

At **RICHMOND PALACE**, Surrey

Jan 1, Thur New Year gifts.

play, A moral of *The Marriage of Mind and Measure*, by Children of Paul's.

Among 207 gifts to the Queen:

by Sir Gilbert Dethick, Garter King of Arms: 'A Book at Arms';

by William Absolon, Clerk of the Closet [a chapel]: 'A book covered with cloth of tissue garnished with silver and gilt. With her Majesty';

by Anthony Fenotus: 'A small book in Italian metre';

by Thomas Lichfield: 'A very fair Lute the back side and neck of mother-of-pearl, the case of crimson velvet embroidered with flowers and the inside green velvet. With her Majesty';

by Ambrose Lupo: 'A box of lute-strings';

by Petruccio Ubaldini: 'A book of Italian with pictures of the life and metamorphoses of Ovid';

by Morris Watkins: '18 larks in a cage...In reward, 20s';

by Peter Wolf: 'Five song-books. With her Majesty'.^{NYG}

New Year: Sir Henry and Lady Sidney paid for a jewel for the Queen, £140; for 'certain linens' for the Queen, £20; 'to the Queen's Majesty's officers of her household, with 20s to Mr Langham for bringing my Lady a New Year's gift from her Majesty, £24'. [De L'Isle, i.258-9].

The gifts to the Queen were: 'By Sir Henry Sidney Lord Deputy of Ireland a fair jewel of gold with a Diana in fully garnished with diamonds, etc'.

'By the Lady Mary Sidney a smock and two pillowberes of cambric fair wrought with black work and edged with a broad bone-lace of black silk'.

The gifts from the Queen were: 'To the Lady Mary Sidney three gilt bowls with a cover'; to Sir Henry Sidney: 'gilt plate'.^{NYG}

*New Year 1579: 'Parthenaides' was addressed to the Queen, being a collection of poems in her honour, linked by short prose passages.

Anonymous. [By George Puttenham].

'The principal address in nature of a New Year's gift, seeming thereby the Author intended not to have his name known'...

'Gracious Princess, Where princes are in place,
To give you gold, and plate, and pearls of price,
It seemeth this day, saveth your royal advice,
Paper presents should have but little grace'.

Each 'Parthenaide' represents a Muse: Thalia; Clio; Erato; Melpomene; Euterpe: 'A riddle of the Princess Paragon'; Calliope; Urania.

Euterpe (Muse of Music, again): 'A comparison showing her Majesty's superexcellency in all regal virtues'...

'O now twenty year agone,
Forsaking Greece for Albion,
Where thou alone dost rule and reign,
Empress and Queen of great Britain...
Thou that besides foreign affairs
Canst tend to make yearly repairs,
By summer progress, and by sport,
To shire, and town, city, and port'.

[*Ballads from Manuscripts*, ed. F.J.Furnivall and W.R.Morfill (1873), ii.73-91].

Jan 4, Sun play, A pastoral or history of A Greek Maid, by the Earl of Leicester's Men. Revels: 'hire of a horse two days to the court to furnish my Lord of Leicester's players, the frost being so great no boat could go and come back again, at 12d the day'; 'for holly and ivy', 12d.

January 5-November 30: **Duke of Alençon's envoy, Simier**, at London and court. Jean de Simier, Baron de Saint-Marc, was sent by François Duke of Anjou, brother of King Henri III. The Duke was also Duke of Alençon; he was generally known in England as 'Monsieur' or as Alençon (the title used here, as by the Spanish Ambassador). The King had been a suitor to the Queen when he was Duke of Anjou.

Simier came to continue marriage negotiations. The Queen, in a play on his name, called him her 'singe' (monkey). Camden: He was 'a most choice courtier, exquisitely skilled in love-toys, pleasant conceits, and court dalliances'. He arrived in London on January 5, staying initially with the resident French Ambassador, Mauvissière. Syon House, Middlesex (Crown property), was made ready for Simier, Mauvissière 'and their train'. Andrew Weston, joiner, delivered 'for the use of the French Ambassador lying at Syon four great sparver beds [canopied beds]'.^T First audience: January 11.

Jan 6, Tues Arthur Throckmorton noted: 'I went to the court to Richmond. Mr Harry Brouncker drew upon Tom Perrot at the court...having first given him the bastinado, and thereupon were both committed prisoners to their chambers to the Marshal'.TH Henry Brouncker (c.1550-1607); Thomas Perrot (1553-1594).

Also Jan 6: play, *The Rape of the Second Helen*, by the Earl of Sussex's Men.^T

Jan 7: Godfrey Fenton (c.1539-1608) dedicated to the Queen:

'*The History of Guicciardin, containing the Wars of Italy and other parts, continued for many years under sundry Kings and Princes, together with the variations and accidents of the same, divided into 20 books*'. 'Reduced into English'. 'To our most renowned, most happy, and true Sovereign Lady Elizabeth'. Epistle Dedicatory, offering the book 'For that the general argument being historical, a doctrine wherein your Majesty far above all other Princes hath a most singular insight and judgement, and the particular parts containing discourse of state and government, in which God hath expressed in the person of your Majesty a most rare and divine example to all other Kings of the earth for matter of policy and sound administration'.

Fenton praises 'the felicity of your governing in seasons so perilous and conspiring'. The Queen is 'that sacred and fixed Star, whose light God will not have put out, though the devices of men on all sides are busy to draw clouds and dark veils to obscure it'. She is 'that terrestrial Sun'. Fenton resembles her reign to that of Augustus, Emperor of Rome. He ends 'At my lodging near the Tower of London, 7 January [1579]'. Text: 1184p. (London, 1579).

From a French translation of a History of Italy 1490-1534, by Francesco Guicciardini (1483-1540). Fenton was from 1580 an administrator in Ireland.

Jan 8, Dublin, Lord Chancellor Gerard to Sir Francis Walsingham, after receiving gowns from England, one for Turlough O'Neill's wife:

'I sent my man with her Majesty's gown to Turlough's wife...I made a fore-part which wanted to it...The other [a gown of cloth of gold] I have not as yet delivered to the Countess of Desmond'. SP63/65/13).

Jan 9, Fri, Arthur Throckmorton noted: 'I went from the court to London with Mr [Edward] Stafford...to bring the Ambassador Simier to the court'.

Jan 10, Thur: 'I went with the Ambassador from London to Syon where he was lodged'.TH

Jan 10, Ghent, William Davison to Sir Francis Walsingham, of Duke Casimir: 'The Duke himself hath assured me of his resolution to come over very shortly to kiss her Majesty's hands, but of the time he is not yet fully resolved, though I think it will be within 14 or 15 days at the longest'. [KL.xi.260].

Jan 10, Davison to the Earl of Leicester, of Duke Casimir's 'thankfulness... for the rapier...and for the horse which you sent him...The Duke hath assured me that he will thank you in England very shortly'. [SPF.xiii.386].

Jan 11, Sun Simier at Richmond for first audience; double masque. Simon Bowyer made ready at Richmond 'for ambassadors and players'.^T

Jan 11, Arthur Throckmorton: 'The Ambassador came to the court and had his first audience and supped with my Lord of Leicester'.TH

Mauvissière, resident Ambassador, to Henri III, Jan 15: Simier and I 'had six days of discussions in my house before having audience with the Queen ...All the time after dinner was spent in compliments on one side or the other. Then we were invited by the Earl of Leicester to see in the evening fighting at barriers and dancing, and we stayed until an hour after midnight'.^{BT}

Revels expenses for masques of Amazons and Knights at court included:

Silkman, for silk 'to make hairs for the Amazons'.

'Dozen and a half of gloves for masquers at 16d the pair; dozen and a half for torch-bearers at 8d serving the double masque showing at the court the Ambassador being there; gilding of two armours complete for Mr Tresham and Mr Knollys being two of the Knights in the Amazons' masque'; to the painters to buy victuals for that they should not go from their work, 12d'.

'Petruchio Ubaldino, by the commandment of the Lord Chamberlain, for the translating of certain speeches into Italian to be used in the masque, the making the tables for them, the writing fair in the same tables and for his charges in travelling about the same, 42s2d'.

Payments on the day of the masques, Jan 11: 'Carriage of the armour from Greenwich to St John's to be gilded, and from St John's to the waterside, and from thence to Richmond in 3 wherries; a wherry to carry the candlesticks to the court; a barge to carry the masques to the court by water and back again, and 12d to the watermen for expedition, 8d bestowed upon them in drink and 16d to carry them to the court from Mortlake on men's shoulders because time would not serve to go by water'. St John's: Revels Office, Clerkenwell, Middlesex. Two of the men disguised as 'Amazons': William Tresham, a Gentleman Pensioner, and probably William Knollys, another Pensioner.

Jan 11: double masque, Amazons and Knights, with Barriers (combat on foot).

Masque of Amazons: six Amazons, with a Trunchman [spokesman] with a speech, and Musicians; with six Torch-bearers [Amazon archers].

Revels description:

Amazons 'in all armour complete parcel gilt...with counterfeit murrions [helmets]...having long hair hanging down behind them, their kirtles were of crimson cloth of gold...Buskins of orange colour velvet, antique falchions and shields with a device painted thereon, and javelins in their hands'.

'One with a speech to the Queen's Majesty delivering a table with writings unto her Highness coming in with Musicians playing on cornets, apparelled in long white taffeta sarcenet garments'.

'Torch-bearers with the Trunchman wearing long gowns of white taffeta... and upon them had long crimson taffeta gowns...tucked up with the girding almost to the knee, bows in their hands and quivers of arrows at their girdles, head-pieces of gold lawn and women's hair wreathed very fair. And after the Amazons had danced with lords in her Majesty's presence in came':

Masque of Knights: six Knights, with a Trunchman; with six Torch-bearers: Rutters [German Knights]. Knights 'all likewise in armour complete parcel gilt ...with like counterfeit murrions upon their heads...with plumes of feathers in the tops of every of them...having truncheons in their hands gilt and gilded shields with a posy written on every of them...Coming in with one before them with a speech unto her Highness and delivering a table written'.

'Their Torch-bearers being Rutters apparelled in green satin jerkins... their hose being...yellow and green...their hats of crimson silk and silver ...and wreathed bands with feathers'. 'The Amazons and the Knights, after the Knights had danced awhile with ladies before her Majesty did then in her Majesty's presence fight at barriers'. [Revels, 286-7].

Jan 12, Mon, Arthur Throckmorton noted, of Simier:
'The Ambassador had audience at the court with her Majesty'.

Jan 13, Tues: 'The Ambassador had audience before the Council and afterwards went abroad a-walking in the garden with her Majesty'.

Jan 14, Wed: 'The Ambassador's gentlemen came to the court and danced. I came from the court to London'.TH

Jan 14, Ghent, Daniel Rogers to Sir Francis Walsingham:

'Duke Casimir upon a sudden hath resolved to make a voyage into England, to see her Majesty, before he return homewards, being so nigh unto the sea as he is presently. He resolved but yesterday, whereas often times since my coming unto him he has asked of me if I did think he should be welcome if he made a voyage into England. But I perceive by Beutterich that the Duke hath had this month long this selfsame intention. He meaneth to bring a 25 or 30 with him... He swore unto me he had communicated unto none but Beutterich and Languet, his Councillors, and that yesterday he had communicated with the Prince [of Orange] of it; and therefore thought it good to tell it unto me, requesting me to tell it unto no man living, and desiring withal that I would be his conductor; he meaneth to depart as tomorrow from hence'. Languet must 'make himself ready to pass the seas in his old days'. [KL.xi.264; SPF].

Court news. Jan 15, London, Spanish Ambassador, Mendoza, to Philip II:
'Simier and the other Frenchmen arrived here on the 5th and saw the Queen on the 11th. She had a few days previously had a consultation of doctors to decide whether she could hope for progeny, in which the doctors found no difficulty; but she nevertheless received the Frenchmen with no great cordiality, and the people at large show no joy at their coming...Simier brings with him ten or twelve thousand crowns worth of jewels to give away'.

Jan 15, Mendoza to Secretary Zayas: 'On the day that Simier saw the Queen Leicester invited him to supper, in order that he might afterwards be present at the ball, which was a very grand one with an entertainment in imitation of a tournament, between six ladies and a like number of gentlemen, who surrendered to them...He gave the Queen a small casket'. She had sent Alençon a jewelled salamander by Bacqueville in 1578. [Span.ii.627,630].

Jan 16: Simier moved from Richmond to London.

Jan 17, Mauvissière to Henri III: 'The Queen, who had thought of going to Hampton Court, has changed her mind and is coming to London'.^{BT}

Jan 18, Sun Spanish Ambassador at Richmond for audience.
Mendoza to Philip II, Jan 27: The Queen spoke of Alençon, of the Netherlands and Scotland, 'inviting me to be seated by her side. She even raised her farthingale in order that I might get closer to her and speak without being overheard... I was with her for over three hours'. [Span.ii.634].

January 18-February 20: **Duke John Casimir** in England.

John Casimir (1543-1592), Count Palatine of the Rhine, one of the principal German allies of the English in the Low Countries; he had had much financial aid from the Queen, and was desirous of more. He landed at Dover with his Councillors Peter Beutterich (1545-1587) and Hubert Languet (1518-1581), renowned diplomat and scholar, and friend of Philip Sidney, with whom he corresponded in Latin for 9 or 10 years. Jan 18: 'Mr Philip Sidney went to meet with Duke Casimir'.TH The Queen praised Sidney to Casimir as 'the most accomplished gentleman in Europe'. [Kuin, Sidney, 999].

Court news. Jan 19, London, Mendoza to Secretary Zayas: 'News has arrived that Casimir will be at Dunkirk on the 17th for the purpose of coming over to this country, and he is therefore expected here hourly...Simier returned hither on the 16th and the Queen will be here in four days. The French envoys are the guests of the Ambassador'; Jan 27, to Philip II: At Richmond audience was given to the French every day 'although on some occasions Simier went alone without the resident Ambassador. Nothing was decided, but grand promises were held out that if Alençon himself came the business would be carried through'...

'Simier sent to Paris on the 19th a secretary of Alençon's, who came hither with him, for the purpose of negotiating the coming of his master'...

'On the morning of the 18th certain books printed in French were found in the Queen's chamber and others dedicated to the Queen and admonishing her to avoid attaching herself to the French or having any dealings with them. Strict orders were given for all the books to be sent to her, but only five of them appeared'.

Casimir's 'coming...was kept quiet until he arrived at Dunkirk...He started on his journey accompanied by only five men, and even at Dunkirk did not make himself known, but shipped in disguise on board a fishing boat'.

To Zayas, Jan 27: 'On the same morning that the five books...were found at court, another manuscript book in English was discovered in the Queen's apartment, admonishing her to the effect that if she did not abandon her claim to be head of the Church, God would punish her within the year'. [Span.ii.631,636-8].

Jan 20, Lord Mayor's Precept to Livery Companies: 'These shall be forthwith to require you that presently upon the sight hereof you provide that the men whose names you shall receive herewith written in a paper to this Precept annexed be well furnished with velvet coats, chains, and horses, and to each of them a man to attend or more in the best manner they may. And to provide so many more, and such men as of yourselves you know to be meet and fit. So that they may be all in a readiness by eight o'clock on Saturday morning next [Jan 24], at which time they shall be appointed where to attend upon my Lord Mayor. Fail you not hereof in any wise'. Margin note: 'Persons of the Twelve Companies appointed in velvet coats to attend upon my Lord Mayor to meet her Majesty'. [London: Journal 20].

Jan 20: Stationers entered 'A book in metre compiled by Thomas Churchyard'. 'The Misery of Flanders, Calamity of France, Misfortune of Portugal, Unquietness of Ireland, Troubles of Scotland: And the blessed state of England'.

'To the Queen's most excellent Majesty, Thomas Churchyard wisheth all heavenly blessedness, worldly felicity, and unremovable good fortune'.

In this work 'I compare Flanders, France, Portugal, Ireland, and Scotland, to be the shell of a precious Nut, the sweet Kernel whereof is the blessed state of ENGLAND. And though with worldly wickedness, and troubles of our time, the goodly shell is somewhat worm eaten and cracked, the Kernel shows itself so sound, that God's great goodness and glory is partly or altogether therein expressed'. May the living Lord 'send your Majesty many good and gracious new years, with a blessed and prosperous old reign over us'.

Each country is described in turn, in verse. 35p. (London, 1579).

Thomas Churchyard (c.1529-1604) dedicated several books to the Queen.

Jan 22, Thur: Casimir arrived by boat at the Tower of London, in the evening. Noblemen escorted the Duke by torch-light to Sir Thomas Gresham's house in Bishopsgate Street, where he was received with 'trumpets, drums, fifes, and other instruments of music, and there both lodged and feasted'.^{HOL}

Jan 22, London: A book by Jacob Falkenburg, a German, was printed: Ara et Focus. With a lengthy title referring to the Queen and to John Casimir. Latin dedication to the Queen. The book is a Latin verse Dialogue or 'Idyllion', between the Prophet Elijah, Baal, and the Hebrews. 19p. (1579).

Jan 24, Sat via Chelsea, Middlesex, to Whitehall.
Simon Bowyer made ready 'a house at Chelsea to shift her Majesty in'.^T
Mortlake Church, Surrey: 'Paid to the ringers when the Queen removed from Richmond after Christmas 1578, 6d'.

From Chelsea the Queen took a circuitous route, riding to the north of London Wall and then to Whitehall, as evidenced by churches which rang their bells:

St Botolph Bishopsgate: 'To ringers when the Casimir came, 18d'.

Allhallows London Wall: 'To Creake for ringing the 24th day of January for the Queen's Majesty's coming unto Whitehall, 20d'. [Bonaventure Creake, Clerk].

St Botolph Aldersgate: 'To the ringers the 17th day of November 1578 [Accession Day] and for ringing when the Queen's Majesty came to Whitehall at Cassimera his coming, 7s'. St Bartholomew the Less: 'To three ringers at the Queen's coming to Whitehall when Cassimerus came in by the space of one afternoon, 12d; for drink to the same ringers, 6d'. St Martin in the Fields: 'Ringing for the Queen the 24th day of January at her coming to Whitehall, 8d'.

St Margaret Westminster: 'For ringing for the Queen's Majesty when her Grace came from Greenwich [sic] to Westminster the 24th of January, 6d'.

Jan 24, Sat **WHITEHALL PALACE.**

Richard Brackenbury was 'sent from Richmond...to Charing Cross, there to make ready a place fit for Duke Casimir to see her Majesty come to Westminster'.

Richard Kellefet also made ready 'a house at Charing Cross for Duke Casimir to see her Majesty's coming from Chelsea to Whitehall'.^T

Diary of John North (son of Roger 2nd Lord North): The Queen arrived at Whitehall between five and six o'clock, accompanied by the French Ambassador.^{NH}

Mauvissière to Henri III, Jan 25: 'Simier and I were invited to see the Queen enter this town, more beautiful than ever, adorned like the sun, mounted on a fine Spanish horse, and with so many people around her that it was marvellous to see them and how they did not merely honour her, but worshipped her on their knees, giving her a thousand blessings'.

'Casimir has arrived...and is staying with the richest merchant in London'.^{BT}

Mendoza to Zayas, Jan 27: 'The Queen had intimated to the Londoners that she was coming hither by land and would enter the city by London Bridge, which she has only done once since her accession. The entry was to be very ostentatious, in order to impress Casimir, and great rejoicings were arranged to take place. They came to nothing, as the night previous she sent a courier to the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, saying that there was to be no great crowd, and half-an-hour afterwards came another messenger ordering the citizens not to receive the Queen armed. He was shortly afterwards followed by another man to say that the whole affair was to be suspended and she would come by water'. [Span.ii.641].

