasting six weeks, was to discuss whether England would join France in making peace with Spain. The King had already decided to accept the profitable peace offered him by Spain, but wished to prove to the Queen that the interests of England, the ally to whom he was under such obligations, were as dear to him as those of France.

Thomas Edmondès to Cecil, Oct 28, Paris: He 'hath good part in the King's favour and like place in the Council here. He is a Catholic in profession, but it is said he doth not too much believe in the Mass, being held to be more of the [Protestant] religion in his knowledge and mind than Popishly affected, and is well esteemed and trusted by those of the religion'. [Edmondès, 305].

Sir Anthony Mildmay, former Ambassador to France, had left his secretary John Phillips as Agent until November, when he accompanied De Maise to London.

De Maise was 'lodged in a house that the Queen had commanded for me wherein Drake had formerly lodged'. [Sir Francis Drake, at The Erber, Dowgate].

In addition to sending dispatches to the King describing the business transacted at his audiences, De Maise kept a Journal. This is translated in 'De Maise. A Journal of all that was accomplished by Monsieur de Maise Ambassador in England from King Henri IV to Queen Elizabeth Anno Domini 1597', ed. G.B.Harrison and R.A.Jones (1931). This includes his Instructions.

Details of his visit are from this, but parts of De Maise's descriptions of the Queen's apparel which have been mis-translated have been omitted here.

Discussions of correct versions: Arnold, Wardrobe, 8-10; Guy, Elizabeth. The Forgotten Years, 289-292. De Maise's new style dates have been altered here to old style, in accordance with English custom.

First audience: November 28.

Nov 25: St Botolph Aldgate parish clerk's memorandum of burial:

'John Bowes, a weaver, he did dwell at Stepney and being hurt in the leg with a piece of a chamber which was shot off at the triumph made at the Tower Hill on the 17th day of November last and having had his leg taken off by surgeons did lie at surgery at the house of Edward Shakelock a minstrel dwelling in the White Bear Alley being in the High Street where he died...years 30'.

Court news. Nov 26, Essex House, Anthony Bacon to Dr Hawkins, of Essex's continued absence from court: I am 'more than in hope that this day shall be the last day of the eclipse...not doubting but that ere 24 hours pass he shall be Earl Marshal of England'. Monsieur de Maise 'is arrived here very honourably accompanied, to impart unto her Majesty how far the King his master hath proceeded in the overtures of peace betwixt him and Spain, and to receive her princely advice. Tomorrow he is to have his audience'. [BL Harl 286, f.264].

[The audience was delayed for a day because the Queen was unwell].

Nov 28, Mon French special Ambassador's first audience, Whitehall.

De Maise's description: 'About one hour after noon there came a gentleman from the Queen who said to me that her Majesty was much grieved that she had not given me audience sooner, and that she prayed me to come to her that very hour. He brought me in a coach to take me down to the river, where one of the barges awaited me, and we went thence to the gate of the Queen's palace'.

'At our landing there came to seek me a gentleman who spoke very good Italian, called Monsieur [Sir Edward] Wotton, who told me that her Majesty sent word that I should be very welcome and that she was awaiting me. He had four or five other gentlemen with him. As he led me along he told me that the whole court was well satisfied to see me, and that they knew well how greatly I loved their nation'..

'He led me across a chamber of moderate size wherein were the Guards of the Queen, and thence into the Presence Chamber, as they call it, in which all present, even though the Queen be absent, remain uncovered. He then conducted me to a place on one side, where there was a cushion made ready for me'.

'I waited there some time, and the Lord Chamberlain, who has the charge of the Queen's household...to arrange audiences and to escort those who demand them and especially ambassadors, came to seek me where I was seated'.

'He led me along a passage somewhat dark, into a chamber that they call the Privy Chamber, at the head of which was the Queen seated in a low chair, by herself, and withdrawn from all the lords and ladies that were present, they being in one place and she in another'.

'After I had made her my reverence at the entry of the chamber, she rose and came five or six paces towards me, almost into the middle of the chamber. I kissed the fringe of her robe and she embraced me with both hands. She looked at me kindly, and began to excuse herself that she had not sooner given me audience, saying that the day before she had been very ill with a gathering on the right side of her face, which I should never have thought seeing her eyes and face, but she did not remember ever to have been so ill before'.

'She excused herself because I found her attired in her night-gown, and began to rebuke those of her Council who were present, saying "What will these gentlemen say" - speaking of those who accompanied me - "to see me so attired? I am much disturbed that they should see me in this state"...

'She stood up while I was speaking, but then she returned to her chair when she saw that I was only speaking of general matters. I drew nearer to her chair and began to deal with her in that wherewithal I had been charged, and because I was uncovered, from time to time she signed to me with her hand to be covered, which I did. Soon after she caused a stool to be brought, whereon I sat and began to talk to her'.

'She was strangely attired in a dress of silver cloth, white and crimson, or silver 'gauze', as they call it. This dress had slashed sleeves lined with red taffeta, and was girt about with other little sleeves that hung down to the ground, which she was forever twisting and untwisting...The collar of the robe was very high, and the lining of the inner part all adorned with little pendants of rubies and pearls, very many, but quite small. She had also a chain of rubies and pearls about her neck'.

'On her head she wore a garland of the same material and beneath it a great reddish-coloured wig, with a great number of spangles of gold and silver, and hanging down over her forehead some pearls, but of no great worth. On either side of her ears hung two great curls of hair, almost down to her shoulders and within the collar of her robe, spangled as the top of her head'...

'As for her face, it is and appears to be very aged. It is long and thin, and her teeth are very yellow and unequal, compared with what they were formerly, so they say...Many of them are missing so that one cannot understand her easily when she speaks quickly'.

'Her figure is fair and tall and graceful in whatever she does; so far as may be she keeps her dignity, yet humbly and graciously withal'.