Ironmongers' Company on January 21 had named 14 men 'to be in a readiness' to meet the Queen. It noted that 14 men 'were at the day appointed in a readiness with their men in black frize coats on horseback, but yet they had commandment to tarry at home, so that nothing was done'.

Court news. Jan 24, London, Sir Francis Walsingham to William Davison: 'Duke Casimir landed in England the Sunday after his departure from Ghent. He has been very honourably received, his coming being acceptable to her Majesty and grateful to the people, for the cause of religion, of which they know him to be a maintainer'. [SPF.xiii.401].

Jan 25, Sun Duke Casimir at Whitehall Palace for first audience.

At Whitehall there were 'reparations and work done in divers places of the said house against the coming of Casimir'.^w He was escorted from Gresham House.

Richard Broughton to Richard Bagot, Feb 1, of 'the great entertainment of Duke Casimir. At his first arrival in London the City gave him £500. At his coming to the court at Whitehall her Majesty showed him greatest countenance, and upon his coming, meeting with him, offered to kiss him, which he humbly altogether refused. Upon her Majesty's bringing of him through the Great Chamber into the Chamber of Presence her Majesty would have him put on his hat, which no wise he would, offering himself in all things at her Highness's commandment. She then replied that if he would be at her commandment then he should put on his hat; he expounded that it should be in all things, saving in things to his reproach'. [Bagot, 334]. Casimir moved to Somerset House, Strand (Crown property).

Jan 26, Mon Alençon's envoy Simier at Whitehall for audience.

Mendoza to Philip II, Feb 8: Leicester and Walsingham told the Queen how important it was that Simier and Casimir should be reconciled.

'She thereupon sent to Simier, by the Earl of Leicester, a ring as a token, to request that he would be friendly with Casimir and visit him often...Simier had audience of the Queen next day, and afterwards went to visit Casimir at an hour when he was not at home'. As Casimir 'was to go next day with Leicester to see some of the Queen's houses, where he was to be entertained with hunting' Simier and Mauvissière 'returned to Casimir's lodging in the morning...The interview they had with Casimir was very short'. [Span.ii.643].

January 27-30: Casimir was out of London with the Earl of Leicester and other lords. He visited Hampton Court, where he hunted. Richard Todd, Keeper of the Standing Wardrobe there, altered and made ready the Privy Lodgings 'with rich stuff and perfuming the same for Casimir his coming to lie there'.

Richard Brackenbury and his men attended on Casimir at Hampton Court, at Windsor, where the Castle and the Dean of Windsor's house were made ready, and 'from thence to Sir Thomas Gresham's and there made ready for him [at Osterley, Middlesex], and so to London'.^T On Jan 30 Casimir met the Queen at Leicester House (as Languet recalled) and returned to Somerset House.

Jan 30, Fri dinner, Putney, Surrey; Mr [John] Lacy.^T Simon Bowyer and his men made ready 'a dining house at Putney Mr Lacy's, by the space of two days', January, 39s4d.^T

Jan 30, Fri visit, Leicester House, Strand; Earl of Leicester. Robert Cotton and John Wynyard, Officers of the Removing Wardrobe of Beds, were sent 'from Putney to Leicester House to make ready for her Majesty being there', January, 18s.^T The Queen welcomed back Leicester and Casimir.

'Expenses with sundry noblemen strangers': Simier at Syon for 7 days and his supper at Richmond; Duke Casimir at Somerset House, Hampton Court and Windsor for 21 days, and supper at Westminster: total, £926.11s4½d. [SPF.xiii.438].

Jan 31, Antwerp newsletter: 'The Queen has given orders that greater honour be shown to His Serene Highness than to any foreign prince for many years'. [Fugger, 27].

Feb 1, Sun Tournament, at Whitehall: first day: Tilt.

Casimir 'beheld a valiant running at the tilt'.^{HOL}

Feb 1, Arthur Throckmorton noted: 'I went to the court to Whitehall. The running between Mr [Christopher] Hatton and Mr [Philip] Sidney before the Queen, Casimir and Simier began'.TH

Feb 1, Richard Broughton to Richard Bagot: Duke Casimir 'hath been accompanied with the Lords to Hampton Court, to Windsor, and my Lord of Leicester's house at Wanstead. And this first of February great tilting at Westminster, and tomorrow barriers and other shows, and so the time passeth in pastime'.

'My Lord of Essex, after these shows ended, goeth to Cambridge...and in the meantime seeth a little the court fashion'. [Bagot, 334; MS].

Feb 2, Anthony Bagot to Richard Bagot:

As to the young Earl of Essex, 'the cause of his tarrying so long at the court was to see the coming of one Casimir...whom the Queen's grace doth greatly esteem; for this first of February there was such a show of noblemen and gentlemen in the Tilt-Yard at Whitehall, as the like (by every man's report) hath not been seen this forty years'. [Bagot Memorials, 31]. Robert Devereux, 2nd Earl of Essex (1565-1601) was studying at Trinity College, Cambridge.

Feb 2, Mon Tournament, second day: Tourney on horseback.

'The challenge between Mr Hatton and Mr Sidney at tilt and tourney ended. Sir William Drury's arm was broken at tourney by Mr Ralph Bowes'.TH

Casimir 'saw them fight at barriers with swords on horseback'.^{HOL}

Feb 2, Mauvissière to Henri III: 'There was a tournament with lists where lances were broken, and fighting with swords on horseback, and many cartels and devices of wandering and adventurous knights, to which we were invited and Duke Casimir also'.^{BT}

Tilt-list headed 'These are matched for the Tourney', and

'These four that follow are matched at the Tilt'.

For the Tourney.	12 pairs.
Sir Christopher Hatton	v Philip Sidney
[William] Russell	v [Thomas] West
Henry Grey	v Robert Knollys
William Norris	v [Fulke] Greville
[Richard] Zouche	v [Thomas] Knyvett
Sir William Drury	v Ralph Bowes
[Thomas] Kellaway	v [George] Goring
[Ralph] Lane	v [Robert] Colshill
Mr Lidcott	v [Fulke] Greville [again]
[William] Tresham	v [Edward] More
[Richard] Zouche [again]	v [John] Tyrell
[Robert] Alexander	v Sir Henry Lee.
For the Tilt.	4 pairs.
William Tresham	v Edward More
Henry Brouncker	v Thomas Knyvett
John Tyrell	v Fulke Greville
Robert Alexander	v Sir Henry Lee.

[Tourney and Tilt-list: College of Arms MS M.4; Tourney list mis-dated 1574, as Sidney was abroad 1572-1575; Drury and Hatton were knighted after 1574].

Also Feb 2: play, a history, prepared by Earl of Warwick's Men, 'being in readiness at the place to have enacted the same, but the Queen's Majesty would not come to hear the same and therefore put off'. [Revels].

Council warrant, March 18, to pay Warwick's players £6.13s4d 'for a play that should have been played upon Candlemas Day last past'.^{APC}

Feb 3, Whitehall, Sir Francis Walsingham to William Davison:

'The honourable and good usage and entertainment of Duke Casimir continueth still, both at her Majesty's hands and those of the nobility, unto whom no other foreign prince could have been better welcome than he. Besides, the commons have received no small joy to see him, which is an argument of their good meaning and sincere affection towards her Majesty, when they esteem so much of those that love and honour her. He purposeth to depart hence about the 7th or 8th of this present, with intention as I understand to retire himself unto Germany and to return no more unto the Low Countries'. [KL.xi.280].

Feb 3: Council to Lord Admiral Lincoln, 'that whereas Duke Casimir hath passed the seas to come into England of great affection to see her Majesty, and that her Majesty tendering his good zeal towards her hath great care for the conveying of him over the seas again with safety', he is to order a ship put in readiness 'sufficiently furnished both with men, munition and other necessary things...so as it shall seem best unto him for the strength and surety of the said Duke's passage, and to be ready upon the Down' on Feb 7.^{APC}

Navy: 'Hire of a Bark...being appointed by the Lords of her Majesty's Privy Council to receive in all London such necessaries as Duke Casimir had to be transported into Flushing', £10.2s6d.^N

Feb 3, Arthur Throckmorton noted: 'Casimir dined with my Lord Mayor of London, where he received of the City in gifts to the value of £500. I was at the court. I supped at Somerset House with Casimir. It snowed'.

Feb 4: 'Casimir dined at the Barbican with the Duchess of Suffolk, where I dined and after dinner I went to the court'. Feb 4-7: 'It snowed'.TH

Feb 5: Casimir dined at the Steel-Yard (London base of Hanse merchants).^{HOL}

Feb 6: christening. Queen was godmother to 'Lord Audley's daughter'.^T

Parents: George Tuchet, 11th Lord Audley; 1st wife: Lucy (Marvyn), daughter of Sir James Marvyn, an Esquire for the Body, of Wiltshire and of the Whitefriars, London.

Simon Bowyer went 'from the court at Whitehall to Sir James Marvyn's house in the Whitefriars'. Queen's Deputy: 'the Lady Marquis' [of Northampton].^T

Queen's gift, February 6: a gilt bowl with a cover.^{NYG}
Second daughter: Maria (1579-1611); became a Maid of Honour; secretly married (1594) John Thynne, of Longleat, Wiltshire.

Feb 6, Paris, Sir Amias Paulet (Ambassador) to Sir Francis Walsingham:

I was asked to get the Queen 'a countenance (so they call it here)' [a muff]. I send 'the best I can find at this time, thinking it better to send this as it is while there is some cold stirring, than to wait for a better till the cold be clean gone. I have caused this countenance to be furred as well as it can be done in this town, but have not perfumed it because I do not know what perfume will be most agreeable to her Majesty'...

'It is not well, in my simple opinion, that no consideration is had of Plato's works, presented to her Majesty by Serranus; in which behalf it were not meet that the giver were the loser'. [SPF.xiii.409].

Jean de Serres translated Plato's Works, dedicated to the Queen: 1 Oct 1577.

Hubert Languet wrote to Philip Sidney from Cologne, 24 Sept 1579, that De Serres did not know if the Queen had received the book, and what she thought of it; the work had cost him much labour and many sleepless nights; Languet considers him worthy to receive a pension from the Queen. [Kuin, Sidney, 919].

Feb 7: Stationers entered: 'An oration in Latin made by Mr Malim school-master of Paul's School in London to Duke John Casimir'.

Feb 8, Sun Casimir was elected and invested as a Knight of the Garter. He was elected 'by the Sovereign and Knights then present in Chapter in the Privy Chamber, and was sent for out of the Presence Chamber by certain Knights of the Order, and the Queen put on the Garter with her own hands about his leg'. Casimir was installed at Windsor by proxy, January 1583.

Feb 9, Mon Council to the Lord Mayor of London (Richard Pipe) 'that where by reason of this extremity of hard weather the passages to come to the City, both by water and land, be so stopped as such provisions of victuals, fuel, and other necessaries cannot be brought thither, he is required to take order that such provisions as be already there may be orderly distributed as well to the poor as to the rich, and that order may be taken that all excessive banqueting within the City may be for a time forborne, and that such temperancy of diet with all sorts of people may be used as the provisions may endure the longer'.^{APC}

Feb 11: After the recent snow 'the Thames did rise so high after the dissolution of this snow that Westminster Hall was drowned and much fish left there and in the Palace yard when the water returned to her channel'. [William Harrison's Chronology, f.260].

Feb 11, Wed Casimir at Whitehall to take leave.TH

Feb 12, Queen's gifts delivered to Duke Casimir: 'A Collar of gold of the Order with knots and red roses containing 44 pieces; a George of gold enamelled with colours; two cups or bowls of gold with covers, and lions in the top of them holding her Majesty's Arms enamelled'.^{NYG} The Garter insignia had been 'bought of the Lady Chandos dowager' in 1575 or 1576. [*Jewels*, 1436].

'Afore his departure the whole Habit and Collar was made in the Wardrobe, and Mr Garter carried it unto him at Somerset House where he lay, and he gave Mr Garter his short cloak of black velvet with two broad laces gold, furred with sables and furred with squirrels, one cup of gold of 40 marks and a ring of an emerald, and paid him his bill of all charges...£66.15s'. [*Ashmolean* 1109, f.70].

Wardrobe account: A tailor made 'a robe of purple velvet of our Order of the Garter (for our dear cousin Duke John Cassimerus)', with a Garter embroidered on the shoulder, and a kirtle and hood. [*Arnold*, 180].

Feb 12, court, Earl of Leicester to William Davison: 'Since Duke Casimir's coming hither I have been always almost in his company...The Duke is a very welcome man hither, and well liked of both her Majesty and of all other sorts here, and hath been greatly entertained and feasted almost every day, especially the Londoners have both feasted him and given him a fair present, a chain and plate, in the whole to the value of 2000 crowns. Her Majesty lodgeth him and provideth his diet on her cost in Somerset House. She hath made him Knight of the Order, and giveth him his present in the whole to the value of 3000 crowns. As he is liked here, so he liketh his entertainment, and taketh in very good part the great courtesy he findeth'. [BL Harl 285, f.75].

Feb 12, Paris, Sir Amias Paulet to Sir Francis Walsingham, of the Duke of Alençon's 'intended voyage to England' to which the King has assented. 'The Prince of Condé and Prince Dauphin certainly come with Monsieur... he will be ready to sail by the end of April'. [SPF.xiii.414]. Alençon came in August, with a few servants.

Feb 13, Fri: 'Casimir went to see the Tower of London'.TH During February Casimir also went to see bear-baiting: Paris Garden was made ready for him twice 'by reason he came not at first'.^T Sir Henry Sidney accompanied him to Paris Garden, the bear-baiting arena in Southwark.

Court news. Feb 13, Gilbert and Mary Talbot to the Earl and Countess of Shrewsbury, from 'your honour's little house near Charing Cross':

'The Duke Casimir departs hence tomorrow, and has...taken his leave of her Majesty, who as I hear will give him at his departure two cups of gold, of several fashions, worth £300 apiece; there has been somewhat to do to bring her into it, and Mr Secretary Walsingham bore the brunt thereof'.

'On Sunday last this Duke was chosen one of the Order of the Garter; and my Lord of Leicester gave him for a present a rich collar, and a George at it, and two other Georges besides...My Lord of Pembroke has sent Casimir from Wilton... a fair George, at a chain of gold, set with stones, which cost £100. My Lord of Leicester also has given him divers other things, as geldings, hawks and hounds, wood-knives, falcons, horns, cross-bows, and sundry pieces of broad cloth fit for hunting garments, both for winter and summer, for he delights greatly in hunting and can chase his winter deer very well. He killed a barren doe with his piece this other day in Hyde Park, from amongst 300 other deer'.

'Her Majesty continues her very good usage of Monsieur Simier and all his company, and he has conference with her three or four times a week, and she is the best disposed and pleasantest when she talketh with him (as by her gestures appeareth) that is possible. The opinion of Monseigneur's [Alençon's] coming still holds, and yet it is secretly bruited that he cannot take up so much money as he would, on such a sudden, and therefore will not come so soon. I cannot learn anything more of Queen Mother her coming into England, yet some do think that she will come very suddenly, but for my own part I do not believe it'...

'My Lord of Huntingdon goes with Casimir to Gravesend, and Sir Henry Sidney to Dover...My Lord of Leicester has been almost continually with him since his coming to London'.

'This day in the Star Chamber the Lords [of the Council] examined four Messengers, such as are daily sent of errands from the court, who are found, by counterfeiting of the Lord Chamberlain and the Secretary's hands, to have deceived the Queen above £3000 within these seven years, they and their confederates; whereupon they must stand of the pillory at Westminster, at the Court Gates, and in Cheapside, on certain days appointed, and then have their ears cut off'. [Lodge, ii.140-142].

Feb 13, Mauvissière to Henri III: 'There has been so much snow and cold in this island that the like has not been seen in living memory, and several villages have been so snowbound that they have run out of food...Last year, on the contrary, was so hot here that nothing like it had been seen'.^{BT}

Feb 14: Stationers entered: 'A ballad of A Northern man's report of the wonderful great snow in the Southern parts'.

Feb 14, Whitehall: The Queen lost 'from a tawny velvet gown three pair one odd aglet of gold'. [Lost, 260].

Feb 14, Sat: Casimir left London for Kent and the coast. Richard White of London provided a banquet 'against the coming of Duke Casimir, being accompanied with the Earl of Huntingdon, the Lord Warden [of the Cinque Ports, Lord Cobham], Sir Henry Sidney, and divers gentlemen, unto her Majesty's ship named The Elizabeth Jonas at Chatham'; cost £7.11s8d.^N

Feb 15: Casimir arrived at Canterbury, Kent. Canterbury Chamberlains paid: 'For a gallon of sack given to Duke Casimir, 2s6d; for a gallon of claret then given to him, 20d; for pippins given then also to him, 2s; for powder spent on the Queen's Day [17 November 1578] and at Casimir's farewell and at the musters this year, 58s4d'.

Feb 16: Casimir arrived at Dover. After riding to Sandwich and Margate, on February 19 he embarked at Margate, was compelled by the wind to return to Dover next day; sailed from Dover later that day; landed at Flushing on February 21.

Richard Brackenbury, Gentleman Usher, and five men, were sent from court 'to give their attendance upon Duke Casimir and his train from London to Dover, from thence to Sandwich and so to Margate, to see him furnished of all necessaries, as barges, horses, carriages, and lodgings, until his shipping', with 'post-horses and a guide for 80 miles and as much back'.^T

The Foresight (Martin Frobisher, Captain) took Casimir to Flushing.^N

By February 19: Sir Henry Sidney's accounts (Lord Deputy of Ireland; Philip Sidney's father) include payments by three of his Household on his behalf for Casimir's visit.

Payments for Sidney by John Leke for 'charges bestowed about Duke Casimir'. 'Gifts: one George set with precious stones, £30; a book of Arms and Heraldry, £5. Diet and expenses: my Lord's charges at Rochester going to fetch him in; at Sittingbourne; at Rochester again coming back with the Duke; at Gravesend; in all coming in, £28.5s10d. For his charge and diet at his going away, at Rochester, Canterbury, Dover, Sandwich, and in Thanet, and for my Lord's charges coming homeward, £73.18s6d. Horse-hire for my Lord and his train, £14.11s8d. Barge and boat-hire of my Lord and his train to and from Gravesend, £4.14s4d. Further given one chain of gold, bought of Mr Edmund Pakenham, which cost £45.15s. Also a Garter of the Order valued at £15'. [De L'Isle, i.258-9].

Payments for Sir Henry Sidney by Edmund Pakenham: 'For my boat-hire from the court to follow your Lordship when you went in haste to meet Duke Casimir the 20th of January, 3s; for my boat-hire when your Lordship went to the Paris Garden with Casimir, going and coming, 6d; for money given unto your Lordship to give unto Dethick the goldsmith for colouring my chain which your Lordship gave unto Mr Languet, and for his pains in going and coming to your Lordship the 14th of February, 15s; for the price of my chain which your Lordship gave unto Mr Languet the same day', £45. [BL Add MS 17520, f.16v].

Payments for Sir Henry Sidney by Robert Greenwood:

'Feb 10: for 6 large skins of vellum to make the book of the Arms of the Knights of the Garter given by your Lordship to Duke Casimir, 13s. Feb 11: a yard and a half of blue ribbon, which your Lordship gave to Cassimerus, 1s.