'All the time she spoke she would often rise from her chair, and appear to be very impatient with what I was saying. She would complain that the fire was hurting her eyes, though there was a great screen before it and she six or seven feet away; yet did she give orders to have it extinguished, making them bring water to pour upon it. She told me that she was well pleased to stand up, and that she used to speak thus with the ambassadors who came to see her, and used sometimes to tire them, of which they would on occasion complain'...

'At my departure she...again began to say that she was grieved that all the gentlemen I had brought should see her in that condition, and she called to see them. They made their reverence before her, one after the other, and she embraced them all with great charm and smiling countenance'.

'In this chamber called the Privy Chamber...there were several ladies, as also in the Presence Chamber, but not many; the chief men of her Council also were there, that is to say, the Lord Treasurer who is carried in a chair and is very old and white; the Admiral; Cecil...Lord Buckhurst...all of whom I saluted as I went out and promised to visit...The Earl of Essex was not at the court, being still closeted in his own house; he was the only one absent'...

'The Queen's palace, called Whitehall, is on the banks of the Thames. The entrance on the riverside is very small and inconvenient; it is a covered alley and rather dark. Thence one enters a low hall, and then by a staircase of fifteen or twenty steps to the rooms above. It is very low and has no great appearance for a royal house. There is no great hall, and the place is passing melancholy. There is another entrance on the land side, somewhat finer'.

Nov 30: De Maisse returned to Whitehall Palace to confer with Lord Treasurer Burghley, by permission of the Queen. 'She sent coaches to carry me, and I was conducted into a chamber apart in which were only this Lord Treasurer and the Admiral. This Treasurer is very old and...very deaf and I had to shout quite loud. The Admiral oftentimes helped by interpreting in English'...

'I entered by the land gate, which is far more magnificent and royal than the water gate, and well becomes the court of a great Prince'.

November: Sir Francis Vere at Whitehall on return from the Islands Voyage. Sir Francis Vere and his brother Horace were the 'Fighting Veres'.

Sir Francis (c.1560-1609) was Lord Marshal of the Army during the Voyage. He was ill on his return, but went to court as soon as he could. He recalled:

'I understood my Lord of Essex was at his house at Wanstead, in great discontentment, to whose Lordship I gave presently knowledge...that I would forbear to attend his Lordship till I had been at court'...

'For I supposed, at my coming to court, her Majesty, after her most gracious manner, would talk and question with me concerning the late Journey, and though it pleased her always to give credit to the reports I made...yet I thought this forbearance to see my Lord would make my speech work more effectually'.

'So soon then as I was able to go abroad, I went to the court, which was then at Whitehall; and (because I would use nobody's help to give me access to her Majesty, as also that I desired to be heard more publicly) I resolved to show myself to her Majesty when she came into the garden; where so soon as she set her gracious eye upon me, she called me to her and questioned with me concerning the Journey, seeming greatly incensed against my Lord of Essex, laying the whole blame of the evil success of the Journey on his Lordship, both for the not burning of the Fleet at Ferrol, and missing the Indian Fleet'.

'Wherein with the truth I boldly justified his Lordship, with such earnestness, that my voice growing shrill, the standers by, which were many, might hear (for her Majesty then walked); laying the blame freely on them that deserved it. And some there present, being called to confront me, were forced to confess the contrary of that they had delivered to her Majesty; insomuch that I answered all objections against the Earl'.

'Wherewith her Majesty, well quieted and satisfied, sat her down in the end of the walk, and calling me to her, fell into more particular discourse of his Lordship's humours and ambition; all which she pleased then to construe so graciously that before she left me she fell into much commendation of him'.

'Who, very shortly after, came to the court'.

'This office I performed to his Lordship...notwithstanding I had...plainly told my Lord himself my own resolution...not to follow his Lordship any more in the wars'. [*Commentaries of Sir Francis Vere* (Cambridge, 1657), 65-67].

Robert Naunton, of Sir Francis Vere: 'He was amongst all the Queen's swordsmen inferior to none but superior to many...I find not that he came much to the court, for he lived almost perpetually in the camp, but when he did no man had more of the Queen's favour and no less envy...They report of the Queen as she loved martial men yet would court this gentleman as soon as he appeared in her presence. And surely he was a soldier of great worth and commanded thirty years in the service of the States and twenty years over the English, in chief as the Queen's General'. [Fragmenta Regalia].

Sir Francis was buried in 1609 in Westminster Abbey, where his monument, with four kneeling men in armour, remains. (North Transept).

Dec 2, Fri Earl of Essex returned to court, after a month's absence.

De Maisse: 'I wrote all this morning to France, and after dinner have been to see the Church of Westminster and the tombs of the Kings of England'...

'At my return I went to see the Earl of Essex, whom I had not yet been able to see. According to report he was feigning illness, and had been in disgrace with the Queen since returning from his voyage. The same day he had been recalled by her Majesty and had been to her, whereat everyone rejoiced. He is well loved, especially by the nobility'.

Dec 3, Sat De Maisse:

'This morning the Earl of Essex sent to tell me by a gentleman that he had been at court last night and that the Queen was very ill'.

Dec 4, Sun De Maisse:

'The Queen had ordained that I should come to her audience, and had sent her coaches and barges for me, but upon the hour of dinner I was countermanded and told that the Queen was ill and indisposed'.

I learnt next day that the Queen 'taking a look into her mirror said that she appeared too ill and that she was unwilling for anyone to see her in that state; and so countermanded me'.

Dec 5, Mon French special Ambassador's second audience, Whitehall.

De Maisse: Today the Queen 'sent her coaches and one of her own gentlemen servants to conduct me. When I alighted from my coach Monsieur de Mildmay, formerly Ambassador in France, came up to me and led me to the Presence Chamber, where the Lord Chamberlain came to seek me as before and conducted me to the Privy Chamber where the Queen was standing by a window. She looked in better health than before'.

'She was clad in a dress of black taffeta, bound with gold lace, and like a robe in the Italian fashion with open sleeves and lined with crimson taffeta... Her head tire was the same as before. She had bracelets of pearl on her hands, six or seven rows of them. On her head tire she wore a coronet of pearls, of which five or six were marvellously fair'...

'She greeted me with very good cheer and embraced me and then, having been some three feet from the window, she went and sat down on her chair of state and caused another to be brought to me, taking care to make me cover, which I did. The business that was accomplished is written in my dispatch to the King'...

'She often called herself foolish and old...I was not without an answer, telling her the blessings, virtues and perfections that I had heard of her from stranger [foreign] Princes, but that was nothing compared with what I saw. With that she was well contented, as she is when anyone commends her for her judgement and prudence, and she is very glad to speak slightly of her intelligence and sway of mind, so that she may give occasion to commend her'.

'She said that it was but natural that she should have some knowledge of the affairs of the world, being called thereto so young, and having worn that crown these forty years; but she said, and repeated often, that it came from the goodness of God...Thereupon she related to me the attempts that had been made as much against her life as against her State'. The King of Spain 'had caused fifteen persons to be sent to that end, who had all confessed'...

'When anyone speaks of her beauty she says that she was never beautiful, although she had that reputation thirty years ago. Nevertheless she speaks of her beauty as often as she can. As for her natural form and proportion, she is very beautiful'...

'It is certain that she was very greatly displeased that the King [of France] was unwilling to come and see her as he had promised, for she greatly desires these favours, and for it to be said that great princes have come to see her. During the siege of Rouen, thinking that the King was to come and see her, she went to Portsmouth with a great train, and she appeared to be vexed and to scoff that the King had not come thither [in August 1591]'...

'I departed from her audience at night, and she retired half dancing to her chamber, where is her spinet which she is content that everyone should see. The Lord Chamberlain conducted me to the door at the entrance of the Presence Chamber, and then Monsieur Mildmay conducted me to my coach'.

Also Dec 5: **new peer, Lord Howard de Walden**, by Writ of Summons to Parliament.

Lord Thomas Howard (1561-1626), of Audley End, Saffron Walden, Essex, a distinguished naval commander, was ill and was expected to die overnight. As a younger son of Thomas Howard 4th Duke of Norfolk he had only a courtesy title.

[Dec 5] Sir Robert Cecil to Lord Keeper Egerton: 'The Queen is minded to leave a testimony in my Lord Thomas Howard's child of her favour. My Lord is in great extremity, and if he be dead then cannot his son be capable of this grace, who is an infant. If it please your Lordship to send hither a warrant for the Queen to sign to you, she will sign it instantly, for prevention [fore-stalling] of God's calling him to his mercy, which I fear will be before morning. In the meantime I beseech your Lordship to send for the record when his ancestor was created, and to have a writ ready against your Lordship receive the Queen's warrant: he is now to be called by writ and not created. My Lord, you shall do a noble work, for which God will reward you. Yours to command, Robert Cecil'.

[PS] 'He must be called Thomas Howard de Walden, Chevalier'. The Queen sent Egerton her warrant to direct a writ to summon Thomas Howard of Walden 'to give his attendance at this instant Parliament'. [Egerton Papers, 268].

Dec 5, in Parliament: 'For that he [Howard] was then sick, the Lord Scrope was led in his stead into the higher House betwixt two barons in his Parliament robes, he carrying the Writ, and the Principal King of Arms going before him'.

Lord Keeper Egerton 'openly read' the Writ. [Camden, *Annals*].

Howard, who recovered, was generally still known as Lord Thomas Howard until he was created Earl of Suffolk by King James, July 1603.

Dec 6, Tues Dutch Agent at Whitehall for audience.

Noel Caron, resident Agent, to the States General, Dec 10, Clapham:

The Queen informed me of the discussions with De Maisse, who stated that the King of Spain had offered to restore every place he held in France, including Calais and Brittany, and showed willingness to come to favourable terms with England and the States. The King of France was making these matters known to her, in whose hands was thus placed the decision between peace or continuation of the war. The Queen asked what was the authority for the supposition that England was to be included by Spain in the peace. De Maisse quoted President Richardot. In that case, the Queen remarked, it was time for her to prepare for a third Spanish Armada, as Richardot had also been involved in sham peace negotiations in France in 1588. [Motley, *United Netherlands*, iii.441].

Dec 7: Noel Caron came to see De Maisee (first of several meetings).

Dec 8,9,10: De Maisee 'remained sick in my chamber'.

Dec 13: De Maisee sent to ask for audience; he visited St Paul's.

Dec 14, Wed French special Ambassador's third audience, Whitehall.

De Maisee: The Queen 'sent me her coaches. I found her very well and kindly disposed. She was having the spinet played to her in her chamber, seeming very attentive to it; and because I surprised her, or at least she feigned surprise, I apologised to her for diverting her from her pleasure. She told me that she loved music greatly and that she was having a pavane played. I answered that she was a very good judge, and had the reputation of being a mistress in the art. She told me that she had meddled with it divers times, and still took great pleasure in it'.

'She was clad in a white robe of cloth of silver...[s]he had the same customary head attire, but diversified by several kinds of precious stones, yet not of any great value. She had a little gown of cloth of silver of peach colour, covered and hidden, which was fair'.

'My audience was long, during which she told me many tales of all kinds'. She said that 'It was only her own fault that she had not the Low Countries which had wished to give themselves to her, but she had no wish to occupy that which did not belong to her. She could formerly have done the same with the Indies, in which she could have had a large share had she wished it'.

As to lies reported of her in Rome, she said that 'God is witness to her conscience that she has never allowed ill to be done to any Catholic for faith in his religion, save when they made attempt upon her State. She wished they could see the inside of her heart in a picture and that it was at Rome, so that all could see it as it was. We entered into talk about Pope Sixtus, and she told me how he had said to two of her gentlemen being in Rome that if this lady had not been a heretic she would have been the most perfect and accomplished Princess in the world'...