Feb 12: silk ribbon strings for the said book, 1s6d; my boat-hire that night, your Lordship sending me from Somerset House to the court and thence back by water to London to get that book bound, 6d; gilding of the leaves of that book after it was bound, 2s. Feb 15: for making clean your boots at Canterbury, 4d; to the musicians at Canterbury, 3s; for washing 3 handkerchiefs of the Duke's, which he lent your Lordship, 6d'. [De L'Isle, i.267].

Feb 20, Whitehall, Sir Francis Walsingham to William Davison, of 'the great entertainment Duke Casimir has received here, not only at her Majesty's hands, by defrayment of all his charges and conferment of the Garter, and other extraordinary courtesies, but also at my Lord of Leicester's and other lords, and of the City of London 'with great feasting and banqueting and a present of 500 marks, and generally of all, gentlemen and others, that carry any affection to the Gospel and were present when he was here'...

'Mr Beutterich, with much difficulty a little before the Duke's departure, was admitted to kiss her Majesty's hand, which courtesy was the rather done him for that he is, as you know, of free and plain speech where he is discontented'.

PS. 'This morning the Lord Keeper departed this life'. [SPF.xiii.423-4].

Feb 20: death. *Sir Nicholas Bacon (1509-1579), Lord Keeper since 1558.*

'God took him to his mercy at York House by Charing Cross'. In his will he stated 'My desire is to be buried at Paul's where my tomb is'.

Bequests included: 'To Benet College [Corpus Christi] in Cambridge for the building of a chapel there, £200'.

Funeral: March 9, St Paul's Cathedral. Chief Mourner: Lord Burghley. The list of expenses for the funeral also includes 'rewards' to several of the Queen's physicians and surgeons, for attendance during Sir Nicholas's sickness, or 'being present at the opening of the body'. Total cost: £2,230.18s10d.

St Martin in the Fields rang 'the whole day's knell 2s4d; six peals 12d'.

What remains of Bacon's monument after the Great Fire of London in 1666 is in the Cathedral Crypt. The widowed Anne (Cooke), Lady Bacon, died in 1610.

Corpus Christi built a new chapel in the 1820s, but beside the entrance are statues of Sir Nicholas, and of Matthew Parker, Archbishop of Canterbury.

Portrait of Sir Nicholas, 1579, reproduced in his biography, *ODNB*.

Sir Nicholas's will, and expenses: Bacon, ii.25-29, 47-63.

Feb 20, Fri Great Seal delivered to the Queen, Whitehall.

The Queen sent the Earl of Leicester and Lord Burghley to York House for the Great Seal. They received it from Lady Bacon in its velvet bag and took it to the Queen. She retained it for two months, seven times passing it to Leicester or Burghley for documents to be sealed, and receiving it back again, before she appointed a Lord Chancellor on April 26. [Campbell, ii.237-8].

c.Feb 22: Archbishop of Dublin at Whitehall to take leave.

Adam Loftus, Archbishop 1567-1605, in England for over ten weeks.

Feb 22, Privy Council to Lord Justice Drury, to further the Archbishop of Dublin's zealous care for the pastoral charge in Ireland. [SP63/65/43].

Feb 23, Mon Lady Throckmorton at Whitehall to take leave.

Arthur Throckmorton's mother Anne, Lady Throckmorton, widow of Sir Nicholas Throckmorton and wife of Adrian Stokes; she lived much in Northamptonshire.

She had also been at court January 30-February 3.

Feb 23, Arthur Throckmorton noted: 'My mother went to the court to take her leave of her Majesty. I was at the court'.

Arthur and his sister Elizabeth Throckmorton were both at court March 3-4, and on March 8 'I was at the court. Her Majesty commanded me to tell her excuse for her not coming to see my mother'.TH

Court news. Feb 28, Oxford, William Cole (President of Corpus Christi College, Oxford), to Rodolph Gualter, in Zurich: 'Casimir has been honourably received by our Queen, nor do I know whether any visitor has ever been more agreeable to her. The Duke d'Alençon is daily expected. He is in hopes, as I hear, of forming a matrimonial alliance here in England'. [Zurich, 528].

By March 1: Shrovetide plays and masques at Whitehall: *Revels* preparations. Payments for boat-hire for the Master of the Revels, Edmund Tilney, including:

February 25 and 26 to and from court 'being sent for by the Lord Chamberlain about patterns of masque, 18d'; and March 1,2,3,4 to and from court, 4s;

March 1,2,3 'given to the Porters for late coming out at the water-gate, 2s'. John Drawater's payments, including boat-hire to and from court 'making ready and setting up the frames, rocks and lights in the hall against Shrove Sunday'; to and from court on March 1,2,3,4 'for the safe bestowing of the furniture in the hall for the players'. 'To the painters on Shrove Tuesday to send for victuals because they should not go from their work, 6d'. [Revels, 309-310].

Works made 'partitions, scaffolds and other necessaries for plays, tragedies and bear-baiting at Shrovetide'.

Mar 1, Shrove Sunday play, The history of *The Knight in the Burning Rock*, by Earl of Warwick's Men.

Revels: 'Mending a scaling ladder that served at the rock; coals at the court to dry the painters' work on the rock; lead for the chair of the burning knight; candlesticks to work by at the court; a cord and pulleys to draw up the cloud; ivy and holly for the rock; aquavita to burn in the same rock; rosewater to allay the smell thereof; a hoop and blue linen cloth to mend the cloud that was borrowed and cut to serve the rock in the play of the burning knight and for the hire thereof and setting up the same where it was borrowed; carriage of the rock from Bridewell to the court the first of March'.

Mar 2, Shrove Monday play, The history of *Loyalty and Beauty*, by Children of the Chapel Royal. Revels provided: 'very many rich garments and properties; wagon; garland of grapes and leaves for Bacchus and other of roses'.

*March 2: masque: a sailing-ship was wrecked, sailors emerged with gifts for the Queen and court ladies; described by the French Ambassador.^{BT}

Mar 3, Shrove Tuesday bear-baiting, at Whitehall.^T

play, The history of *Murderous Michael*, by Earl of Sussex's Men.

Masque of Moors prepared, but not seen. Revels: 'three masquing coats made of double paper; three brooms painted, five staves, and a quintain painted with a fool's head; fine colours, gold and silver, for patterns for the Moors' masque that should have served on Shrove Tuesday'. [Revels, 303, 307-8].

Court news. March 5, London, Mendoza to Secretary Zayas:

'Simier and the French Ambassador were much feasted on the occasion of the Carnival, and on one of the days they were entertained at a great banquet given to the Queen by Hatton, the Captain of the Guard. The last night they were at a grand ball in which there were comedies and many inventions'. [Span.ii.655].

Court news. March 5, Gilbert Talbot to the Earl of Shrewsbury, his father, from 'your Lordship's little house near Charing Cross':

'It is but vain to trouble your Lordship with such shows as were showed before her Majesty this Shrovetide at night. The chiefest was a device presented by the persons of the Earl of Oxford, the Earl of Surrey, the Lords Thomas Howard and Windsor. The device was prettier than it happened to be performed, but the best of it, and I think the best liked, was two rich jewels which were presented to her Majesty by the two Earls'...

'Casimir is safely landed at Flushing...He is far to blame if he speak not great honour of her Majesty and her realm, for there was never any of his coat that was able to brag of the like entertainment that he received here'...

'My Lord of Leicester is now at Wanstead, and this day Monsieur Simier and his company do dine there with him. He returneth again tomorrow'. [Lodge, ii.146-7].

Mar 8, Sun sermon at court by unnamed preacher, displeasing to the Queen.

Mendoza to Zayas, March 31: 'In the sermons preached before the Queen they speak very violently about this marriage. The preacher on the first Sunday in Lent said that marriages with foreigners would only result in ruin to the country, as was proved by what happened when the sainted King Edward died and was succeeded by Mary, who married a foreigner, and caused the martyrdom of so many persons who were burnt all over the country. When the preacher finished the subject, but not the sermon, the Queen rose, which was considered a great innovation'.

'They are also attaching much importance to the fact that preachers are constantly saying this to the Queen and that she takes no steps, from which it may be inferred that they are inspired from high quarters'. [Span.ii.658-9].

March 9, Queen wrote to the Queen of Navarre, and her mother Catherine de Medici. Their messenger, Rochetaillé, had made a long stay after bringing their letters mainly to recommend the Duke of Alençon to her. [SPF.xiii.447-8].
The messenger left on March 23. (See April 8 and 11).

Mar 9, Mon Earl of Clanricarde at Whitehall.
Richard Bourke, 2nd Earl of Clanricarde, who had been in custody since brought from Ireland in September 1578 as a suspected rebel. He wrote a long account of such service as 'he did unto his prince' for some 25 years, most recently that 'I did within one twelve months hang my own son, my brother's son, my cousin-german's son, and one of the captains of my galloglasses, besides 50 of my own followers that bore armour and weapon'.

March 10, Clanricarde to the Privy Council, of 'your Lordships' honourable dealing and good speeches used to me yesterday at my being before you... My English tongue would not serve me whereby I durst presume to use any large discourse in speeches to express my dutiful meaning toward her most excellent Majesty'. He asks them to deliver the enclosed letter to her.

March 10, Clanricarde to the Queen, 'Most dear, dread, and gracious Sovereign Lady', declaring his innocence. 'I have in my heart honoured, esteemed and loved your Majesty's own person above all things in the world...and have rejoiced more in the hope of your good favour than in any other worldly thing'...

'Myself, my life, my state, and all I have I leave to your Majesty's good and most gracious consideration, as to my dear Sovereign' whom I 'will serve most faithfully to my life's end'. [SP63/66/4,5,6]. Sequel: June 12 (Council).

March 10, Paris, Sir Amias Paulet to Lord Burghley: 'Queen Mother is expected in this court before Easter, intending first to see Monsieur [Duke of Alençon] wheresoever he shall be, and it is given out by some in good credit with Monsieur that Queen Mother cometh with him into England, and that this voyage will be performed this next May at the furthest'. [HT.MS 9/104].

Mar 11, Wed new Privy Councillor. 'This day Mr Thomas Bromley, the Queen's Majesty's Solicitor-General, was by the Queen's Majesty chosen to be one of her Privy Council and...was sworn and admitted accordingly, and did sit as one of the rest of the Privy Council'.^{APC} Appointed Lord Chancellor on April 26.

Court news. March 11, Mendoza to Philip II: 'Simier and the French Ambassador still continue their audiences with the Queen, and have recently again postponed the coming of Alençon, who they say will be accompanied by the Prince of Condé. They are in high hopes of the marriage'. [Span.ii.657].

March 15, Antwerp, Jacques Rossel to Sir Francis Walsingham: The French say they hope 'shortly to join England and their Crown'. The marriage 'is given out here as so forward that her Majesty is reported to have said that she finds herself of age and disposition to have children by the Duke of Alençon'.

He 'is noted for perfidy and other lightnesses and vices...They compare him to Aeneas in that when in despair he takes refuge with Dido'. [SPF.xiii.451].

*March 15: Scandalous words at Newington, Surrey.
William Kendall, of Newington, cardmaker, said 'That he was commanded by the judge that he should obey neither God nor the Queen nor any of her laws'.
Verdict: Not guilty. [Assizes, Surrey, 178].*

Court news. March 21, Mendoza to Philip II: 'As far as can be judged by appearances and the Queen's own actions, nothing more certain can be imagined than that she will marry Alençon if she can'. [Span.ii.658].

March 22, Throckmorton: 'I went to the court. Monsieur's secretary came with Simier to the court with an answer of the conditions sent to Monsieur about the marriage'.TH Mendoza, March 31: On the 19th Alençon's secretary brought letters assuring the Queen that Alençon would be in England in May. [Span.ii.660].

March 25, Westminster, Privy Council to Mr Alderman Martin, Warden of the Mint, and the Wardens of the Goldsmiths' Company, 'to examine certain persons apprehended for suspicion of stealing certain pieces of plate out of the court, and some other things belonging to Mr Secretary Wilson'.^{APC}

Mar 26, Thur Simier at Whitehall for audience and supper. Mendoza to Philip II, March 31: On the 26th Simier gave the Queen a letter from Alençon, mentioning that a gentleman who had come with Simier was to return to France to accompany Alençon on his journey. 'The Queen was very gracious to Simier and detained him so long that she made him stay to supper with Lady Howard, who heads the table of the Ladies of the Privy Chamber. She sent him the supper from her own table'. March, Queen to the Duke of Alençon: The Baron of Courtemer, who accompanied Simier, being about to return to France, I commend his good qualities and virtuous deportment. [Span.ii.661; SPF.xiii.465].

c.March 27: Portuguese Ambassador at Whitehall to take leave. Queen's gifts, March 27: 'To Signor Giraldi, Ambassador lieger from the late King of Portugal, at his departure': a basin and lair gilt; a pair of gilt pots; pair of gilt flagons; two gilt bowls with covers; two gilt salts with a cover.^{NYG}

March 27: *Seditious words at Dedham, Essex. Gregory Clover, of Colchester, yeoman, said 'That my Lord of Warwick and my Lord of Leicester are traitors and come of a traitor's blood, and that if they had right they had lost their heads so well as others for making away of King Edward'. Thomas Wickstead, of Dedham, saltpetreman, said 'That my Lord of Oxford was not worthy to wipe my Lord of Warwick's shoes, and that the said Earl of Oxford was confederate with the Duke of Norfolk and was as well worthy to lose his head as he'. Verdict: both guilty; to be pilloried at Colchester on market day. [Assizes, Essex, 191].*

Mar 29, Sun sermon, Whitehall: Dr Laurence Humphrey, President of Magdalen College, Oxford. Arthur Throckmorton (formerly of Magdalen College) noted: 'I was at the court. Dr Humphrey preached. Simier and Monsieur's secretary were before the Council in my Lord Treasurer's chamber'.TH

Also March 29: Lord Treasurer Burghley drew up a list of points for and against the Queen's marriage. [SPF.xiii.473-4].

Mar 30, Mon: 'Simier and the secretary were before the Council'.TH

March 30: *At Hertford Assizes a large number of men, mainly labourers, were indicted for riotous assembly and breaking enclosures, for breaking down palings surrounding the Earl of Warwick's close at Northaw, Herts, on March 22 and 29. [Assizes, Herts, 28-9]. There was an 'uproar' at Whitehall: April 23.*

March 31, Queen's gift: 'To Monsieur Saint Marie, a French gentleman sent from Monsieur, a chain of gold'.^{NYG} [Nicholas St Marie (c.1520-1591)].

Also March 31: 'Monsieur de Simier delivered Articles on the part of the Duke concerning the marriage; twelve Articles, which were in French'. [HT.ii.291].

March: The Duchess of Alva sent the Queen a present of her own needlework, brought to the Spanish Ambassador by William Bodenham, an Englishman returning from Spain. [Span.ii.658].

April 3: An answer in Latin was delivered to Simier, to the twelve Articles concerning the marriage. He delivered his answer on April 10. [HT.ii.291-292].

Court news. April 4, Gilbert and Mary Talbot to the Earl of Shrewsbury, from 'your Lordship's house near Charing Cross':

The Privy Council 'these five days last past' have sat 'from eight o'clock in the morning until dinner-time; and presently after dinner, and an hour's conference with her Majesty, to Council again, and so till supper time'.

'And all this, as far as I can learn, is about the matter of Monseigneur's [Alençon's] coming here, his entertainment here, and what demands are to be made unto him in the treaty of marriage, and such like concerning this; and I can assure your Lordship it is verily thought this marriage will come to pass of a great sort of wise men; yet nevertheless there are divers others like St Thomas of Jude, who would not believe till he had both seen and felt. It is said that Monseigneur will certainly be here in May...accompanied with two or three dukes, ten earls, and 100 other gentlemen besides, of great and honourable account'...

'The preachers have been somewhat too busy to apply their sermons to tend covertly against this marriage, many of them inveighing greatly thereat, till the last week her Majesty gave express commandment that none of them should hereafter preach upon any such text as the like might be inferred'.

[Lodge, ii.149-150].

April 6: Stationers entered: 'A book in English called *Plutarch's Lives*'. Published as: 'The Lives of the noble Grecians and Romans, compared together by that grave learned Philosopher and Historiographer, Plutarch of Chaeronea: translated out of Greek into French by James Amyot...and out of French into English by Thomas North'. Dedicated to the Queen by North.

'To the most high and mighty' Queen: 'I have presumed to present here unto your Majesty Plutarch's lives translated, as a book fit to be protected by your Highness, and meet to be set forth in English'...

'Who is fitter to authorise a work of so great learning and wisdom, than she whom all do honour as the Muse of the world?...Most gracious Sovereign, though this book be no book for your Majesty's self, who are meeter to be the chief story than a student therein, and can better understand it in Greek, than any man can make it English: yet I hope the common sort of your subjects shall not only profit themselves hereby, but also be animated to the better service of your Majesty...What service is there in war, what honour in peace, which they will not be ready to do for their worthy Queen?'. Dated 16 January 1579.

Epistle 'To the Reader', dated January 24. 1172p. (London, 1579).

Thomas North (1535-c.1603) was a brother of Roger 2nd Lord North.

'North's Plutarch' became the main source for Shakespeare's 'Roman' plays.

Court news. April 8, Mendoza to Philip II: 'On the 23rd M.de Rochetaillé left here carrying fresh terms about the marriage'. For three days the Councillors were 'continually in council with him day and night. They sent the secretaries out of the room, which is a very unusual thing, and is only done when matters of the greatest importance are discussed in secret...The Queen is now arranging the persons who have to go and meet Alençon, and the ships which have to escort him, whilst many of the great people here, including the Councillors, are having new clothes and other things made for the occasion, as they believe that the matter is as good as settled if the French accept the terms'.

As to the Portuguese Ambassador, Giraldi: 'The present that the Queen gave him was 1200 English crowns worth of silver-gilt plate and a jewel worth 300 for his wife. At his last audience with her she gave him a ring from her own finger, no doubt as a keepsake, for she is very clever at such little witcheries as these, when she thinks she can gain a point by them and disarm those with whom she is dealing. I fancy she has fully succeeded in this with the Ambassador'.

[Span.ii.662-633]. *The Achates* (William Barnes, Master) took Francisco Giraldi from Dover to Calais.^N He became Portuguese Ambassador to France.

April 11, Paris, Sir Amias Paulet to the Queen, of an audience with Henri III: The King and his mother (Catherine de Medici) desire the marriage greatly.

'The King began to talk familiarly of many things; asking me how your Majesty kept your health, where you were at present, if you entered into your progress, what progresses you were accustomed to make, if you rode in coach or on horse-back, and said he had been informed that you rode singularly well'...

'Rocquetaliado came to visit me as he passed toward Monsieur. He acknowledges with thanks the great favour which you have shown him, as well in his sickness as otherwise, and speaks all honour of your Highness and your court.

[SPF.xiii.486]. Rochetaillé was sent again to the English court in May.

Apr 12, Sun Simier at Whitehall with the Queen.

Throckmorton: 'I went to the court, Simier with the Queen in the garden'.TH

April 12, London, Simier to Sieur des Pruneaux: 'I began on the 5th to treat of the articles of marriage between the Queen and our master. I have every good hope, but will wait to say more till the curtain is drawn, the candle out, and Monsieur in bed. Then I will speak with good assurance'...

'I swear to you that she is the most virtuous and honourable princess in the world; her wit is admirable...I hold our master very fortunate if God will further this business'. [SPF.xiii.487].