'She told me that if there were two Princes in Christendom who had goodwill and courage it would be easy to reconcile the differences in religion; for there was only one Jesus Christ and one faith, and all the rest that they disputed about but trifles...Whilst I was treating with her in the matter of my charge she would often make such digressions, either expressly to gain time and not to feel pressed by that I asked of her, or because it is her natural way'.

On the subject of my mission she said "I am between Scylla and Charybdis".

'She knows all the ancient histories, and one can say nothing to her on which she will not make some apt comment. She told me that it was reported that she had never read anything but the works of Calvin. She swore to me that she had never seen one, but that she had seen the ancient Fathers, and had taken great pleasure in them'...

'Having told her at some point that she was well advertised of everything that happened in the world, she replied that her hands were very long by nature ...whereupon she drew off her glove and showed me her hand, which is very long ...It was formerly very beautiful, but it is now very thin, although the skin is still most fair'...

'In this audience I was very confident with her, showing her that the King in no wise desires to separate himself from her, particularly in his negotiations of peace and war. She said that the matter whereof I treated was of greater importance than any since her coming to the Crown thirty-nine years ago; and thereupon asked if I wished to enter into communication about it with her Council...She told me that she would let me do it'.

'At my departure from the audience I presented to her the secretary Phillips who had lived in France since the departure of Monsieur Mildmay, ambassador ordinary. He came to England with me'...

'I confirmed to her the contentment that the King had for Phillips, at which she was very pleased and made good cheer to this Phillips, saying that she had seen several of his letters but did not know him. He was on his knees and she began to take him by the hair and made him rise and pretended to give him a box on the ears. It is a strange thing to see how lively she is in body and mind and nimble in everything she does'.

'This day she was in very good humour and gay, and at my departure made me very good cheer, saluting all the gentlemen who were with me all together'.

'She is a very great princess who knows everything'.

The Queen swore she had never seen the works of John Calvin (1509-1564), but as a child in 1545 she translated the first chapter of Calvin's Institution de la religion Chrétienne; (and dedicated it in French to her stepmother Queen Katherine Parr); in 1559 Calvin dedicated a book to her.

Dec 15: new appointment: Lancelot Browne, to be one of the Queen's physicians-in-ordinary. £100 p.a; with food, wine, wax.^p

15 December 1597-September 1599: Henry Lello was Agent in Turkey, and from September 1599-1607 Ambassador to Turkey.

Dec 19: De Maise went 'to Greenwich to see the Queen's house, which is very beautiful and very convenient. It is situated on the bank of the Thames, two leagues below London. It is a very convenient house for the habitation of the Queen and her Court; also she likes it greatly, having been born there. It is surrounded by gardens and a park, and very well maintained...The journey thither from London by water is very fine, for one sees there a great quantity of ships and merchandise...A fairer sight cannot be seen. We saw the ship wherein Drake encompassed the world...The ship is set on land and is only kept as a memorial. Near to this place is a village where is the Admiral's house'. [At Deptford].

Dec 20: Parliament was adjourned until 11 January 1598.

Court news. [Dec 20], London, Thomas Audley to Edward Smith, in Paris:

'The Queen is at Whitehall and no talk of her remove...The Parliament adjourned...My Lord of Essex in no great grace, neither with Queen or Commons: with the Queen for that he lay with my Lady of Derby before he went [on the Islands Voyage], as his enemies witness'. [HT.vii.392].

[Dec 21] St Thomas's Day, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney, of Essex:

'The gallant Earl doth now show himself in more public sort than he did, and he is promised to have the Patent of the late created Earl [of Nottingham] altered, who absolutely refuses to consent unto it. Yesterday in the afternoon he gave over his white staff as Lord Steward, and this day is gone to Chelsea, where he purposes, as I hear, to be sick'...

'My Lord Essex desires to have right done unto him, either by a Commission to examine it, or by combat either against the Earl of Nottingham himself, or any of his sons or of his name that will defend it. Or that her Majesty will please to see the wrong done unto him...Here is such ado about it, as it troubles this place and all other proceedings. Sir Walter Raleigh is employed by the Queen to end this quarrel, and to make an atonement between them. But this is the resolution of Lord Essex, not to yield without altering the Patent'.

PS. 'It is reported that Lord Essex shall be created Earl Marshal this day, but I see no appearance of it'.^{SD}

Essex became Earl Marshal on December 28. Nottingham's Patent was not altered, and he remained Lord Steward until 1615.

Dec 21, Wed French special Ambassador's fourth audience, Whitehall.

De Maisse: 'The Queen sent to say that she would send for me after dinner to have audience, and I went there. This morning the Earl of Essex had departed to go away to his house, and they said that he would not return; and yet he was sent for, and after dinner I was told that all was reconciled between them, whereat all the court was in rejoicing'.

'I was at the Queen's audience for the fourth time'.

[They had a long discussion on news from Savoy, from Spain (planning a new attack on England), and from France].

'She told me that she had her eyes open everywhere, and she had good need'.

After a further discussion about the French desire for peace with Spain 'she made me a great discourse of the friendship that her people bore her, telling me that it was unbelievable, and how she loved them no less than they her...I replied that I was well informed on that score, and of the good treatment her subjects received from her, and that they were very fortunate to be under so good a Princess'.

'She said that she was on the edge of the grave, and ought to bethink herself of death, and suddenly she checked herself, saying "I think not to die so soon, Master Ambassador, and am not so old as they think".'

'I told her that God would preserve her yet for the good of her Realms and her subjects, and that she did wrong to call herself old so often as she did... Verily, save for her face, which looks old, and her teeth, it is not possible to see a woman of so fine and vigorous disposition both in mind and in body'.