Court news. April 12, London, Mendoza to Secretary Zayas:

'Simier is invited on Thursday [April 16] to attend the ceremony of the washing of feet, which the Queen performs. She summons him nearly every day, and goes for two or three hours together to see the works on some tennis courts she is having built, on the pretext that they are for Alençon'. [Span.ii.667].

Works: Masons at Whitehall worked on 'laying the great tennis court called the Brake' (or 'the great Brake'), and on 'the little tennis court next the Queen's gallery' ('the open tennis court' or 'the little Brake'). In May: 'paving the open tennis court at Westminster adjoining to the gallery there'.

Apr 13, Mon Lord Burghley's memorandum for the Queen, Whitehall.

Burghley wrote a memorandum listing 'perils' if the Queen does not marry, under the headings 'Domestic, that may happen directly within the Realm; Foreign, that may indirectly trouble the Domestic'. 'The remedies, marriage being refused'.

'The contents hereof were declared by me, W.B., to the Queen's Majesty in presence of the Earls of Sussex and Leicester, the Lord Hunsdon, Mr Secretary Walsingham and Wilson'. [HT.ii.249-252].

Apr 16, Maundy Thursday ceremonies and alms-giving, Whitehall Palace hall.

By the Queen, with John Piers, Bishop of Salisbury, the Queen's Almoner; to 45 poor women, each 20s in a red purse and 45d in a white purse.^{T,W}

The last Maundy ceremony in which the Queen took part in person.

Apr 22, Wed Eve of Garter ceremonies, Whitehall.

The Garter Knights assembled in the Presence Chamber. 'Because her Majesty came not forth to the Closet [a chapel] she sent for them by the way upon the Terrace unto her Gallery to assemble in Chapter'. The Queen appointed a Lieutenant, as customary, who went to evening service with the other Garter Knights.

April 23, Arthur Throckmorton noted: 'The uproar of the people against my Lord of Warwick for enclosures he made at North Hall. Mr Hatton, Mr Vice-Chamberlain, went to appease them'.TH On May 4 'were arraigned at Barnet, in Hertfordshire, certain men of Northall, Mimms, and the parts near adjoining, for pulling down a pale at Northall, late set up (on the common ground) by the Earl of Warwick, 8 of them were condemned...Two were hanged'. [Stow, Annals].

Earl of Warwick owned Northaw manor, Hertfordshire.

Apr 23, Thur St George's Day Garter ceremonies, Whitehall.
Queen's Lieutenant: William Somerset 3rd Earl of Worcester. 14 other Garter Knights. The Queen was not in the processions nor at the service. The Knights went 'to the Presence and there expected the coming of the Sovereign who by reason of the cold weather and other causes would not come abroad'.

Marginal note: 'There was some snow and very cold wind this morning'.

'It was past 5 that they came to proceed to the Evensong, because her Majesty was talking with the two French Ambassadors, Mauvissière lieger for the King, and Monsieur Simier in message from the Duke d'Alençon'...

'Mauvissière went down privately to the Chapel where was a place prepared with stools and carpet near the altar on the Sovereign's side, and the Knights proceeded to the Chapel aforesaid, absent the Earl of Warwick and the Lord Treasurer, and after Evensong ended they departed...and there was no election or nomination nor scrutiny made by the Chancellor because the stalls were full'.

Apr 24, Fri Final 1579 Garter ceremonies, Whitehall.

'At 11 o'clock the Knights took their mantles in the Gallery near the Closet, and some in the farther Presence Chamber, and came into the middle Presence Chamber, and then went in to the Sovereign into the Privy Chamber, and so returned and proceeded in order, and the Lieutenant last, through the Hall into the Chapel where very short service and no singing was used but Amen, and finished the offering they came forth and put off their mantles at the Chapel door'. No new Knights were elected.

Marginal note: 'A great snow all the morning'. [BL Add MS 10110, f.137].

Apr 25, court, Earl of Leicester to William Davison, in the Low Countries:
'I wish you to take up and stay for me 4000 crowns worth of crimson and black velvet, and satins and silks of other colours; and if there be any good cloth of tissue or of gold, or such other pretty stuff, to stay for me to the value of £300 or £400, whatsoever the charge shall be'. PS. 'I pray you...make stay of so much stuff as I have written for, and the money shall be sent you... Let it be of the best sort of every kind I have written for'. [SP15/26/9].

Apr 26, Sun new appointment: Thomas Bromley (Solicitor-General) was made Lord Chancellor. 'Before her Majesty went to the Chapel, the Lords of the Council rising from the Council board went into the Privy Chamber, and then was Mr Thomas Bromley...made Lord Chancellor and had the Great Seal of England delivered to his custody, and so attended upon her Majesty to the Chapel, and afterwards took his place accordingly'.^{APC} Bromley was knighted.^M

The Queen made a speech complimenting Bromley on his good qualities, and giving him advice on performing his new duties. Bromley replied humbly, referring to 'the great learning, wisdom, and judgement that resteth in your Majesty', and your 'good precepts and admonitions'. [Campbell, i.243-4].

April 26, Whitehall: Order for payments for the Harthounds.
Henry Earl of Huntingdon, Master of the Harthounds, 12d a day; Serjeant, 7½d; 2 prickers of horses, 4d each; 2 kennel servants and 2 ground keepers, 2d each; 2 boys, 1½d; food for 2 horses, 3¾d each a day; 40 dogs and 12 greyhounds, ¾d each; 3 bloodhounds, 1d each. [prickers: light horsemen]. [SP15/26/10].

April 27-29: Fray, leading to Lord Garrett's imprisonment.

Gerald FitzGerald, Lord Garrett (or Lord Gerald; 1559-1580), son of Gerald FitzGerald, 11th Earl of Kildare. On April 27-29 there was 'a disordered fray between the servants of the Lord Howard of Effingham and the Lord Garrett'.

Garrett 'son and heir apparent to the Earl of Kildare', was committed to the Fleet Prison by the Privy Council, being released on May 3.^{APC}

Apr 28, Tues **WANSTEAD**, Essex; Earl of Leicester.

Wanstead manor-house; owned by Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester.

Simon Bowyer, Gentleman Usher, with his two men and horses, 'being commanded to wait on her Majesty at Wanstead, the Earl of Leicester's house', 46s8d.

John Wynyard, Officer of the Removing Wardrobe of Beds, with 'one Groom, their horses, and two labourers from Whitehall to Wanstead to make ready for her Majesty, and for their attendance there, taking down the stuff and sending it to Whitehall, by the space of 6 days, April 1579', 50s.^T

St Martin in the Fields: 'Paid for ringing for the Queen at her going to Windsor [sic] the 28th of April, 8d'.

May 2, Sat **WHITEHALL PALACE**.

St Martin in the Fields: 'Paid for ringing for the Queen the 2 of May at her coming from Wanstead to Whitehall, 8d'.

May 2: Stationers entered: 'The lives of divers excellent Orators and Philosophers written in Greek by Eunapius of the City of Sardis in Lydia and translated in English by W.B'. [By Eunape]. Published as:

'The Lives of Philosophers and Orators...now set forth in English'.

Dedicatory Epistle to Sir Thomas Bromley: 'This book lay hid in Hungary, till Hadrianus Junius, a great learned man, did cause it to be printed in Greek, and translated it into Latin, and eleven years since Dedicated it to the Queen's most excellent Majesty, our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth, and brought it over into England; where, having continued thus long, it is now become English, and under the protection and authority of your Lordship, he sueth and beseecheth that it may be made of the English nation'. For the previous presentation of the book, see 9 July 1568. The 1579 *Lives* translates Junius's original Dedication:

'The Epistle of Adrianus Junius to the Queen's Majesty'.

'To the most gracious and mighty Elizabeth'. Plato said 'that kingdoms are happy, when either Princes be Philosophers, and given to learning, or sapient [wise] and learned men do govern Kingdoms...By the divine arts of peace you adorn, enrich...sanctify your most flourishing Kingdom...Among the chief ornaments of this world, you are accounted the only Queen, and exalted with most exceeding praise'. Your Majesty's name signifies 'A wholesome and sweet study of peace, a friend of Heaven...engrafted to you in your birth, to the which, straight from the cradle, succeeded the help of singular and rare learning'. Your natural eloquence 'is so great in diverse tongues, as the greatest learned Ambassadors of Princes be astonished and amazed at it...Kingdoms are best and most surely defended...by peace and by eloquence, which maketh minds to agree'..

'May it please your Majesty to accept this labour...of a Stranger, but in time past an inhabitant long time of your Kingdom'. Haarlem, 1st March 1568.

'A Verse called Acrostics. To the Queen's Majesty. By the Author', includes:

*'Excelling far the blazing beam of Venus Star so bright...
Heavenly O Princess pure, and only Phoenix of all Queens,
Above the Stars and both the Poles your fame is so enhanced,
As by the gift of sugared mouth you mount above the skies,
Nectar the drink of Gods do flow from your most eloquent tongue...
Jove would use none other speech, nor yet the Muses nine'*.

Court news. May 3, London, Mendoza to Philip II, of the Queen and marriage to the Duke of Alençon: 'When she was leaving to visit a house of Leicester's, six miles off, she took Simier and the Ambassador with her, telling them that she would there decide the business definitely'.

Mendoza advises the King to send jewels worth 3000 crowns or more each for Lord Burghley and the Earl of Sussex, of 1500 crowns or more for Sir Christopher Hatton, 2000 crowns in money for Sir James Croft, 2000 crowns and 'something handsome' for the Earl of Leicester. [Span.ii.669].

May 3, Sun Privy Council meeting, Whitehall.

Lord Treasurer Burghley's memorandum: 'The Queen's Majesty, calling the Lord Treasurer, the Earls of Sussex and Leicester, and Mr Vice-Chamberlain to her, commanded that all her Council should be made acquainted with the whole matter, as it had passed, concerning the request of the Duke...to marry the Queen's Majesty. Whereupon the Lord Treasurer did declare succinctly what had been passed both by Monsieur Bacqueville the last summer, and now lately by Monsieur Simier, and in what sort her Majesty had always refused to conclude marriage without interview. Whereupon at length Monsieur [Alençon]...had given commission to Simier to assent thereto, so as he might first see what the Articles should be for the Covenants of Marriage, which being accorded Simier would give assurance for his master's coming into the realm'. [Murdin, 319-320].

May 4, Mon Simier at Whitehall with the Council and the Queen.

Burghley: 'In the forenoon report was made to her Majesty...of the resolution of her Council, which her Majesty did allow, and willed that Monsieur de Simier should be sent for'. In the afternoon Simier was told the Council's answer to Alençon's conditions, including that he should after marriage be crowned King, and have £60,000 pension. He was informed that this would be determined by Parliament after the Duke's coming, but that 'her Majesty could not with her honour give assurance of the obtaining by Parliament, and so he departed unsatisfied, and report was made to her Majesty in the garden, and immediately Monsieur Simier resorted to her Majesty'. [Murdin, 321-322].

May 4, Strasbourg, John Sturm (the Queen's Agent) to Sir Francis Walsingham: 'At the last Frankfurt Fair were published three Antipappi which I wrote for foreign Churches...These Antipappi have however appeared without a preface from me...I have commissioned Hubert Languet to send some copies to you, my patrons, if he can get any...I wish you would tell me...to whom I should write the preface...I am thinking of our lady the Queen' [SPF.xiii.502-503].

Court news. May 9, London, William Jones to the Earl of Shrewsbury, of alterations he ('the finisher') was carrying out at Shrewsbury House.

'The Queen's Majesty was on the Thames two or three nights together against Shrewsbury House and stayed there with musicians playing'. [LPL 697/111].

During 1579 St Olave Southwark churchwardens paid (to the Queen's Almoner): 'For unsealing the church door for not ringing when the Queen passed by, 4s'.

May 10, Sun Sir Thomas Leighton's marriage, Whitehall Palace.TH

Sir Thomas Leighton (c.1530-1610), Governor of Guernsey, married Elizabeth Knollys, daughter of Sir Francis Knollys, Treasurer of the Household; she was a Lady of the Privy Chamber 1566-1603. Leighton was knighted in May 1579.^M

'The bride-groom's chamber' was made ready for Sir Thomas Leighton at Whitehall.^T On May 7 the Queen gave Elizabeth Knollys 'one gathered forepart of a kirtle of crimson satin very fair embroidered with Venice gold and silver all over'. [Lost, 267]. Queen's gift, May 10: 'at the marriage of Sir Thomas Leighton knight, a gilt cup with a cover, with plates enamelled with the Arms of the Cinque Ports, and at the top of the cover a lion holding her Majesty's Arms enamelled'.^{NYG} The gilt cup was given to the Queen at Cranbrook, Kent, in August 1573. She became godmother to one of Leighton's children, March 1582.

May 10: Council: Antonio de Guaras is to be released from the Tower at his brother's suit.^{APC} Spanish merchant and writer of news-letters, in custody since October 1577. His wealthy brother Gombal de Guaras had come to plead for him, and had audience of the Queen on February 21, when she promised to release Antonio, and on May 8, to thank her. Antonio left for Spain, May 26. [Span.ii].

Gombal left for France in June, taking 'three couple of spaniels'.^{APC}

Court news. May 12, Arthur Throckmorton noted: 'I was with my Lord Garrett, and after supper I went with my cousin F.D. [Francis Darcy] to the court and we both were commanded to avoid the Presence Chamber by Watt and Wingfield'.

Throckmorton was also at court on May 19, but not again until he 'took his chamber' at Greenwich on August 9.TH

Court news. May 14, London, Mendoza to Philip II:

'The Queen had ordered the members of the Council to give her their individual opinions about the marriage with Alençon, which papers she read whilst she was staying in Leicester's house at Wanstead. When she returned hither...she ordered the whole Council to discuss it. They did so two or three times, remaining in session from two in the afternoon to two at night'.

Simier 'went to the Queen, who received him with much graciousness and many expressions of sorrow that her Councillors disapproved of her marriage, which she desired so much...She has been so melancholy since, that they have adopted the course of sending for some ladies of whom she is fond to entertain her, giving them lodgings at court, which is looked upon as a new thing...Simier and the French Ambassador immediately sent off Alençon's secretary, who was here, with the answer they had received. Two days after he had left by way of Calais, M.de Rochetaillé arrived via Boulogne, and his arrival has once more set the matter afoot, although coldly. Alençon sent to Leicester by Rochetaillé two Spanish horses'. Simier 'has given two grand banquets this week to the Council'. [Span.ii.674-5]. Rochetaillé stayed for several weeks.

Also May 14, Whitehall: 'Lost from her Majesty's back...one small acorn and one oaken leaf of gold'. [Lost, 268].

Court news. May 15, Gilbert Talbot to the Earl of Shrewsbury, his father, from 'your Lordship's little house near Charing Cross': 'The secret opinion is now that the matter of Monseigneur's coming, and especially the marriage, is grown very cold, and Simier like shortly to go over; and yet I know a man may take £1000 in this town, to be bound to pay double so much when Monseigneur comes into England, and treble so much when he marries the Queen's Majesty, and if he neither do the one nor the other, to gain the £1000 clear'. [Lodge, ii.156].

May 16-October: Edward Wotton was special Ambassador to Portugal.

Wotton was sent to congratulate King Henrique on his accession, and also to visit Don Antonio (who was briefly King in 1580 after Henrique's death).

May 17, Paris, Alençon to the Queen: Simier has told me that it was his good fortune to find himself one morning in your Majesty's chamber where he robbed you of a nightcap which he has sent to me. I will keep it most carefully, together with your handkerchief. [HT.ii.323].

May 20, Star Chamber: Privy Council wrote to the Mayor of Northampton to send up John Flower, who used in Northampton 'these or such like speeches:

"What if we have a wicked Prince? What; shall we obey her conscience? No. I will not". The Mayor is to certify the truth thereof.

Flower was imprisoned. The Council released him on June 12.^{APC}

Also May 20: Passport for Christopher Baron of Gunershorf, George Baron of Hofkirchen, and Adam Pesse, gentleman of Almain [German] birth, 'to pass from hence into the realms of Scotland and Ireland, and for provision of horses for them and five servants and other things necessary for their voyage'.^{APC}

In June these young 'noblemen of good houses' arrived in Ireland (Adam Pesse then being described as 'Baron of Kolyn'); there Lord Justice Drury gave them 'such honour and entertainment as was fit for such personages'. [SP Ire].

May 22, Whitehall: The Queen lost 'two pearls from a gown of cloth of gold printed'. On June 4 she lost another pearl from the gown. [Lost, 270,271].

c.May 25: William Davison returned after 2 years as Agent in Low Countries. 'Mr Davison brought over jewels from the States for a pawn for £28,000; which jewels were delivered [in 1578] to the Lord Cobham and Mr Secretary Walsingham, with consent of the Archduke Matthias, Governor there'.^B

Camden: Davison 'brought into England the ancient jewels and rich plate of the house of Burgundy, mortgaged by Matthias of Austria and the States'.

John Chamberlain to Ralph Winwood, 10 March 1613: 'You must think we are brought to a low ebb when the last week the Archduke's Ambassador was carried to see the ancient goodly plate of the house of Burgundy (pawned to Queen Elizabeth by the General States in anno 1578 as I remember) and to know whether his princes would redeem it, for otherwise it was to be melted'.^{CHA}

May-June: Works made Field-gates and Bridges: '22 gates and 12 bridges made through divers closes and ways leading from St Giles's Parish along unto Mile End'; '36 field-gates and 12 bridges towards Holborn, Highgate, Gray's Inn and Mile End and about the fields in sundry men's grounds that the Queen's Majesty might pass the nearest way about London', 61 days ending June 30.

c.June: Francis Drake at 'Nova Albion'.

Drake, halfway through his voyage around the world, landed on the west coast of north America. He took possession of the land on behalf of the Queen and named it Nova Albion. One of his men wrote:

'Our General called this country Nova Albion, and that for two causes: the one in respect of the white banks and cliffs, which lie towards the sea; and the other, because it might have some affinity with our country in name, which sometime was so called'...

'At our departure hence our General set up a monument of our being there, as also of her Majesty's right and title to the same, namely a plate nailed upon a fair great post, whereupon was engraven her Majesty's name, the day and year of our arrival there, with the free giving up of the Province and people into her Majesty's hands, together with her Highness's picture and arms, in a piece of sixpence of current English money under the plate, where under was also written the name of our General'. [Hakluyt, vi.245].

June, early: Captain John Wynter of *The Elizabeth* at Whitehall.

Captain Wynter left Plymouth with Francis Drake in December 1577 to voyage around the world; he became separated from Drake in a storm, 8 October 1578, and turned back. He arrived at Ilfracombe, Devon, on 2 June 1579.

Mendoza to Philip II, June 20: 'The Captain...has been received with extraordinary favour by the Queen, who was closeted with him alone to hear an account of his voyage...The Queen has ordered that both he and the crew should be very well treated'. [Hakluyt, viii.97-99; Span.ii.602: mis-dated 1578].

June 11, Sheffield, Earl of Shrewsbury to Thomas Baldwin, at Shrewsbury House, London, about money matters, including £300 for the Countess's charges at court. [LPL 697/163].

Court news. June 12, St Katherine's [London], Nicholas Mynne to Nathaniel Bacon, of the Duke of Alençon: 'The coming of Monsieur is sometime hot sometime cold though the most of the courtiers promise his coming and provide (as they can) to fit them there against with the best silks which makes them dear'.

'Her Majesty hath been sickly but now (thanks be to God) well again'.

[Bacon, ii.82].

June 12: Privy Council 'sat at the Lord Treasurer's house and the Earl of Clanricarde was brought before them'. He was told the Queen accepted his submission and released him; he was discharged from custody of Hercules Rainsford, Constable of Dublin Castle.^{APC} Rainsford, of Oxfordshire, had brought the Earl and his son from Ireland and kept them prisoners, 13 Sept 1578-12 June 1579. June 14, Walsingham to Lord Justice Drury, in Ireland: Order has been taken for the enlarging of the Earl of Clanricarde. Her Majesty was brought with difficulty to yield to that degree of favour. [SP63/67/4].

The Earl died in 1582, having had three wives and as many mistresses.

*By June 14: Simier revealed to the Queen the Earl of Leicester's secret marriage in 1578 to Lettice (Knollys), the widowed Countess of Essex.

Camden, Annals: Leicester opposed the Queen's marriage to the Duke of Alençon. 'Simier on the other side left no means unassayed to remove Leicester out of place and grace with the Queen, revealing unto her his marriage with Essex's widow; whereat the Queen grew into such a chafe that she commanded Leicester to keep himself within the tower of Greenwich, and thought to have committed him to the Tower of London, which his enemies much desired. But Sussex, though his greatest and heaviest adversary...dissuaded her...he held opinion that no man was to be molested for lawful marriage'...

'Leicester was so incensed herewith that he bent himself to revenge the wrong he had received. And there wanted not some which accused him as if he had suborned one Tudor, of the Queen's Guard...to take away Simier's life. Certainly the Queen commanded by public Proclamation that no man should wrong Simier, his companions or servants, in word or deed'.

Leicester, one of whose servants was Robert Tudor, was absent from Privy Council meetings, June 15-July 6. There has been speculation as to when the Queen learnt of his marriage, but see the Queen of Scots' letter, July 4.

June 15, Mon Council debated marriage treaty between the Queen and Alençon.

June 16-17: 'Articles of matrimony exhibited by du Simier, with reply of the Queen's Council'. [SPF.xvii.718-719].

June 17, court, Dr Thomas Wilson to the Earl of Rutland:

'Yesterday it was agreed in Council that Monsieur should come into England, her Majesty assenting thereunto, and as it is thought, his entry will be in August next. This day a Post is dispatched for that purpose'.^{RT}

June 18: 'A passport granted to Monsieur'.^D

June 21, Sun Alençon's envoy, Rochetaillé, left for France. His departure had been deferred.

Mendoza to Secretary Zayas, June 9: 'Rochetaillé, Alençon's envoy, leaves today for France, without any particular mission but to return to his master'.

To Zayas, June 20: 'The Queen and Council have kept Rochetaillé here from day to day, giving him constant audiences. It is confidently stated that Alençon is coming, and that the arrangements for the visit are being discussed'.

June 24, to Philip II: Rochetaillé left on June 21 with Alençon's passport.

'The Queen...affirms that she will never marry a man whom she has not previously seen. She is burning with impatience for his coming'...

'They say that if Alençon decides to come they will bring the Queen of Scotland to London, which they consider safer...The Earl of Shrewsbury, they say, has built especially for her the new house he has here'. [Span.ii.679-680].

June 24, Wed **WANSTEAD**, Essex; Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester.

Four men were 'sent from Whitehall to Wanstead against her Majesty's coming thither for their attendance to take down the...stuff and carry it from Wanstead to Whitehall', 50s.^T (See July 6, Mendoza's dispatch).

June 26, Fri **WHITEHALL PALACE.**

St Martin in the Fields: 'Paid the 26th of June for ringing for the Queen at her coming from Wanstead unto Whitehall, 8d'.

New appointment: John Popham, Serjeant at Law: Solicitor-General.

July 2, Thur **GREENWICH PALACE,** Kent.

St Martin in the Fields: 'Paid for ringing for the Queen the 2 of July at her going away from Whitehall to Greenwich, 8d'. John North's diary: In the evening her Majesty came by boat from Whitehall to Greenwich.^{NH}

Works made 'bridges at Blackwall and at Ratcliff for the landing of the Queen's Majesty and taking of her barge'. [March 1579-March 1580].

William Herne, Serjeant Painter to the Queen: 'for repairing and mending her Majesty's Galley Barge at Woolwich...for making clean and refreshing the room of state...for refreshing of the writing, and also for working of her Majesty's letters with a compliment, and for working of fishes and garnishing of the stern'.^T [Sept 1578-Sept 1579].

Court news. July 4, Chatsworth, Mary Queen of Scots to the Archbishop of Glasgow (her Ambassador in Paris; contemporary decipher): 'Leicester and Hatton are married secretly, which hath so offended this Queen that it is thought she hath been led, upon such discontentment, to agree unto the sight of the Duke d'Alençon, notwithstanding she had deferred three whole days, with an extreme regret, and many tears, afore she would subscribe the passport, being induced thereunto and almost forced by those that have led this negotiation in despite of the said Leicester'. [Turnbull, 277]. Sir Christopher Hatton never married.

July 4, Paris, Sir Amias Paulet to the Queen, of a conversation with the Duke of Alençon: 'And now, quod I, we think in England that your Highness will be there before the end of August'. Monsieur replied that the time of his departure was yet uncertain. For his part he would be glad to depart 'this next morrow'. I said the journey 'was threatened to have been performed long since'. [SPF.xiv.3]. The Duke arrived at Greenwich on August 17.

July 5, Sun knighting: Gilbert Gerard, Attorney-General since 1559.^M

Court news. July 6, London, Mendoza to Philip II:

'The Queen is daily waiting a reply from France to the passport granted for Alençon. The passport was given against Leicester's wish, and he is so much offended that he has retired to a house of his five miles away where the Queen has been to see him, and where she remained two days because he feigned illness. She afterwards returned secretly to London. A sister of Leicester's, of whom the Queen was very fond, and to whom she had given apartments at court, retired at the same time as her brother'. [Span.ii.681-2]. The sister: Lady Sidney.

July 7, Tues Queen's safe-conduct for Alençon was delivered to Simier. Du Vray, one of Alençon's secretaries, took this to him. [HT.ii.261,293].

July 9: Stationers entered a book by John Jones, Physician, published as: 'The Art and Science of preserving Body and Soul in Health, Wisdom, and Catholic Religion: Physically, Philosophically, and Divinely devised'.

'Right profitable for all persons: but chiefly for Princes, Rulers, Nobles, Bishops, Preachers, Parents, and them of the Parliament House'.

'To the most high, excellent and renowned' Queen. Epistle Dedicatory (9p), introducing the argument of the book, and 'Princely principles'.

In the text Jones says the Queen 'hath a most excellent complexion of body, agreeable to nature, with all gifts of the mind, and education answerable'.

Dr Jones, a Welshman, wrote a number of books on medical subjects.

July 16: See 'Proposed progresses: 1579' for the itinerary of a proposed but cancelled progress in Essex, to start on July 16.

July 17, in Ireland: A force of Spaniards landed at Dingle Bay, led by James Fitzmaurice, with Dr Nicholas Sander.

Fitzmaurice was soon killed, but local Irishmen joined the Spaniards, and on August 3 Edward Waterhouse wrote to Walsingham: 'This rebellion is the most dangerous that has yet been, owing to foreign aid'.

After the rebellion was crushed, Chancellor Gerard told Dr Wilson, September 17, that it was 'the most dangerous thing that has fallen out since the Conquest'. [State Papers, Ireland].

July 17, Fri evening Queen's bargeman wounded.

Camden: 'The Queen for her pleasure was rowed in her barge upon the Thames near Greenwich with Simier, the Earl of Lincoln, and Hatton, her Vice-Chamberlain'.

Composite description from Holinshed and Stow:

'The Queen's Majesty being on the river of Thames about 9 o'clock at night (betwixt her Highness's manor of Greenwich and Deptford) in her Privy Barge, accompanied with the French Ambassador, the Earl of Lincoln, and Mr Vice-Chamberlain, with whom she entered discourse about weighty affairs, it chanced that one Thomas Appletree, a young man and servant to Mr Henry Carey, with two or three Children of her Majesty's Chapel, and one other, being in a boat on the Thames rowing up and down betwixt the places aforesaid, the aforesaid Thomas Appletree had a caliver or arquebus which he had three or four times discharged with bullet, shooting at random very rashly, who by great misfortune shot one of the watermen, being the second man next unto the bales of the said barge labouring with his oar (which sat within six foot of her Highness) clean through both his arms'.

'The blow was so great and grievous that it moved him out of his place, and forced him to cry and screech out piteously, supposing himself to be slain, and saying he was shot through the body. The man bleeding abundantly, the Queen's Majesty showed such noble courage as is most wonderful to be heard and spoken of, for beholding him so maimed, she never bashed thereat, but bade him be of good cheer, and said he should want nothing that might be for his ease'.

'For the which fact [deed] the said Thomas being apprehended and condemned to death was on the 21st of July brought to the waterside, where was a gibbet set up, directly placed between Deptford and Greenwich. But when the hangman had put the halter about his neck, the Right Honourable Sir Christopher Hatton, Captain of the Guard and one of her Majesty's Privy Council, showed the Queen's Majesty's most gracious pardon, and delivered him from execution'.

Henry Chettle, writing in the month after the Queen's death, chose Thomas Appletree's case as an example of her 'princely courage' and of her mercy:

'When Appletree...had hurt her waterman, being next to her in the barge, the French Ambassador being amazed, and all crying Treason, Treason, yet she with an undaunted spirit came to the open place of the barge, and bade them never fear, for if the shot were made at her they durst not shoot again: such majesty had her presence and such boldness her heart, that she despised all fear'...

'However wilful or unwilful the act was, done it was, and by a Jury he was found guilty, and adjudged to die; toward execution he was led with such clamour and injuries of the multitude as seldom any the like hath been seen or heard; so heinous and odious his offence appeared unto them, that being upon the ladder ready to be cast off, the common people had no pity of him; when even just in that moment of despair and death, her Majesty sent a gracious pardon, which delivered him, to all men's wonder'. [Henry Chettle, *England's Mourning Garment* (London, 1603)].

July 24: new appointment: Edmund Tilney, Master of the Revels.
With fee paid from Christmas 1578.^p

July 24: Stationers entered:

'A brief Discourse of the offence of Thomas Appletree'.

'The message sent by the Queen when Appletree should have suffered'.

The report of the Queen's message, from Sir Christopher Hatton's speech, has additional details of July 17: 'It liked her Highness, in respect of the great heat, to take the air of the water, where...she passed the time in discourse with the French ambassador by the space of an hour or two'.

'In her return...because she earnestly read a book...she commanded the barge-men to slack their labour, and slowly to pass on, where if they had hasted but two strokes more they had brought her royal person into the shot itself'...

'Her Majesty taking prospect out of the bales of her barge...did see the man stricken, and beheld his fall, and heard...his deadly screech, whom she immediately commanded to be taken up, and then beholding him all embrued with blood, commanded his wounds to be lapped up with a scarf of her own, and...continued her entertainment of the ambassador as if there had been no such matter. Afterwards the man began to faint, her Highness then commanded a cloak to be put on his body'.

The Council subsequently 'on their knees besought the Queen that this slave might suffer, not this death, but ten thousand deaths, if so it were possible'.

But 'I bring mercy to this man, the most gracious pardon of our most dear Sovereign...Thomas Appletree, receive thy life from her most excellent Majesty'. [Henry Bynneman, *True Report..of the Message..of Sir Christopher Hatton (1579)*].

Thomas Appletree and Barnaby Acton, one of his companions, were imprisoned in the Marshalsea. There are petitions from Appletree to Leicester, and from Barnaby's mother to the Council, for their release; each written by the same scribe, each pleading 'with weeping tears and bowing knees'. [SP12/131/50,51].

'In consideration of a maim which our well beloved subject Ralph Andrews received with an arquebus shot as he rowed us in our barge upon the Thames', the Queen granted him 23 Dec 1579 an annuity of £6.1s8d. [TNA C/66/1188, m.4].

July 26, Sun, Greenwich. Proclamation (641): 'Against the common use of dags, handguns, arquebuses, calivers, and coats of defence'.

Among the orders are that no person is to shoot 'any such small pieces within two miles of any house where her Majesty shall reside during the time of her Majesty's residing', on pain of imprisonment, and that 'some further extraordinary punishment may be extended upon such audacious persons as shall adventure to offend so near to the place where her Majesty's person shall be'.

Seizure is to be made of all 'small dags, called pocket dags [pistols]'.

Court news. July 26, Mendoza to Secretary Zayas: 'The Queen has ordered Simier to be lodged at Greenwich, so as to save him the trouble of going backwards and forwards. She is so constantly with him that I am told that Leicester and Hatton are getting much annoyed'. [Span.ii.683].

July 31, Fri Privy Council to Lord Garrett (Earl of Kildare's son):

As 'his men had threatened the Watch and went about to be revenged of the inhabitants of Tottenham, he should command and enjoin them that they should forbear to molest them or do them any harm, but live quietly, keeping her Majesty's peace as it became good subjects'.^{APC}

July 31: marriage. Edward Darcy (1543-1612), of Dartford, Kent, married Elizabeth Astley, daughter of Thomas Astley of Writtle, Essex, a Groom of the Privy Chamber, half-brother of John Astley.

Queen's gift, July 31: 'A tankard of silver gilt fairly embossed and set on the side with camels' heads of the charge of John Astley Master of the Jewels, and parcel of such plate as served her Majesty in her Privy Chamber'.^{NYG}

The Queen became godmother to Darcy's child (July 1582).

July: Envoy from the Hanse Towns at Greenwich.

The Queen had decreed in April that the Hanse merchants should pay duties on all their imports and exports. George Lisemann was sent in July to attempt to get this decree withdrawn. [SPF List 1, 410].

Aug 5: See 'Proposed progresses: 1579' for the itinerary of a second proposed but cancelled progress in Essex, to start on August 5.

Aug 6, Greenwich, Sir Francis Walsingham to Lord Burghley, of Alençon:

'It is given out that Monsieur will be here at the time limited, yet her Majesty gives no order for receiving him, which maketh us to muse what will become of the matter. And therefore it is suspected that between her Majesty and Simier (for few others are acquainted with the cause), it is concluded that he shall come over shortly in secret manner'. [SP12/131/54].

August 6-7: A book attacking the Queen's proposed marriage to Alençon was taken to a printer, who on about August 18 printed a thousand copies.

Published anonymously, entitled: 'The Discoverie of a Gaping Gulf whereinto England is like to be swallowed by another French marriage, if the Lord forbid not the banns by letting her Majesty see the sin and punishment thereof'.

By John Stubbs (or Stubbe, c.1541-1590).

The tone is set on the first page, where Stubbs declares that the French 'have sent us hither, not Satan in body of a serpent, but the old serpent in shape of a man, whose sting is in his mouth, and who doth his endeavour to seduce our Eve, that she and we may lose the English Paradise'...

'We shall find the Church notably undermined by the Pope, the very foundations of our commonweal dangerously digged at by the French; and our dear Queen Elizabeth (I shake to speak) led blindfold as a poor lamb to the slaughter'.

Stubbs supports his arguments by many Scriptural references and historical allusions. The date of printing was given at his Trial, but he added to the book after the Duke of Alençon's visit, for he refers to his 'sudden arrival here', 'his secret coming and departing', and this 'needy French kind of wooing'.

He concludes by praying that the Queen's 'Christian, honourable, healthful, joyful, peaceful, and long sovereign reign without all superior overruling commander, especially French, namely Monsieur, the King of Kings hold on, to his glory and her assurance of the true glory in that other Kingdom of Heaven'.

'Amen, Amen, Amen'.

[The Queen's angry response: Sept 25,27].

Aug 9: Stationers entered: 'A ballad wherein you may see the hearty sorrow of Thomas Appletree'.

Another ballad 'declaring the dangerous shooting of the gun at the court' on July 17, to the tune of 'Such and such', has the refrain:

'Weep, weep, still I weep, and shall do till I die,

To think upon the gun was shot, at court so dangerously'.

[Harleian Miscellany, x (1813), 272-3].

Aug 9: Lord Burghley and Sir Walter Mildmay, on their way to Northampton 'to hear the babbling matters of the town for the causes of religion' spent a night at Holdenby House, Northants, newly built by Sir Christopher Hatton, the Vice-Chamberlain, and inviting comparison with Burghley's own palatial Theobalds, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire.

Aug 9, Greenwich, Sir Christopher Hatton to Lord Burghley, at Holdenby:

'I fear me...your Lordship shall find my house unbuilt, and very far from good order, for the newness you shall find it dampish'...

'I humbly beseech you...show your opinion to the Surveyor of such lack and faults as shall appear to you in this rude building...done hitherto in direct observation of your house and plots [plans] of Theobalds'...

'Your Lordship will pardon my lack of presence to attend on you, because you know my leave cannot be gotten. God bless you for ever! my good Lord, and a thousand and ten thousand times I humbly bid you welcome'...

'Her most excellent Majesty hath good health, God be praised for it, and hath commanded me to write her most gracious and loving commendations unto you'.

'Order is in part given to prepare against Monsieur's coming'.

Aug 10 [Holdenby], Lord Burghley to Sir Christopher Hatton:

'I may not pass out of this good house...without memory of her Majesty, to whom it appeareth this goodly perfect though not perfected work is consecrated'...

'I visited all your rooms high and low, and only the contentation of mine eyes made me forget the infirmity of my legs. And where you were wont to say it was a young Theobalds...God send us both long to enjoy her for whom we both meant to exceed our purses in these. And so I end, with my prayer for her health, and thanks humbly for her Majesty's remembrance of me her weak spirit'.

'From a monument of her Majesty's bountifulness to a thankful servant, that is from Holdenby, Queen Elizabeth's memory by Sir Christopher Hatton, her faithful servant and counsellor'. [Nicolas, 125-126].

Thomas Fuller: 'If Florence be said to be a city so fine that it ought not to be shown but on holidays, Holdenby was a house which should not have been shown but on Christmas Day'. [Worthies, Northants].

Aug 13: Stationers entered: 'A ballad of British Sidanen applied by a courtier to the praise of the Queen'. The ballad, by Ludowick Lloyd, is not extant, but the verses, with various titles, are preserved in a number of manuscripts.

'Sidanen': 'the silken one', or 'the one clad in silk'. Welsh: sidan: silk. A Welsh term of endearment for a woman, and particularly for Queen Elizabeth.

The 'Sidanen' (or 'Sydanen') Queen is given precedence over all celebrated ladies of ancient history, myth, and the Scriptures, as in:

'A Ditty to the tune of Welsh Sydannen, made to the Queen's Majesty Elizabeth by Ludowick Lloyd'. This begins:

'Flee stately Juno Samos fro, from Delos straight Diana go;
Minerva Athens must forsake, Sidanen Queen your seat must take:
Sidanen conquers kings with quill; Sidanen governs states at will;
Sidanen fears her foes with pen; With peace Sidanen conquers men'.

[Ludowick Lloyd dedicated or addressed several works to the Queen].

This was first published in 1810; reprinted, and discussed, by Sally Harper, 'A Dittie to the tune of Welsh Sydannen: a Welsh image of Queen Elizabeth'.

[Renaissance Studies, vol.19, no.2 (2005), 201-228].

Court news. Aug 14, London, William Herle to Earl of Leicester, of Alençon:

The French Ambassador told me today 'that Monsieur would be here within these 20 days, and that Simier lodged in Mr Light's house. It is reported abroad that your Lordship and Simier are entered into a very great league and familiarity'.