'This day she was habited, as is her custom, in silver tissue or 'gauze'... Her robe was white and the overvest of gold and silk of violet colour'.

'She wore innumerable jewels on her person, not only on her head but also within her collar, about her arms and on her hands, with a very great quantity of pearls, round her neck and on her bracelets. She had two bands, one on each arm, which were worth a great price'.

'She preserves a great gravity amidst her own people'...

'I pressed her to advise me what resolution she wished to take on this affair...It ought to be resolved on peace or war...She referred me to her Council in the next two or three days...I took leave of her, having been nearly two hours, she treating me with marks of honour and signs of friendship and goodwill'.

Dec 22: De Maisse: 'This day there came to seek me the Secretary of Monsieur de Bouillon, who is said to have come to this city to recover a cupboard of plate which his master had left, of the value of 4000 crowns, that the Queen gave him on his last journey'. [Duke of Bouillon, 2 September 1596].

c. Dec 22: Duel between Sir William Brooke and Thomas Lucas.

Thomas Lucas (c.1573-1625), son of Sir Thomas Lucas of Colchester, challenged Sir William Brooke (1565-1597), of Newington, Kent, a brother of Henry Brooke 11th Lord Cobham. Sir William, 'a comely youth disposed to follow the court', had become Keeper of Eltham Great Park, Kent, in June 1597.

He had made his will, 17 June 1597, before going on the Islands Voyage, leaving to 'my most loving brother' George Brooke 'all my goods and chattels'.

On the morning of the duel he added a codicil (which he failed to date), writing to George: 'Your jest and my haste would not suffer me to acquaint you with what I am gone about this morning, what hath called me out so early. I send you enclosed within these what I shall leave behind me. My will and meaning is you should have all lands, leases and prisoners which I desire you may as quietly enjoy as I sincerely mean...Wishing you the best fortune, your loving brother William Brooke'.

Brooke was mortally wounded in the duel on Mile End Green; many friends visited him as he was dying. His will was proved on December 25.

Dec 24, Privy Council sent: 'An open letter to the Mayors, Bailiffs, and other officers of the ports of Colchester, Harwich, Ipswich, Yarmouth and Lowestoft, etc., to apprehend and keep in safe custody one Lucas, son to Sir Thomas Lucas, knight, who had lately slain Sir William Brooke, knight, brother to the Lord Cobham, if he should fortune to repair thither or to any other ports thereabouts with intent to convey himself out of the realm'. On December 29 the Council sent: 'Four several warrants directed to all her Majesty's public officers for to give their assistance to the bearers for the better apprehension of Lucas'.^{APC}

Thomas Lucas lived abroad until 1603. His daughter Margaret wrote of Sir William Brooke that: 'My Father by Honour challenged him, with Valour fought him, and in Justice killed him'. But Lord Cobham was 'then a great man with Queen Elizabeth', and Brooke 'a kind of favourite', 'which made Queen Elizabeth so severe, not to pardon him'. He lived in exile abroad until the end of the reign, when King James pardoned him. [Marchioness of Newcastle, Nature's Pictures drawn by Fancies Pencil to the Life. (London, 1656), 368-9].

Thomas Lucas had a son Thomas in 1598 by Elizabeth, daughter of John Leighton; they married secretly in 1604. George Brooke was executed in 1603 for a plot against the new King, James.

Richard Brackenbury 'altering and making ready of sundry chambers at Whitehall against Christmas and for the plays and for making ready in the Hall for her Majesty and for altering and hanging of the chambers after Christmas Day'.^T

Dec 24, Sat Christmas Eve service, Whitehall.

De Maise: The Queen 'came to the chapel, conducted by the Earl of Essex. They held out a basin towards her and she made offering, giving a crown... The bishops and priests are habited in the Catholic manner. They say the prayers, the Epistle, Gospel, Creed, and all in the vulgar tongue'.

Dec 25: Christmas Day dispute in the Chapel and Presence Chamber at Whitehall, between Sir Charles Blount (1568-1599), a Gentleman Pensioner (cousin of Charles Blount, Lord Mountjoy) and Sir Melger Leven, a Dutchman knighted at Cadiz by the Earl of Essex. This led to Leven challenging Blount, an exchange of letters, and in 1598 a challenge by Blount.

Leven's description, 1598: 'Since Sir Charles Blount hath published these letters to the world, and set down the story before the war is ended, and that contrary to truth in divers points, I am constrained against my will to give the world notice of them, in a more true and strict manner'.

'On Christmas Day, going a good space before her Majesty to the Chapel desirous to see the ceremonies, Sir Charles Blount called unto me in disgraceful manner and told me it was not my place (I having been in two several voyages before in her Majesty's service thought no presumption in it)'.

'Whereupon in the afternoon the same day seeing him in the Presence I asked him what he had said to me. He told me I went in a place unfit for any stranger [foreigner], nor for any other under the degree of nobility, whereupon I told him it was more than his office to tell me so. "No" said he, "I can tell you more than that by my office, and turn you out of the Presence if I list".

Said I "If you be as brave in action as in words, you are a brave fellow".

Said he "I am no companion for you".

"Then you are a proud fool" said I "but here is no place for these matters".

'Whereupon he went from me and sat upon the bench, and divers gentlemen coming about him asked him what was the matter, so he used disgraceful words, insomuch that he was told by some that heard him (for I was not by) that he wronged me much, and wished him to be silent'.

'Hereupon I wrote this letter the next morning and sent it before day:
 "Charles Blount, thou knowest what foolish proud words thou gavest me yesterday in the Presence. I had thought thou wouldst have respected the place (being in the Queen's house) more, and not so highly wronged me in a place where was no revenge to be taken of thee. Therefore I let thee know that I do account myself highly wronged by thee, and will not so put it up at thy hands. And had it not been that (I think) thou didst hold thyself more protected in that place, I think thou daredst not have given me those words. But if thou dare meet me I will make thee repent under my sword. And as thou art a knight appoint me a place that thou and I may meet alone, to the end I may right and revenge my wrong upon thee, or else I will hold thee for a coward, and never worthy to take the name of a knight to thyself. And so I end this 25th of December 1597. Accept of this challenge and return thy answer of the place and time of meeting. Melger Leven". By the same messenger he returned me this answer.