[Bath, v.201]. Simier was lodged at Greenwich in the house of Anthony Light, one of the Queen's Gentlemen Ushers.

Court news. Aug 15, London, Mendoza to Philip II:

'Simier has recently dispatched several secret couriers without informing the French Ambassador, and is constantly with this Queen'. [Span.ii.687].

Also Aug 15: Lord Burghley returned to the court at Greenwich.TH

Aug 16, Sun Privy Council instructed Sir John Perrot, appointed Admiral of the Queen's ships presently sent to the seas, to cruise off the west coast of Ireland, and to act against pirates.^{APC} His ship was *The Revenge*.

Aug 17, Mon Sir John Perrot went to his ship 'where the Lords dined'.TH

Description by his son James: Sir John (c.1529-1592), of Pembrokehire, was suddenly summoned to Greenwich from Wales (riding by post 200 miles in less than three days), to command ships to intercept Spanish forces being sent to Ireland.

Sir John prepared for his voyage 'with all convenient speed. He had with him 50 men in orange tawny cloaks, whereof divers were gentlemen of good birth and quality. Also he had a Noise of Musicians with him, being his own servants. He was served all in silver plate, with all things else suitable, and so being royally furnished in all respects he departed from London about August, and going from thence by barge he had with him divers noblemen and gentlemen who did accompany him unto the ships'.

'As they came by barge against Greenwich where the Queen kept her court, Sir John Perrot sent one of his gentlemen ashore with a diamond in a token unto Mistress Blanche Parry, willing him to tell her that a diamond coming unlooked for did always bring good luck with it, which the Queen hearing of sent Sir John Perrot a fair jewel hanged by a white cypress, signifying withal that as long as he wore that for her sake she did believe with God's help he should have no harm. Which message and jewel Sir John Perrot received joyfully, and he returned answer unto the Queen that he would wear that for his Sovereign's sake, and doubted not with God's favour to return her ships in safety, and either to bring the Spaniards (if they came in his way) as prisoners or else to sink them in the seas. So as Sir John Perrot passed by in his barge, the Queen looking out at the window shook her fan and put out her hand towards him, who making a low obeisance put the scarf and jewel about his neck which the Queen sent him'.

'Rowing along towards Gillingham where the Queen's ships rode and where Sir John Perrot feasted a shipboard such noblemen and gentlemen as came with him thither'. [Perrott, 55-56]. Blanche Parry: Chief Gentlewoman of Privy Chamber.

August 17-28: Duke of Alençon's 'private' visit to Greenwich.

François Duke of Anjou and of Alençon (1555-1584), generally known in England as 'Monsieur' or as Alençon. He left Paris August 3, sending a gentleman to inform the Queen and Simier that he would soon arrive; he was delayed by bad weather, and his 'secret' visit soon became widely known. He took with him only De Vray his Secretary, 3 gentlemen and 4 servants, being a valet, a 'portmanteau', a barber and a wine-waiter. He travelled incognito, taking the name of Seigneur du Pont de Sé (the place where one of the French royal houses was situated).

[P.L.Muller and A.Diegerick, *Documents concernant les Relations entre le Duc d'Anjou et les Pays-Bas* (1889-99), iii.117-119].

The Queen called the Duke her 'grenouille' (frog, which was, and remains, a pejorative term for a Frenchman). 'A frog he would a-wooing go' is later than 1579. There was considerable opposition to a marriage with a Frenchman, as in an anonymous poem threatening the Duke placed on the Lord Mayor's door, concluding:

'Therefore, good Francis, rule at home, resist not our desire;
For here is nothing else for thee, but only sword and fire'.

[Susan Doran, *Monarchy and Matrimony*, 164].

Aug 17, Mon Duke of Alençon arrived at Greenwich.
 'Monsieur came to London to Mauvissière's house and lay that night at Greenwich in Mr Light's house'.TH Anthony Light, Gentleman Usher.

[Aug 17] Simier to the Queen, thanking her for sending to inform him of Alençon's arrival 'without which I should have found myself surprised in bed by him whom you know, who entered my room at the very hour that the gentleman you had sent to me went out. He told me that he had met several persons in the street, but that he did not think he had been recognised by anyone. I assure you that I myself had difficulty in recognising him, so thoroughly was he disguised. Never was man so tired as he, nevertheless he wished vehemently that I should go to your Majesty, and beg you in his name that he might kiss your hands just as he was. But having shown him that it was impossible, that it was necessary to go through a dozen rooms before approaching yours, and that your Majesty was still sleeping, I begged him to take some rest'. [HT.ii.468, and xxxi].

Venetian Ambassador in Paris, to the Senate, Aug 30:
 'Monsieur...having exchanged cloaks with De Simier, so as not to be recognised.. entered the presence of the Queen, who, attended by one lady only, was awaiting him. The embraces and kisses which are customary in that country were repeated several times, and they mutually showed the greatest satisfaction with one another. The Queen...forthwith presented him with a golden key, with which he could privately enter and open every apartment in the palace, however secret it might be. Monsieur then...placed a most beautiful and precious diamond... upon the Queen's finger, and the Queen, on her part, having commanded her lady in waiting to bring her a small jewelled arquebus of a very great price, made Monsieur a present of it'. [Ven.vii.611].

Aug 17: Charter for the Eastland Company, to trade in Norway, Sweden, Poland, Estonia, Prussia, Finland (etc). First Governor: Alderman Thomas Pullison.^P

Court news. Aug 20, Mendoza to Philip II: 'Alençon...the English say, has come in disguise because he could not afford to bring his household with him. As soon as the Queen went to Greenwich she gave a key of her chamber to Simier, who always entered by the closet door, and as soon as she heard of Alençon's coming she moved Simier into some rooms in the garden, and I am told that on the 17th Alençon dined in Simier's room with the Queen, who only had one lady with her. It would seem that he will return in disguise as he came. The Queen denied to me that he was here...saying that if he had not come yet he soon would, and with few attendants, as she wished. She and Simier think that this is the best way of concealing the day of his departure, and with this object also, certain Frenchmen entered the French Ambassador's house on the night of the 17th, and are shut up in a room, on the pretence that it is Alençon who is there'. [Span.ii.690].

Court news. Aug 22, London, Mendoza to Secretary Zayas:
 'The Queen was very angry at the gossip about Alençon's coming, and she formally ordered that the matter should not be spoken of. Two of her ladies, the Countess of Derby and a daughter of the Earl of Bedford, have been arrested for talking about it...They have been lodged in the house of a gentleman in London'.

'The Councillors themselves deny that Alençon is here, and in order not to offend the Queen they shut their eyes and avoid going to court...only attending the Council when they are obliged...Leicester is much put out, and all the Councillors are disgusted except Sussex'.

Five couriers have come from the French King. 'Secretary L'Aubespine also arrived last night. It is said that the latter will leave on Monday [Aug 24]'.

The Countess of Derby was in custody at Thomas Seckford's house in Clerkenwell; she lost the Queen's favour and was not again at court.

Court news. Aug 25, London, Mendoza to Philip II: L'Aubespine and his brother, a lawyer and Councillor, came to request the Queen to join with France to prevent the union of the Crowns of Portugal and Spain.

'The Queen is delighted with Alençon and he with her...saying that she was pleased to have known him...and admired him more than any man'...

'Leicester, who is in great grief, came hither recently, and when he came from his interview with the Queen his emotion was remarked. A meeting was held on the same night at the Earl of Pembroke's house, there being present Lord [Sir Henry] Sidney and other friends and relatives...Some of them afterwards remarked that Parliament would have something to say as to whether the Queen married or not. The people in general seem to threaten revolution about it'.

'On Sunday the 23rd there was a grand ball where the Queen danced much more than usual, Alençon being placed behind a hanging, and she making signals to him'...

'I learn that one of the charges against the Countess of Derby, besides talking about the marriage, is that she tried to discover by means of witchcraft...whether the Queen would live long'.

Aug 25, Mendoza to Secretary Zayas: Leicester 'is cursing the French, and is greatly incensed against Sussex'. [Span.ii.692-3].

By Aug 27, at Greenwich: Tennis court quarrel between Philip Sidney and the Earl of Oxford. Described by Sidney's friend Fulke Greville: Sidney 'being one day at tennis, a peer of this realm...came abruptly into the tennis court... He commands them to depart the court'. Sidney refused; Oxford called him 'by the name of puppy'. 'The French commissioners unfortunately had that day audience in those private galleries whose windows looked into the tennis court. They instantly drew all to this tumult'. Oxford repeated 'this epithet of puppy', to which Sidney retorted. 'They stood silent awhile like a dumb show in a tragedy'. Then Sidney 'with some words of sharp accent led the way abruptly out of the Tennis court'. With a duel in prospect the Privy Council 'laboured a reconciliation', then referred the matter to the Queen, who laid before Sidney 'the difference in degree between earls and gentlemen, the respect inferiors owed to their superiors...how the gentleman's neglect of the nobility taught the peasant to insult upon both'. [Fulke Greville, *Life of Sir Philip Sidney*].

Greville's account is undated, but on August 28 Sidney wrote to Hatton of 'the matter depending between the Earl of Oxford and me'. [Nicolás, 129].

Aug 28, Fri dinner with the Duke of Alençon, at Cobham, Kent. Cobham manor-house, Cobham Hall; owned by William Brooke, 10th Lord Cobham.

The Queen accompanied Alençon as far as Cobham on his departure for France. Mendoza to Zayas, Sept 5: 'He gave the Queen a diamond ring worth, the French say, 10,000 crowns, which he handed to her when he bade her farewell at Cobham. The parting was very tender on both sides, and the Queen presented Alençon with another jewel. He gave Leicester a cord for his cap, consisting of precious stones worth 3000 crowns, and to Sussex a diamond ring of similar value'.

'Lady Stafford and other ladies received jewels from the stock brought by Simier, who remains here to continue the negotiations'.

Venetian Ambassador to France, Sept 10: 'I am told that the Queen and Monsieur were frequently alone together from morning until night, and seemed unable to live without each other'. She said that she found him "most handsome in her eyes". So also it is said that Monsieur is most satisfied with the Queen'. She gave him 'a most beautiful diamond in the shape of a heart, and had said to him at their parting "Now the world will see whether I, as was pretended, have made you prisoner, or whether you have not rather made me a prisoner, and yours ever most obliged"'. [Span.ii.694; Ven.vii.614].

Aug 28, Fri **WANSTEAD**, Essex; Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester.
 'Monsieur returned towards France, the Queen having brought him on his way to my Lord Cobham's and from thence she went to Wanstead'.TH

Aug 30, Sun and 31, Mon Wanstead: Privy Council meetings.

Aug 30: Alençon sailed to France. He wrote to the Queen, with protestations of his love and thanks and of his tears and sighs at leaving her, from Dover on Aug 29, and twice on Aug 30; also on Aug 30 from the ship, and again on Aug 30 from Boulogne; twice on Aug 31 from Boulogne; from Paris on Sept 5 that he has spoken of the perfections of the Queen's court, which ought to be the admiration of everyone, and that he is dying for want of news from her. [HT.ii.265-7]. Mauvissière declared that the letters were ardent enough to set fire to water.

The Scout (Earl of Lincoln, Lord Admiral; John Sute, Master) took Alençon from Dover to France. There were also 'charges of carriage by water as well of armour and targets at the wafting over of Duke Alençon, 60s6d'.^N

Simier accompanied Alençon to Dover, then returned to London.

c. September: Philip Sidney, apparently after discussions with kinsmen and courtiers, wrote an open Letter to the Queen setting out 'reasons that make me think the marriage of Monsieur will be unprofitable unto you', and strongly objecting to her marrying a French Papist, 'the son of a Jezebel of our age'.

Although using arguments similar to those of John Stubbs, of the dangers to England of the marriage, Sidney made a courteous and comparatively moderate appeal to the Queen, concluding by calling her 'the example of princes, the ornament of this age, the comfort of the afflicted, the delight of your people, the most excellent fruit of all your progenitors, and the perfect mirror to your posterity'. Sidney's Letter circulated widely in manuscript, as 'A Letter to Queen Elizabeth touching her marriage with Monsieur'. (First published 1663).

Fulke Greville says of Sidney's relationship with the Queen that he 'kept his access to her Majesty as before', but from September 1579-August 1580 he lived mainly with his sister Mary, Countess of Pembroke, in Wiltshire, whilst writing his 'Arcadia'. There has been speculation as to his motives for absence from court, but he himself explained it as his poor financial state: he wrote from Clarendon Park, Wiltshire, to his uncle the Earl of Leicester, 2 Aug 1580: 'I doubt not her Majesty will vouchsafe to ask for me, but so long as she sees a silk doublet upon me her Highness will think me in good case. At my departure I desired Mr Vice-Chamberlain [Hatton] he would tell her Majesty necessity did even banish me from the place'. [Kuin, Sidney, 990-991].

Sept 1, Tues John North rode to the court at Wanstead.^{NH}

c. Sept 2: knighting at Wanstead: Dru Drury.^M

Dru Drury was Gentleman Usher of the Privy Chamber 1558-59, when he was dismissed and imprisoned for over a year for allegedly plotting against Lord Robert Dudley, later Earl of Leicester; he was reinstated in 1576.

On his death in 1617 he left his son Dru 'my great chain of gold, and my jewel of gold with our late gracious Queen Elizabeth's picture therein'.

c. Sept 2, Wed **GREENWICH PALACE**.

Sept 4, Fri Greenwich: Privy Council meeting.

Sept 6, George John, Palatine of the Rhine, Duke of Bavaria, to the Queen, sending his Privy Councillor, Gerson Heldt de Ditennaw, with details of a conspiracy and treason against her person and State. [Murdin, 322: French].

Sept 6, Sun Spanish Ambassador at Greenwich for audience.
 Mendoza to Philip II, Sept 13: 'I saw the Queen on the 6th...She kept dwelling upon Alençon's good qualities, and praising the Queen Mother, whom she formerly abominated, saying how cleverly she had brought France to its present good order. Even if the marriage do not take place, it is probable that a binding union with the French may be effected'. [Span.ii.695].

Court news. Sept 7, Mauvissière to Henri III, of Alençon and the Queen:
 'The two lovers were contented...Monseigneur was for thirteen days and thirteen nights three paces from the Queen's chamber and they were together except for four or five hours for sleep; they agreed so well on everything that I have never seen such great amity'. Sept 7, to M.du Haillan: 'The Queen of England was never prettier nor more beautiful. There is nothing of an old woman about her except her years which are today seventh of this month 46'.^{BT}

Sept 7, Mon: Queen's birthday celebrations, e.g.
 St Botolph Aldgate paid Lawrence Ponder, their Sexton:
 'To Ponder for ringing for the Queen the day she was born, 8d'.
 St Margaret Westminster: 'For ringing for the Queen's Majesty's birth...12d'.
 St Mary Woolchurch Haw: 'Paid the ringers for drink and candles on the Queen's birthday, 1s'. Lambeth, Surrey, churchwardens paid: 'For our breakfast 7 Septembris, 3s; to one of her Majesty's Almoners the same day, 2s; for ringing the time of her Majesty's Nativity, 2s6d'.

Sept 8: in Scotland: arrival of Esmé Stuart, 6th Sieur d'Aubigny (c.1542-1583), a Catholic who had been living in France. He was a cousin of King James; he rapidly won the affection of the young King.

Sept 9, Wed dinner, Stratford, Middlesex; Mr Young.
 'At Stratford Bow'.^T Stratford house of Richard Young, a 'Customer' of the Customs of London; a prominent Justice of the Peace; married; died c.1594.
Start of SHORT PROGRESS in Middlesex and Essex.

Sept 9, Wed **HAVERING**, Essex.
 Havering House; Crown property. 'Havering the Bower, being one of her Majesty's houses of access'.^W 'Her Majesty altered her coming thither two several times'.^T

Sept 11, 13, Havering: Privy Council meetings.

Court news. Sept 13, Mendoza to Secretary Zayas: 'The Queen left Greenwich on the 9th to make a short progress, hunting at various gentlemen's seats until early next month, when she comes to London for the Parliament'. [Span.ii.697].
 Parliament was next held in 1581.

Sept 14: Simier and the resident French Ambassador Mauvissière left London at the Queen's invitation to join her on a fortnight's progress.^{BT}
 Sept 14, Havering: Privy Council meeting.

c.Sept 14, Mon dinner, Brentwood, Essex; Mr Searle.^T

c.Sept 14, Mon **INGATESTONE**, Essex; Lady Petre.^T
 Ingatestone manor-house; occupied as her dower-house by Lady Petre (1509-1582); Catholic. She was Anne (Browne), daughter of William Browne, mercer, Lord Mayor of London in 1513; widow of (1) John Tyrell; (2) Sir William Petre, a former Privy Councillor with whom the Queen stayed at Ingatestone in 1561.

Works paid 'at the Lady Peter's', 3s10d.

Sept 14: Roger 2nd Lord North's accounts: 'Lost to the Queen, £4.10s'.^A

c.Sept 15-Dec 30: *Nicholas Errington was special Ambassador to Scotland. Sent partly to report the effect of the arrival of the Sieur d'Aubigny.*

c.Sept 15,Tues **NEW HALL**, Boreham, Essex; Earl of Sussex.

New Hall, Boreham; owned by Thomas Radcliffe, 3rd Earl of Sussex (c.1525-1583), Lord Chamberlain, Privy Councillor, Captain of the Gentlemen Pensioners.

2nd wife: Frances (Sidney) (c.1531-1589), aunt of Philip Sidney; by her will she founded Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. New Hall had an Italian inscription beginning: '*Viva Elizabetha*'. Translated as:

'On earth the wisest Queen, in Heaven the brightest star, Noble, learned, divine, graceful, honourable, and fair Virgin'. [Nichols (2014), i.189].

The Earl of Sussex gave a detailed description in his will of the hangings and some other furnishings of New Hall at the Queen's visit (see 9 June 1583).

Simon Bowyer made ready at New Hall in Essex, and a standing. John Pigeon, Jewel-house Officer: 'For chains to be given by her Majesty to sundry persons at 12 several times both to and from the court; for a cart to carry plate from the Tower to the court at Havering and thence to New Hall; for hire of three horses being sent in great haste from New Hall to London for chains for her Majesty to give away being distant 28 miles and back again; and for the hire of a cart to carry the said plate from New Hall to the Tower again'.^T

Chelmsford, St Mary's Church: 'Paid for 8 ringers two days when the Queen's Majesty was at New Hall, 6s8d; paid the same time to the Almoner's man, for unsealing the church door, 5s'. [If a church failed to ring the bells when the Queen passed through a parish her Almoner sealed the door and levied a fine].

c.Sept 15, at New Hall: entertainment.

Description by Sir Edward Clere (of Norfolk, a second cousin of the Queen) to Bassingbourne Gawdy, Sheriff of Norfolk, Sept 22:

'The entertainment of her Majesty at New Hall was very magnificent. First the Earl of Sussex meeting her with a marvellous troop of those that be accounted his well-willers, namely besides the Lord Treasurer [Burghley], the Earls of Northumberland, Rutland and Surrey, with Viscount Montague, all which were said to have travelled of purpose to do him then that honour. Of lords six or seven, and many knights'.

'There were placed several sorts of music at the Outer Court, the Inner Court, the Hall, the Great Chamber, the Chamber of Presence, and the Privy Chamber, each tunable with such sound and variety as were thought most apt for the places and resort to the same. In the bestowing the attendants it was noted that there were about four hundred'.

'At the coming towards the Hall was a scaffold erected, and thereupon when her Highness approached was a resemblance of the opening the air, thunder, lightning, light, and such appearance as be seen when the air is obfuscated and troubled in such seasons, aptly counterfeited'.

'Hereupon stepped forth Jupiter and delivered some reason of the troubles of the gods and motion of the heavens in manner aforesaid, which was there the greater inasmuch as he had signification of the approach of such a creature thither whose nature was most congruent to a divine spirit, and it troubled him and so the rest of the divine power to admit the society of such considering all things now framed in perfection in heaven'.

'And therefore this of sudden was set out by his power to express the terrible things above, and that the creatures terrified should not further approach to Deity. But seeing that he found that this wrought not so great effect as hath ensued in like cases, and it seemed this divine creature so nearly had resemblance with the nature of the gods, and in some degree excelled, he would call the other company of his heavenly sphere and they would each counsel with other, promising his favour for the continuance of a thing so excellent a nature'.

'Then at the call came the other company, and descreying that this creature was the Queen's Majesty it was put over to the women goddesses to yield their reasons for continuance of that excelling nature according to Jupiter's determination. Among the rest all concurred of the superexcellency of that creature and especially yielded to her in this that being conversant among men, and both publicly and privately frequenting company of choice men, yet was she not for all this allured or persuaded by such company in other manner than as a creature immaculate. And yet now at length considering the gods all had joined in one resolution that they all favoured the continuance in earth of such divine nature. Therefore meet it were that she that was so divinely inspired should assent herein to such purpose of the gods'.

'And the mean was to admit such a matrimonial conjunction as were meet; to the which she should find all the divine powers bent to make it fortunate'.

c.Sept 16: at New Hall: Tournament.

'The next day Jousts were prepared, and Mr Radcliffe, Mr T.Knyvet and Mr Ralph Bowes were Challengers, and sundry ran against them, among which Mr Tresham had very evil fortune to be overthrown horse and man by default of his horse. There were eleven other, each running three courses. To tell you who did better than other is above my reach'.

'This done cometh in a Knight laid in a chariot guided by a Damsel complaining that the Knight was enchanted, and that she by these Challengers had been hindered to seek remedy for this Knight, and that was none other but in that a Virgin Queen would vouchsafe to sprinkle water on him: when many had tried to help the Knight, the Queen's fortune was to dissolve all this enchantment. And then he assayed his prowess against the Challengers, and did very well, as the fame was spread'.

'Then was there preparation for the hunting, the morrow after. And for the better furniture of her Highness was brought a palfrey all white, and furniture for the same; and a cloak and safeguard to keep her from evil weather that might hap; presented to her from her Ladyship's chaplain. I leave it in suspense to commend either the colour, the cost, or the curious workmanship and making of them'.

'I can tell you of some that were not at the court, by reason I met them not far from Ratcliff, when I went toward shipboard, namely the Earl of Pembroke and Mr Philip Sidney with a great troop with them'. [BL Add MS 27960, f.12].

The four named tilters can be identified as: Thomas Radcliffe, a Gentleman Pensioner and cousin of the Earl of Sussex; Thomas Knyvett, a Groom of the Privy Chamber; Ralph Bowes and William Tresham, Gentlemen Pensioners.

Court news. Sept 17, Mendoza to Zayas: A gentleman arrived from Alençon on Sept 13 who reported the taking of Fuenterrabia. 'There are couriers coming constantly from France, both for the Queen and the ambassadors, who are now staying with her at the Earl of Sussex's house, where all is feasting, dancing, and toasting the good news. I believe they are pressing for money for Bearn [the King of Navarre] for which purpose they will sell his mother's jewels, which are now here in pawn [since 1569]'. [Span.ii.697-8].

The King of Navarre was wrongly reported to have captured Fuenterrabia.

Sept 18, Mauvissière to Henri III: 'The Queen's arrival at this house was very honourable and very costly for the Earl, and replete with a thousand fine speeches in Latin by learned scholars and young children...It would not have been possible to see anything arranged better in every respect, and with great magnificence. We have been well lodged and treated with honour'.^{BT}

Sept 18, Fri New Hall: Privy Council meeting. Passport for Hallot de Montmorency 'sent out of France unto her Majesty, to repair home again'.^{APC}

Sept 18: Stationers entered a book by 'Claudii A Sancto Vinculo'. Claud Hollyband [also known as Claud Desainliens], dedicated to the Queen: De Pronuntiatione Linguae Gallicae. [On the Pronunciation of French].

Latin dedication. Text-book in Latin and French. 127p. (London, 1580). The author came to England as a Huguenot refugee, c.1564, and for 40 years had his own school teaching French; he wrote several successful text-books.

Sept 18: Stationers entered a book published as: 'A Golden Chain. Taken out of the rich treasure house the Psalms of King David; also, The precious Pearls of King Solomon. Published for the adorning of all true Christians which are the right Nobility, against the triumphant return of our blessed Saviour which is nigh at hand'. By Thomas Rogers.

'To the Queen's most sacred Majesty, Elizabeth...continuance, and if it may be, much increase of prosperity in this world; with everlasting joys in Heaven among the Saints of God'.

Epistle Dedicatory (8p): 'God said of governors I have said ye are Gods... God vouchsafing them his own name, no doubt will have them in some sort to answer to his divine nature'.

Rogers describes the four 'causes of this dedication', comparing the Queen's deeds with those of David and Solomon, e.g. he compares King David's 'foiling of Goliath with your Majesty's over-throwing the Pope; his rooting out of the Philistines with your Majesty's suppressing the Papists; his affliction with your imprisonment; his persecution with your troubles; his singing of godly songs with your godly books; his love of his God with your promoting his glory and defending of pure religion'.

'To the Christian reader peace in Christ'.
The book begins with:

'The first part of David's Chain: 22 'links' [prayers for all occasions].

'The second part of David's Chain': 27 links, e.g. link 9, 'A prayer for the prosperous estate of our Queen, and Council'; link 18, 'A prayer when war is hot'; link 20, 'A prayer of the godly when victory is lost, and the enemy hath got the upper hand'.

'The third part of David's Chain': 22 links, e.g. link 14, 'A general thanksgiving unto God, when the enemies are foiled and put to flight'.

'The first part of King Solomon's pearls': 56 'threads' [proverbial wisdom], e.g. thread 7, 'Of foolishness, with notes how to know a fool; thread 28, 'The properties and duty of a good Prince'.

'The second part of Solomon's pearls': 44 threads. (London, 1579).
Thomas Rogers (c.1553-1616): Suffolk clergyman, translator of religious texts, and religious controversialist.

*Sept 21, Mon dinner, Moulsham, Essex; Sir Thomas Mildmay.^T
Moulsham manor-house; owned by Sir Thomas Mildmay (c.1540-1608).

1st wife: Frances (Radcliffe), sister of Thomas Radcliffe 3rd Earl of Sussex; the Queen was at her marriage in 1566.

At Moulsham, knightings: John Heigham, of Suffolk;
Edward Huddleston, Sheriff of Essex.^M

Sept 21, Mon **THOBY**, Mountnessing, Essex; Mr Butler.^{T,W}
Thoby Priory. John Butler; married; died c.1613.

Sept 21, Thoby, Chancery warrant.

c. Sept 22, Tues **GIDEA HALL**, Romford, Essex; Mr Cooke.^{T,W}

Gidea Hall, near Romford; owned by Richard Cooke; wife: Ann (Caulton).

Richard was son of Sir Anthony Cooke, whom the Queen visited at Gidea Hall in 1568; his five sisters included Lady Bacon and Lady Burghley.

Cooke's gift to the Queen: 'A bowl of gold with a cover and a white rose in the top'. [*Jewels*, 1480]. Richard Cooke died 3rd October 1579.

Sept 25, Fri Giddy Hall: Privy Council meeting.

Court news. Sept 25, London, Mendoza to Philip II: 'The Queen continues to regale in an extraordinary way the three ambassadors who are with her. They have all been lately at the house of the Earl of Sussex, where the Queen and they have been grandly entertained. The rest of the Councillors treat them in the same way, inviting them to their houses and feasting them'...

'A printed book has recently been published here setting forth the evils arising from a union with the French. Many arguments and reasons are adduced, and examples are given of what has happened on other occasions. As soon as it was published the Queen prohibited its possession under pain of death, and great efforts were used to collect all the copies, and to discover the author, in order to prevent the circulation of the facts before Parliament meets'.

[*Span.ii.700*].

Sept 27, Sun, 'Giddy Hall in Essex'. Proclamation (642):

Denouncing *The Discoverie of a Gaping Gulf*, by John Stubbs; written against the Queen's marriage to the Duke of Alençon. Described as 'a lewd seditious book of late rashly compiled and secretly printed, and afterwards seditiously dispersed into sundry corners of the realm'. Her Majesty 'cannot but detest greatly and condemn such a seditious author', with his 'false reports, suggestions, and manifest lies forged against a prince of a royal blood'. There are also 'vile, dishonest, railing speeches and taunts' against his ambassador.

'As for the rest of the contents of the said lewd book, tending to open to her Majesty's subjects such fearful dangers to her Majesty's person, to the cause of religion, to the whole estate of the realm, and so forth, and all only by her Majesty's marriage... She hath had so many solicitations, requests, yea, prayers, of her people in common continually... to dispose herself to marriage as the only remedy to avoid all the perils now threatened by this seditious writing... Now nevertheless, all the same calamities and mischiefs thought meet... to be avoided only by her marriage are... threatened to fall upon the realm contrariwise by her Majesty's marriage'...

'The foresaid book or libel, wheresoever they or any the like may be found, shall be destroyed in open sight of some public officer'.

Also Sept 27, Giddy Hall: Privy Council meeting. The Council wrote to the Lord Mayor (Sir Richard Pipe), requiring him to publish the Proclamation in London, and to command the Livery Companies to have it read in their Halls, and to charge their members to bring all copies of the book to be destroyed.

[Sept 28, Mon] dinner, Ilford, Essex; Mr Fanshawe.^T

Thomas Fanshawe (c.1533-1601), Queen's Remembrancer of the Court of the Exchequer; 2nd wife (1578): Joan (Smith) (1560-1622); daughter of 'Customer' Thomas Smith. Fanshawe owned St Mary's Hospital, High Street, Ilford. There is a local tradition that the Queen once visited Ilford House, High Street.

Fanshawe leased Clayhall manor, Ilford, and owned two manors in Barking, Essex, and Ware Park, Herts.

His grandson's wife Lady Anne Fanshawe noted in her *Memoirs* that the Queen said that he was 'the best officer of accounts she had, and a person of great integrity'.

Sept 28, Mon **GREENWICH PALACE.**

Hugh Underhill, of the Wardrobe of Beds, and his man, 'being commanded by her Majesty to abide behind at Greenwich during her Highness's progress into Essex to look to certain robes and jewels committed to his custody and keeping until her Highness's return again', viz. from September 10-September 28, 50s.^T

Court news. Sept 29, Antwerp newsletter:

'It is supposed in London that the Queen's marriage is certain to take place. Dover Castle is being splendidly decorated for the purpose'.

Sept 29, Mendoza to Secretary Zayas: 'Alençon's gentleman has been dispatched by the Queen, with a cap-cord worth, as they say, 3000 crowns and a chain worth 300 for himself'. Oct 12, Paris, Sir Amias Paulet (Ambassador) to the Queen:

'Monsieur Hallot de Montmorency speaks so honourably of your Majesty and your court...that you have no cause to repent of your favour to him in England'.

[Fugger, 34; Span.ii.701; SPF.xiv.71].

29 September/December: christening: Queen was godmother to Mr William Cornwallis' daughter.^T Parents: William Cornwallis, of Suffolk;

1st wife: Lucy (Nevill), daughter of John Nevill 4th Lord Latimer.

Queen's gift: a bowl of silver gilt.^{PS} Second daughter: Elizabeth Cornwallis (1579-1658); she married (1596) Sir William Sandys; (1630) Viscount Lumley.

Oct 2, and onwards: The Privy Council continued to deliberate on what advice to give the Queen on her marriage. Burghley made detailed notes concerning the arguments for and against, and points made by Councillors. [Murdin, 322-336].

Oct 3, in Ireland: death: Sir William Drury (1527-1579), Lord Justice of Ireland. Nov 8, Dublin, Dame Margery Williams, the Lady of Thame, widow, to Sir Francis Walsingham: 'Not long before his departure he left a token of his remembrance and a pledge of his good will to his Sovereign to be delivered to her Majesty'. An unspecified token, brought with the letter. [SP63/70/9].

Funeral, 1580: St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin.

The widowed Margery, Lady Williams of Thame (1528-1587), married (1580) Captain James Croft.

Oct 4: 'Conference at Westminster touching Queen Elizabeth's marriage'.

Privy Councillors conferred on:

1. 'The means to assure her Majesty of Peace and to preserve her person and state from dangers'.
2. 'Perils growing by the marriage'.
3. 'The commodities growing by the marriage'.
4. 'Perils ensuing by leaving off this alliance'.

[KL.xi.407-409].

Oct 5, Mon Greenwich, Council to the Archbishop of Canterbury, describing 'a certain libel', entitled *The Gaping Gulf*, which would lead readers to suppose that the Queen's dealings with the French King's brother might cause some alteration in religion. They send the Proclamation concerning it. Grindal is to assemble 'noted preachers', and 'signify unto them her Highness's constant and firm determination to maintain the state of religion without any alteration or change'. Instructions are given for sermons to be preached. [Grindal, 410-412].

Peter Heylyn: The Queen 'when she had any business to bring about amongst the people, she used to tune the Pulpits, as her saying was; that is to say, to have some Preachers in and about London, and other great Auditories in the Kingdom, ready at command to cry up her design'. [Cyprianus Anglicus (1671), 153].

Oct 6: 'Points of state considered upon by the Council at Greenwich touching the present state of England'.

The Council considered in turn France and Spain, then summarised 'The Queen's state how far it differs from theirs'.

'She maintaineth within her realm the true religion of God; she maintaineth justice among her people; she preserveth them in peace; she is just in dealing, and unspotted in her words without breach of faith or promise; she is therefore beloved, feared, and trusted, not only for her subjects, but in all foreign countries; none within her realm dare lift up his hands against her; able to make an army without mercenary soldiers; the subjects take her preservation to be their own safety; she is Queen of a noble nation valiant and faithful to her; her credit great amongst them for money by love or subsidy; credit at home and abroad by her just repayment; no people in the world more ready nor willing to adventure themselves for any prince than they for her; the furniture she hath by sea and land was never as great in any of her progenitors' times; the natural wall about England by sea, no frontier but Scotland: no easy invasion'.

'Her life hitherto Christian, virtuous, not to be touched with any crime: in comparison of other Princes an Angel; she reigneth over her subjects as a most loving mother over her children'. [KL.xi.409-411].

Oct 6: Burghley made notes on 'Causes of misliking of the marriage', the first being 'Generally for that Monsieur is a Frenchman, the people of this Realm naturally hating that nation'. [Murdin, 333].

Oct 7, Wed Privy Council's message for the Queen, at Greenwich.

Lord Treasurer Burghley's memorandum: 'A Message accorded in full Council to be delivered to her Majesty by the Lord Treasurer, Lord Admiral, Earl of Sussex, Earl of Leicester, which was pronounced by the Lord Treasurer:

That we have communed upon the matter only by remembering of the benefits, and of her dangers in not marrying...without proceeding to any full resolution ...considering this matter of the marriage differeth from all other, in that her person and her own present disposition is principally to be regarded... We do humbly desire to pardon us of our stay, and if she will show to us any inclination of her mind, we will so proceed as all her honour shall be preserved ...We desire to know her commandment whether we shall proceed further to a full resolution in Council'...

'This message was reported to her Majesty in the forenoon...She uttered many speeches, and that not without shedding of many tears, that she should find in her Councillors, by their long disputations, any disposition to make it doubtful whether there could be any more surety for her and her realm than to have her marry, and have a child of her own body to inherit, and so to continue the line of King Henry the VIII; and she said she condemned herself of simplicity in committing this matter to be argued by them, for that she thought to have rather had a universal request made to her to proceed in this marriage, than to have made doubt of it; and being much troubled herewith she requested us to forbear her until the afternoon'.

'In the afternoon we came to know her pleasure, and then she entered to show her great misliking of such as she thought should not prefer her marriage...and with a great number of arguments seemed to reprove them'...

'Finally, we aforenamed reported her great misliking, and conceiving her earnest disposition for this her marriage; and thereupon, after long consultations had, all the Council accorded upon a new offer to be made to her Majesty of all our assents to offer our service in furtherance of this marriage, if so it shall please her'. [Murdin, 336-7].

Oct 8, Thur: Burghley: Twelve Councillors 'came all to her Majesty, and by the mouth of the Lord Chancellor [Sir Thomas Bromley] offered to her Majesty all our services in furtherance of this marriage, if so it should like her; whereunto we were moved in two respects, the one, for that her Majesty by treating with this Prince appeared to incline to marriage, a thing desired of us all, to the intent to have issue; the second was for we heard her Majesty should say that if she should marry, she would have him or none, and also that she misliked him not'...

'Her Majesty's answers were very sharp in reprehending of all such as she thought would make arguments against her marriage...though she thought not meet to declare to us whether she would marry with Monsieur or no, yet she looked at our hands that we did so much desire her marriage, and to have children of her body, as we should have with one accord have made special suit to her for the same'. [Murdin, 337].

Court news. Oct 9, London, Edward Dyer to the Earl of Leicester:

'A Duke in Germany, that took the Bishop of Ross about that time that Casimir was here [in January], and a certain chest of writings of him, hath now of late sent over hither to inform her Majesty thereof. Among other things that he found in the Bishop's chest, there was a note of all the Queen of Scots' friends... a plot for the delivery of the Queen of Scots, and other such stuff'.

'He that came had his reward, and the things themselves are looked for shortly, and it is supposed that the Duke himself will come with it. The Duke's name is Hans Porck, Duke of Petit Pierre. Her Majesty doth yet continue in the mind to have her Council sit again'. [BL RP 3390(1)]. John George, Count Palatine, sent John Haller with the Bishop's papers in 1582.

Oct 10, Berwick, Nicholas Errington (special Ambassador to Scotland) to Lord Burghley, concerning King James (age 13): 'The King hath not been directly moved by the Council, or any number of councillors or noblemen together, for any marriage with any particular person. Yet it is thought that, as there be several factions in that matter, so every one of them seeketh to persuade the King to marry in that place that may be best for their own purpose; wherein some look for France, some for Spain, some for Denmark; and it is said the matter will be offered to the Queen shortly, with request to dispose himself such way as shall be found most convenient for his marriage; and it seems that the King, of his own inclination, best liketh and affecteth to match with England in marriage, in case he may find her Majesty favourable to him'. [Tytler, viii.367].

Court news. Oct 12, Sir Francis Walsingham to Sir Nicholas Malby, in Ireland, of the disgrace of himself and other friends at court (because they opposed the Queen's marriage to the Duke of Alençon). [SP 63/70/31].

Oct 16, Mendoza to Philip II: 'The Queen summoned the whole Council to give her their opinion on the marriage again. They met many times, and on October 7 'were in session from 8 o'clock in the morning until 7 at night...having sent the clerks away...Their decision was that on no account ought the Queen to marry Alençon or any other personage of the House of France...this being the opinion of all, with the exception of Sussex and Burghley'.