"Sir, you write very rude English...I have received commandments from Lords of great authority, which must constrain me to leave you unsatisfied at this time, the which I know not how your violent Dutch humour will have patience to govern and bear the same...I do not doubt but we shall meet and speak more of the matter to both our satisfactions. Charles Blount".

'The same day my Lord of Essex sent for us both at 12 o'clock, and after private conference with us both we were content to put the matter wholly to him, whereupon he made us friends'. [BL Lansdowne 98/16]. Sequel: 26 Jan 1598.

Dec 25, court, Sir Robert Cecil to Lord Keeper Egerton, of Essex's Patent to be Earl Marshal: 'There is a Patent drawn for the Earl of Essex, but not signed yet...I have thought in private to let your Lordship know only thus much, and not without my Lord's own request, that it might be gone in hand with tonight (so as if it be but signed tomorrow at 10 o'clock, yet it may have the Great Seal put to at 12 o'clock), my Lord will think him kindly dealt with, both by your Lordship and myself'.

'I dare not now send the Bill out of my chamber, but if your Lordship will please to send some Chancery man hither that is secret and honest, he shall have a very convenient place to do it in, and yet be ready at hand if her Majesty tonight should call to sign that which I have. And thus, with my best wishes of all health and happiness, I take my leave'. [Egerton Papers, 269].

The Earl's creation as Earl Marshal: December 28.

Christmas: At the Middle Temple the law students had collected funds for their seasonal Revels from wellwishers such as the Earl of Shrewsbury, who received a request 'to lend us such a sum of money as to your Honour shall seem convenient ...which we promise to repay unto you the thirtieth day of February next'...

'Your very loving friends, Middle Temple'. Endorsed by Gilbert, 7th Earl: 'This Privy Seal being brought unto me at Christmas 1597, in respect of the Prince d'Amore's keeping his Revels in that Inn of Court, I sent him, by the hands of Mr Davies of that house, £30'. [Lodge, ii.510-511].

The Gentlemen of the Middle Temple came to court on Twelfth Night 1598.

Dec 26, Mon play, by Lord Chamberlain's Men.^T

De Maisse: 'They began to dance in the presence of the Queen and to act comedies, which was done in the Great Chamber, and the Queen's throne was set up there and attended by a hundred gentlemen, very well ordered, the ladies also, and the whole court'...

'When the Queen goes abroad in public the Lord Chamberlain [Lord Hunsdon] walks first, being followed by all the nobility who are in court, and the Knights of the Order [of the Garter] that are present walk after, near the Queen's person, such as the Earl of Essex, the Admiral and others'.

'After come the six heralds who bear maces before the Queen. After march the fifty gentlemen of the Guard, each carrying a halberd, and sumptuously attired; and after that the Maids and Ladies who accompany them, very well attired'.

William Shakespeare's Love's Labour's Lost, 1598, title-page:

'A pleasant conceited comedy called Love's Labour's Lost. As it was presented before her Highness this last Christmas. Newly corrected and augmented'.

The Lord Chamberlain's Men played at court on 26 December 1597, and on New Year's Day and Twelfth Night, 1598.

[Dec 26] St Stephen's Day, Rowland Whyte to Sir Robert Sidney:

'Sir Francis Vere and Sir Edward Norris are often at court, and are gallantly followed by such as profess arms. The Governor of Dunkirk [a captive] is at Mr Doyley's house; his ransom made at 20,000 crowns, but he is resolved to die here ere he pay it, and so he shall saith Sir Edward Norris'.^{SD}

Privy Council warrant, 3 July 1598, to the Marshal of Ostend, who had charge of the Governor, who was to be sent back to the Governor of Ostend.^{APC}

He was released in 1599 after paying 10,000 pistolets ransom. [SP12/272/83].

26 December 1597-April and June 1598: Stephen Lesieur and John Wroth were special Ambassadors to several German Protestant Princes and the Hanse Towns, sailing in The Moon. Lesieur returned in April 1598.

Wroth went on to visit Emperor Rudolf II, and returned in June 1598.

December 26: Master of Montrose in London from Scotland.

John Graham (1573-1626); later 4th Earl of Montrose.

Dec 26, London, James Hudson to Sir Robert Cecil: 'The Master of Montrose, eldest son and heir to the Earl of Montrose, has arrived here. He is bound for France, and was with great danger by extreme weather landed at Yarmouth. He is something sickly by torment of the seas, and his coffers are post forward with the ship, whereof he is very sorry, as otherwise he would have been a suitor to have kissed her Majesty's hand'...

'He wishes for a passport for himself and for two gentlemen, his servants, and hopes on his return to make a longer abode here'. [HT.vii.523].

Montrose returned to London in July 1599.

Dec 27, Tues French special Ambassador at Whitehall with Queen and Council. De Maise: 'After dinner the Queen sent for me to go to her Council; and being in the Chamber of the Council a gentleman came to say that very soon the Queen would pass by with her ladies on her way to the dancing, and that if I wished to see her pass, it was she who had sent him'.

'I went there, and straightway she came out; and seeing me from afar she came towards me saying she had not thought to see me there, and that she was going to see the dancing, and demanded whether I did not wish to accompany her. I told her that I would do everything she commanded me, and bore her company. She herself sat in the gallery and made me sit by her'.

'She takes great pleasure in dancing and music. She told me that she entertained at least sixty musicians; in her youth she danced very well, and composed measures and music, and had played them herself and danced them'.

'She takes such pleasure in it that when her Maids dance she follows the cadence with her head, hand and foot. She rebukes them if they do not dance to her liking, and without doubt she is a mistress of the art, having learnt in the Italian manner to dance high. She told me that they called her "the Florentine"...because they thought her accomplished, but she had never been that'.

'She said that she had given order for her Council to assemble and I should go to it; and that this would be only to confer, and as for what I had said to her, till that day she had not yet spoken to them of it. Her Councillors did not know everything she did, and she would demand of them no counsel in the matter, but I should listen to them, and afterwards she would give me an answer which would be very honourable and would content me'...

'When the Council was ready I rose to go there. She spoke so kindly to me concerning myself that nothing could have been more so'.

'I betook myself to the Council Chamber where I found the Lord Treasurer, the Admiral, Secretary Cecil, and Lord Buckhurst. The Earl of Essex was not there because he had not yet received the office [of Earl Marshal] which the Queen has given him, and she keeps him waiting for it'.

'They demanded afresh what I had to say to them as if they had never heard of it. I made the proposal to them...They told me that they desired peace'.

After much debate about sending Commissioners to France: 'They replied that they would communicate with the Queen; and so we accomplished nothing'.

Also Dec 27: play, by Admiral's Men.^T

The Queen's musicians: 59 musicians were listed to walk in her funeral procession, 1603, grouped as: Violins (7); Recorders (7); Flutes (7); Hautboys and Sackbuts (6); 'Lutes and others' (6); Trumpeters (22); Drums and Fifes (4). There were also Singing men at Westminster (15); Choristers of Westminster (10); Bellringers (4). [TNA LC 2/4/4].

Dec 28, Wed Robert Devereux, 2nd Earl of Essex, was created Earl Marshal, in overall charge of the College of Arms. Anonymous description:

'All persons that were to attend the said Creation at Whitehall being in a readiness, the Queen's Majesty came forth into the Privy Chamber. And being seated under the State, notice was given to the said Earl, and the rest who attended in the Lobby, that her Majesty was ready. Whereupon they put themselves into order and proceeded to the Privy Chamber in this manner'.

'First there went before him Garter Principal King of Arms carrying his Letters Patent. And on his left hand went Charles Howard Earl of Nottingham high Admiral of England bearing the Marshal's Rod. And on his right hand went George Carey, Baron of Hunsdon, Lord Chamberlain of her Majesty's Household. Then followed the said Earl of Essex, between two other Earls, whose names are not set down, then followed all the Officers of Arms two and two'.

'And when all reverences and obeisances were made unto her Majesty the said Earl of Essex knelt down. And Garter delivered unto her Majesty the Letters Patent, and her Majesty gave them unto Sir Robert Cecil, Principal Secretary, to read. And when the Patent was almost read to the end, her Majesty stood up and took the Rod...from the Earl of Nottingham, standing still until all the Patent was ended. Then her Majesty came down and delivered the said Earl the Marshal's Rod with a most gracious speech unto him concerning the government of the said Office'.

'And after he had given her Majesty thanks for the same, he arose up again and made low reverence, and so returned forth of the Privy Chamber with the Rod in his right hand and his Patent in his left. And so proceeded with all his Officers of Arms before him through the Chamber of Presence. The trumpets in the Great Chamber sounded, and so he returned to his lodgings in the court'.

[BL Harleian MS 6168, f.17].

Dec 30, Fri *De Maise*: 'This day in the morning the Queen sent to me to say that after dinner I should go to her audience, and then two hours later she countermanded it and said it would be for the morrow'.

Dec 31, Sat French special Ambassador's final audience, Whitehall.

De Maisse: 'This day the Queen sent her coaches according to her custom'.

I was conducted 'to the Council Chamber, and a chair was given me at the end of the table. On the right side was seated on a bench the Lord Treasurer, the Admiral and Lord Buckhurst, and on the other the Earl of Essex and Secretary Cecil. The Lord Treasurer first arrived and was alone when I entered. He said to me that Jesus Christ was older in France than in England, and asked me my opinion of the reformation of the Calendar'.

When the other Councillors arrived, Lord Treasurer Burghley 'declared that the Queen had commanded them to convey to me her resolution...He told me that in this affair there were three parties interested, namely the King, the Queen, and the States...It was, as one might say, a game for three persons, and therefore ...it was necessary that everyone should give his opinion. For this reason the Queen had determined to send Commissioners into France to take counsel with his Majesty as to what should be done, be it for peace, be it for war'.

After the meeting 'the Lord Chamberlain returned to say that the Queen awaited me. I was conducted to her chamber, where I found her attired after her accustomed manner. She made me sit near her. She asked me if I had heard by those of the Council the resolution that she had taken. I answered yes'...

'Afterwards she entered upon several commonplaces' and of news from France.

'She spoke to me of the languages that she had learned, for she makes digressions very often, telling me that when she came to the Crown she knew six languages better than her own; and because I told her that it was great virtue in a princess, she said that it was no marvel to teach a woman to talk; it were far harder to teach her to hold her tongue'.

'At last I asked what was her pleasure to command me to say privately to the King from herself. She made me come nearer to her because all her Councillors were in the Chamber, and told me she prayed me to say to his Majesty that there was no creature on earth (this was the very word she used) who bore him such affection or so greatly desired his good and prosperity as she, but she begged him to consider the position in which she was placed':

'That she was a woman, old and capable of nothing by herself; she had to deal with nobles of divers humours, and peoples who, although they made great demonstration of love towards her, nevertheless were fickle and inconstant'...

'And as I had said several times that she should put herself in the King's place, the King also, said she, should put himself in hers'.

After further discussion, she told me 'that she was very well pleased to know me and well knew my merits. She embraced me twice; and then all the gentlemen who were with me made their reverence. She commanded the Admiral, who was present, to see that a good ship was given me'.

1597: Nicholas Breton (c.1554-c.1626) published:

'Wits Trenchmour. In a conference had betwixt a Scholar and an Angler'.
Dedicated to William Herbert, of Wales, a nephew of Mary (Sidney), Countess of Pembroke, a noted literary patron. Trenchmour: an old English country dance.

The Scholar has visited a 'courtlike house' (evidently that of the Countess), and praises her as 'a miracle in nature', surpassed only by 'the Lady of Ladies in this world, the honour of women, and wonder of men, the teacher of wit, and the amazer of the wise, the terrifier of the proud, and the comforter of the oppressed, the beauty of Nature, the wonder of Reason, and the joy of honour: the handmaid of God, the heavenly creature of the Earth, and the most worthy Queen in the world, the princely Goddess, or divine Princess, the gracious sovereign of the blessed Island of England: except I say this sun of the earth's sky, I know not a star of that state that can compare light with this Lady...

Yet is she affable, with such courtesy...Nature and Wit, Virtue and Honour, Pity and Bounty, Care and Kindness, have so wrought together in the perfecting of a peerless creature'; her house is 'in a manner a little court'.

(London, 1597). Breton dedicated books to the Countess of Pembroke.

*1597: John Donne (1572-1631) wrote 'Satire 4', an attack on the court, published posthumously in 1633. Including:

'I had no suit there, nor no suit to show,
Yet went to Court...[and met a courtier, who asks],
'What news?'. I tell him of new plays.
...he 'tells many a lie,
More than ten Holinsheds, or Halls, or Stows,
Of trivial household trash he knows; he knows
When the Queen frowned, or smiled, and he knows what
A subtle statesman may gather of that;
He knows who loves whom; and who by poison
Hastes to an office's reversion;
He knows who hath sold his land, and now doth beg
A licence, old iron, boots, shoes, and egg-
Shells to transport...and wiser than all us,
He knows what lady is not painted...
Speaks of all states, and deeds, that have been since
The Spaniards came...libels now 'gainst each great man.
He names a price for every office paid...
Who wastes in meat, in clothes, in horse, he notes;
Who loves whores, who boys, and who goats...
Tis ten o'clock and past; all whom the mews,
Ballon, tennis, diet, or the stews,
Had all the morning held, now the second
Time made ready that day, in flocks are found
In the Presence, and I, (God pardon me).
As fresh and sweet their apparels be, as be
The fields they sold to buy them. 'For a King
Those hose are', cry the flatterers; and bring
Them next week to the theatre to sell...
Tired, now I leave this place, and but pleased so
As men which from gaols to execution go,
Go through the Great Chamber (why is it hung
With the seven deadly sins?)'.

Cardinal Wolsey purchased for Hampton Court a set of tapestries of The Seven Deadly Sins (Dutch, c.1520). Now called 'The Triumph of the Virtues over the Vices'. Donne became secretary to Sir Thomas Egerton, Lord Keeper, in 1597/98. In his 'Satire 5' the Queen is 'Greatest and fairest Empress'.

1597: A book on Surgery was dedicated to the Queen:
'The French Chirurgery, or all the manual operations of Chirurgery.
 By Jacques Guillemeau, of Orleans, ordinary Chirurgeon to the King.
 Translated from Dutch to English by A.M'.

Originally dedicated by Guillemeau to King Henri IV in 1594.
 Maximilian Bouman, Physician at Dort, now dedicates it 'To the most high, mighty, royal, and victorious Princess, the most Christian and virtuous defender of the sincere and true Christian Religion Lady Elizabeth'. He has caused it to be translated into English and Low Dutch, and presents 'this very necessary book unto your most magnificent Majesty...I have effected this work partly to demonstrate the sincere love and affection wherewith (through the good acquaintance of your Majesty's Gentlemen, Captains, and valiant Soldiers, which your most royal Majesty hath vouchsafed so many years to send us) I affect your Majesty ...Also hereby to cause the flourishing of all spiritual and corporal arts in the midst of your Realm and Kingdom. Amongst which the Art and Science of Chirurgery is esteemed and accounted (as the first, and most worthiest, and necessary part of Physic)'. (Dort, 1597).

1597: Paul Ive dedicated to the Queen: The Practice of Fortification.
 Second edition. The first edition (London, 1589), 40p, with illustrative diagrams of types of fortification, was dedicated to William Brooke Lord Cobham, and Sir Francis Walsingham (both now deceased).

1597: Henricus à Lindhout, a Brussels doctor, dedicated to the Queen:
Introductio in physicam iudiciariam.
 An introduction to judicial astrology. (Hamburg, 1597).

1597: John Lyly published a play:
'The Woman in the Moon. As it was presented before her Highness'.
 Scene: Utopia. Lyly (c.1553-1606) had several plays performed at court.
 This play had been written c.1587-1588.

1597: T.T. compiled: 'A Book containing the true Portraiture of the Countenances and attires of the Kings of England, from William Conqueror unto our Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth now reigning; together with a brief report of some of the principal acts of the same Kings, especially such as have been least mentioned in our late writers. Diligently collected by T.T'.

[A page describing each monarch, followed by a portrait of each].
 Finally, a description of Queen Elizabeth's 'most prosperous reign over this realm'. 'She is a Princess adorned with all good literature, both holy and humane, a nourisher of peace both at home and abroad...She hath reformed religion, she hath reduced all base coins...into perfect gold and silver... She hath builded such fair and strong ships, and furnished so mighty a navy for the defence of her country, as maketh all her enemies afraid to attempt anything against the same. God of his infinite goodness defend her Majesty from all perils and dangers, who this 38 years and more hath taken care to keep us in quietness, and grant her Nestor's years, to her glory and our great comfort'.

With a head and shoulders portrait of the Queen in old age. The same portrait was the frontispiece of Puttenham's Arte of English Poesie (1589); both books were printed by Richard Field, who also printed Shakespeare's first poems.
 (London, 1597). T.T: Thomas Tymme (died 1620).