To Secretary Zayas: 'The Queen is greatly irritated with anyone who opposes the marriage, saying not once but many times that she had never broken her word yet, and she will keep it now. Speaking to Walsingham about it she told him begone, and that the only thing he was good for was a protector of heretics. [Sir Francis] Knollys who is a great heretic and the Treasurer of the Household ...asked her how she could think of marrying a Catholic'. She said she 'might desire, like others, to have children...She had another squabble about it with Hatton, and he was a week without seeing her. It is difficult to see whether all this is artifice'. [Span.ii.702,704]. Consultations continued.

c.17 October 1579–November 1583: Sir Henry Cobham was **Ambassador** to France. Cobham left for Paris to replace Sir Amias Paulet.

Court news. Oct 18, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Signory: The Queen sent Alençon 'a most beautiful watch, and also a jewelled hat-band of the value of 4000 crowns', with a letter (he encloses a translation): She writes that 'I now send two trifling gifts; the one, that whilst wearing it on your neck, you may have cause every hour to think of me; the other, to wear on the cap in token of the Crown of this Kingdom which I would myself most willingly place with my own hand on your head, were it in my power to do so'. [Ven.vii.620].

Oct 25, Greenwich, Queen to the Great Turk (Amurath or Murad III), with profuse gratitude for the granting of petitions for trade by English merchants requested by William Harborne, special Ambassador to Turkey 1578-1582.

In answer to a letter of March 15, Constantinople, from Sultan Murad Can, which began: 'In greatness and glory, most renowned Elizabeth, most sacred Queen, and noble prince of the most mighty worshippers of Jesus, most wise governor of the causes and affairs of the people and family of Nazareth, cloud of most pleasant rain, and sweetest fountain of nobleness and virtue, lady and heir of the perpetual happiness and glory of the noble Realm of England (whom all sorts seek unto and submit themselves) we wish most prosperous success and happy ends to all your actions, and do offer unto you such pleasures and courtesies as are worthy of our mutual and eternal familiarity'.

The Queen's reply, couched in suitably effusive terms, was sent in *The Prudence of London*. (Master, Richard Stanley). [Hakluyt, iii.52-56].

'Amurath the Third, the Great Turk, who stood very well inclining to Christian religion, was wont to say that he had found out a means very easily to conclude all the differences in Christianity; - that the Pope, an old bachelor, should marry Queen Elizabeth, an old maid, and then all the petty princes and states would soon shiver and come to nothing'. [Goodman, i.367].

Court news. Oct 27, Paris, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Signory: 'It is reported that another English lord is coming to Monsieur [Alençon] to give him account of the Queen's regret at the publication of the book against their marriage, and that the Queen, having heard that Secretary Walsingham had knowledge of this affair, had dismissed him from the court'. [Ven.vii.621].

Oct 30: Trial, at Westminster, of John Stubbs, author of The Discoverie of a Gaping Gulf, and Hugh Singleton, its printer, and William Page, the Earl of Bedford's secretary, who had sent 50 copies to be circulated in Cornwall.

They were tried under an Act against Seditious Libel passed in the reign of Philip and Mary. All were found guilty, and were sentenced to suffer the prescribed penalty, viz. to have their right hand 'stricken off' in 'some market-place'. There was much public agitation in their favour.

Nov 4, Wed: In the market-place at Westminster the punishments imposed on John Stubbs and William Page were carried out; Singleton, aged nearly 80, was pardoned on the scaffold. Stubbs made a speech, ending 'Pray for me, now my calamity is at hand'. Camden: 'I can remember that, standing by John Stubbs, so soon as his right hand was cut off he put off his hat with the left, and cried aloud, "God save the Queen". The people round him stood mute'. [Annals].

Mauvissière dates this as on November 4 (market-day). Stubbs thereafter signed himself 'John Stubbe scaeva' [left-handed]; he was in the Tower until 1581, and subsequently became secretary to Lord Willoughby de Eresby. Hugh Singleton printed Edmund Spenser's Shepherd's Calendar, entered by the Stationers on 5 December 1579.

Court news. Nov 11, London, Mendoza to Philip II:
 On the 9th Simier was with the Queen 'for many hours'. 'The Queen summoned the principal Councillors to her chamber on the 10th, and told them that she had determined to marry and that they need say nothing more to her about it, but should at once discuss what was necessary for carrying it out'. [Span.ii.704].
 The Queen ordered a committee to draw up the terms for a marriage contract.

Court news. November 12: Earl of Leicester out of favour with the Queen, apparently for his suspected opposition to her marriage to the Duke of Alençon.

[Nov 12] Leicester to Lord Burghley 'in haste, this Thursday afternoon':
 'I perceive...your Lordship hath found the like bitterness in her Majesty toward me that others (too many) have acquainted me lately withal. I must confess it grieveth me not a little, having so faithfully, carefully, and chargeably served her Majesty this twenty years, as I have done'.

'Your Lordship is witness, I trust, that in all her services I have been a direct servant unto her, her state, and crown; that I have not more sought mine own particular profit than her honour. Her Majesty, I see, is grown into a very strange humour, all things considered, toward me'...

'I have ere now...offered, for avoiding of such blame as I have generally in the realm, mine own exile, that I might not be suspected a hinderer of that matter which all the world desired, and were suitors for'...

'I will be found faithful and just to her Majesty...I ever had a very honourable mind in all my actions...I carried myself almost more than a bondman many a year together, so long as one drop of comfort was left of any hope'...

'The old proverb sayeth, "they that will beat a dog shall want no weapon"...

'I have lost both youth, liberty and all my fortune reposed in her...but I trust still, she that hath been so gracious to all, will not only be grievous to me. God Almighty direct her Majesty, and grant her many and prosperous years'.

[Wright, ii.103-5; MS endorsed with the date].

Nov 16: 'Articles for a marriage' with Alençon, between Lord Burghley, etc. and Simier. Latin draft, 11p. [SPF.xvii.719].

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

St Margaret Moses: 'For a book and a ballad for the church the 17th day of November, 4d'. St Margaret New Fish Street: 'For a service book for the day that the Queen's Majesty began her reign, 4d; to Wright the Clerk for ringing for the Queen's Majesty the said day, 15d'.

St Margaret Patten: 'For candles the 16th of November when the ring was for the Queen, 4d; for the Clerk's pains for ringers the 16th and 17th of November, 6d'.

St Mary Aldermanbury: 'Bestowed upon ringers for ringing the day wherein the Queen's Majesty began her reign, so ordered by the consent of the parish, 6s8d; for books bought for the church...six books concerning the Queen's Majesty's reign, 2s; for 3 pound of candles spent the 16 and 17 of November, 9d'.

St Mary Woolchurch Haw: 'For books and songs on the beginning of the Queen's year, 1s4d; to the ringers on the 17th of November 1579, 1s4d'.

St Michael le Querne: 'To the ringers at the celebration of the Queen's Majesty, 4s'. St Stephen Walbrook: 'Paid for ballads upon the 17th day of November, 2d; to the ringers the same day and the Sexton, 3s'.

Bristol Chamberlains: 'Paid for three seam of wood and 2d in faggots to make a bonfire in Wine Street over against the Pittiehead upon the 17 day of November at the commandment of Mr Mayor and the Aldermen which was kindled at their coming from the College [cathedral] in scarlet with the Common Council in remembrance of the entering of the Queen's Majesty into the government of this realm. The wood cost 2s, the faggots 2d, for hauling the wood 2d, and to a labourer to attend the said fire, 4d'.

Canterbury Chamberlains: 'For charges for the Officers and the Waits there at the Queen's day, 4s'. Great Easton Church, Essex: 'Spent on the Coronation day to the ringers, 3s4d; for two books of prayer to be used on the Coronation day, and Articles of religion, 16d'.

Heckington Church, Lincs: 'For bread and wine of St Hugh's Day, 9d; for drink to the ringers the same day, 6d'.

Mere Church, Wiltshire: 'For drink at the ringing day for our Queen, 12d'.

Mortlake Church, Surrey: 'To four ringers for ringing all day at the Coronation day 1579, 2s'.

Oxford, St Martin: 'For drink and bread for ringers on the Coronation eve, 6d'.

Worcester, St Michael Bedwardine: Edward Archpole, churchwarden: 'Given by my fellow and me to the ringers upon the Queen's holiday 1579, 2s10d, whereof I disbursed 16d'.

[Nov 17, Tues] *Accession Day **Tilt**, 1579, Greenwich.

Work at Greenwich included: 'rearing up scaffolds and standings for the judges upon the Triumph day'. [March 1579-March 1580 a/c. No Tilt-list found. A list dated 1579 is a duplicate list for 22 Jan 1581. College of Arms MS M.4, no.7].

Nov 20, Greenwich: Commission to Lord Burghley and seven other Councillors, or any three of them, to negotiate with Simier over the marriage. [SPF.xiv.95].

Nov 21: death. Sir Thomas Gresham (c.1519-1579), died at Gresham House, Bishopsgate. Funeral, December 15: St Helen's, Bishopsgate, where his monument remains. Funeral certificate: Sir Thomas was Agent for the Queen 'from the countries of Brabant, Holland and Flanders, called the Low Countries, and late Founder of that sumptuous monument called the Royal Exchange', and died 'after the course of many years of his days painfully spent in the loyal service of his Prince and Country'. By his will he established the Gresham Lectures, in Divinity, Astronomy, Music, Geometry, Law, Physic, Rhetoric.

The widowed Anne, Lady Gresham, died in 1596. The Lectures continue.

Nov 24, Tues Simier, Alençon's envoy, took leave of the Queen, Greenwich.

Agreement had been reached that Commissioners should come from France to conclude the Treaty for the Queen's marriage with the Duke of Alençon.

Simier signed a 'Certificate' at Greenwich that the Articles for the marriage had been signed on November 24. Parliament was to be prorogued to January 1580 to allow time for the Commissioners to come. [HT.ii.275,293].

Parliament did not meet again until January 1581.

Commissioners did not arrive from France until April 1581.

Nov 25, Gravesend, Simier wrote to the Queen, in French, from 'your very humble, very obedient, very faithful servant, your Majesty's monkey'.

Canterbury Chamberlains paid: 'For a gallon of wine given to the Lord Henry Seymour at his being here with Monsieur Simier the French Ambassador, 20d'.

Nov 27: Simier wrote to the Queen from Dover.

Simier had a cipher to use in letters to the Queen, and gave each person a coded name or names, e.g. King of France (Jupiter, Mars, Mercury); Queen of England (sun, pearl, diamond); King of Spain (briar, Saturn, Vulcan); Queen Mother of France (marigold, sage, cypress); Queen of France (pansy); Alençon (laurel, victory, olive-tree); Queen of Navarre (moon, rose, ruby); King of Navarre (apple, orange, lemon); Prince of Condé (flower, dolphin, kite); Duke of Guise (envy, hail, lightning); Duke Casimir (crow, starling); Geneva (the sentinel); Huguenots (fir-tree; nettle); Simier (monkey, faith, death).

[Simier's letters, and key to cipher: HT.ii.277-280,448].

Court news. Nov 28, Mendoza to Philip II: The Queen 'gave jewels and pearls to Simier valued at 8000 crowns, and to the Councillor who was with him 500 crowns worth of silver plate, the other gentlemen having chains worth 200. Many of her Pensioners went with him, and Lords Howard and [Lord Henry] Seymour were to accompany him to France, whilst six gentlemen were to go with him as far as Montreuil...This is greatly surprising the English as such extraordinary ceremony as this has never been performed with any ambassador'. [Span.ii.705].

Nov 28: *secret marriage*. Edward Stafford (1552-1605), a Gentleman Pensioner, married (2nd wife) Lady Sheffield, at her Blackfriars house.

She was Douglas (Howard) (1543-1608), widow of John 2nd Lord Sheffield; sister of Charles, Lord Howard of Effingham; in 1573 she had allegedly married the Earl of Leicester, by whom she had a son.

The Queen learnt of her new marriage in February 1580.

Nov 30-1st Jan 1580: Edward Stafford was *special Ambassador* to France. He was sent to the Duke of Alençon and King Henri III. He joined Simier at Dover. The Scout (John Thomas, Master) took them to Calais.^N

Nov 30: from Calais, Simier, 'your monkey', wrote twice to the Queen.

Richard Brackenbury, Gentleman Usher, with seven men including a trumpeter and a guide, were sent from Greenwich 'to give their attendance upon Monsieur Simier from London to Dover, and so to Calais, to see him and his train well provided for upon the way, for all things necessary as barges, horses, carriages, lodgings, and passages from Dover to Calais for his horses, and his and their charges going and coming and tarrying at Dover for wind, and likewise at Calais for coming back, and for all their post-horses being eight in number with the guide, for 100 miles forward and as much back to London', 24 days, £37.8s4d.^T

November: Robert Cotton, Yeoman of the Removing Wardrobe of Beds, was sent 'from Greenwich to the Tower and Westminster by water to take out certain old quilts there, and to take the stuff of the said quilts and cause six new to be made for her Majesty's own person'.^T

Court news. Dec 4, Paris, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Signory (in cipher): 'Very little is said here concerning the marriage of the Queen of England with Monsieur...Letters of the 29th November from London announce that there the matter was much discussed, and that the majority seeing such great inclination on the part of the Queen believe in the result, an opinion which is so strongly held by many persons, that they have given out that Monsieur was then in England incognito'.

'Also that the Earl of Sussex, who is the sole favourer of this marriage amongst the great personages, was very ill, and, as it was suspected, from the effects of poison'.

'Also that on the preceding Sunday a preacher, who is a chaplain to the Earl of Leicester, had the audacity to present to the Queen a petition and beseech her to read it immediately, which she did on her way to the country; and finding that the petition contained nothing but arguments against the marriage, she became very angry, and caused the chaplain to be forthwith arrested, and ordered the Earl of Leicester not to quit his house'.

'In short there was great talk about this affair, and every day in the streets defamatory libels were circulated against the Duke of Alençon'. [Ven.vii.623].

Dec 5: Stationers entered: *'The Shepherd's Calendar. Containing twelve Eclogues proportionable to the twelve months'*. By Edmund Spenser.

Addressed to Philip Sidney. Each month has an appropriate illustration, above an Eclogue - verses, usually in dialogue form.

The April Eclogue has an illustration of the Queen and her ladies in the countryside, with musical instruments. It is described in the 'Argument':

'This Eclogue is purposely intended to the honour and praise of our most gracious sovereign, Queen Elizabeth. The speakers herein be Hobbinoll and Thenott, two shepherds'. Colin, a shepherd's boy, has made a 'lay of fair Eliza, Queen of shepherds all', which Hobbinoll sings, beginning:

'Ye dainty Nymphs, that in this blessed brook
do bathe your breast,
Forsake your watery bowers, and hither look,
at my request.
And eke you Virgins, that on Parnasse dwell,
Whence floweth Helicon, the learned well,
Help me to blaze
Her worthy praise,
Which in her sex doth all excel.

Of fair Eliza be your silver song,
that blessed wight.
The flower of Virgins, may she flourish long,
in princely plight.
For she is Syrinx daughter without spot,
Which Pan the shepherds' God of her begot.
So sprung her grace
Of heavenly race,
No mortal blemish may her blot.

See, where she sits upon the grassy green,
(O seemly sight)
Yclad in scarlet, like a maiden Queen,
And ermines white'.

Hobbinoll calls on goddesses, the Muses, the Ladies of the Lake, and the 'shepherds' daughters' to adorn 'my goddess'. [Syrinx: Anne Boleyn].
[Pan: King Henry VIII]. Printed by Hugh Singleton. (London, 1579).

Dec 6, Sun new court appointment: Arthur Throckmorton became an Esquire for the Body. Throckmorton noted, Dec 5: 'I went to the court from London'.

Dec 6: 'I was sworn Squire for the Body by Mr Wingfield'.

[Anthony Wingfield, Gentleman Usher].

Dec 7: 'Mr [Edward] Hoby and I went to meet Sir Amias Paulet to Rochester'.TH
Paulet was Ambassador to France 1576-1579.

Dec 9: Funeral: St Margaret Moses Church, Friday Street, London:
'The right worshipful Mrs Margaret Dane, widow'. Mrs Dane (1521-1579) was the widow of William Dane (1517-1573), Alderman, of the Ironmongers' Company, the Queen's linen-draper; she continued the business herself after his death.

She exchanged New Year gifts with the Queen from 1562.

Will (May 1579): 'I give and bequeath my sovereign good Lady and gracious mistress the Queen's Majesty a chain of gold of the value of two hundred pounds. And I give and bequeath unto my singular good Lord and loving friend the Lord of Leicester a chain of gold of the value of one hundred pounds'.

To the Ironmongers' Company of London: £2000.

A multitude of other bequests, many charitable.

Mrs Dane's bequests include: 'A ring of gold of the value of 40 shillings' to: Sir James Croft [Controller of the Household]; Sir Francis Knollys [Treasurer of the Household]; Mr Crane, Cofferer to the Queen's Majesty's Household; the four Chief Clerks of the Green Cloth that now be; the three Chief Clerks of the Spicery that now be; the six Waiters of the Queen's Majesty's Bedchamber now being; the four chief officers now being of the Queen's Wardrobe of Beds; the six Grooms of the Queen's Majesty's Privy Chamber; the three Masters of the Bridge house now being; Mr George Boiden of the Queen's Majesty's Privy Larder; Mr Pigeon of the Wardrobe and Mr Ralph Hope [of the Robes].

To my friends hereafter named a black gown: including: Mistress Blanche Parry [Chief Gentlewoman of the Privy Chamber]; Sir Rowland Hayward [former Lord Mayor of London] and his wife; Mr Nowell, Dean of Paul's.

Dec 10: death. Sir Christopher Heydon (1519-1579), a kinsman of the Queen, died at Baconsthorpe, Norfolk. He had exchanged New Year gifts with the Queen from 1559. Will (December 9): bequests include: To my son Henry Heydon 'one gilt cup with a cover which I had as a New Year's gift from the Queen'.

To 'John Stanley gentleman my servant one cup of silver with a cover all gilt which I also had of the Queen her Majesty for a New Year's gift'.

Codicil (December 10): To 'my daughter Hasset one gilt cup which I had of the Queen for a New Year gift'. The widowed Agnes Lady Heydon (3rd wife) married (2) Sir Edward Clere, of Norfolk, a second cousin of the Queen.

Dec 12, Sat Sir Amias Paulet at Greenwich on return from France.TH Sir Henry Cobham had replaced Paulet as Ambassador to France. Paulet wrote to Walsingham: 'I am Jack out of office, I thank God for it'.

Dec 12: 'Charges of The Scout for two voyages in transporting Duke Alençon and Monsieur Simier from Dover to France'. Total: £170.5s. [SPF.xiv.105].

Dec 15: marriage. Edward Saunders and Susan Macwilliam.TH Queen's gift to 'Mackwilliam's daughter': a bowl of silver gilt.^{PS}

Susan's parents: Henry Macwilliam, a Gentleman Pensioner, and his wife Lady Cheke, widow of Sir John Cheke; she was a Lady of the Privy Chamber 1559-1603. Susan, born 1561, married (2) Sir Goddard Pemberton; (3) Sir Thomas Ireland.

Dec 22, Tues **WHITEHALL PALACE.**

St Botolph Aldgate: 'Paid for her Majesty's ringing when she came from Greenwich, 8d'; St Martin in the Fields: 'Paid the 22nd of December for ringing for the Queen at her coming from Greenwich to Whitehall, 8d'.

The Queen had 'prolonged her coming hither'.^T

Dec 25, in Ireland: death. William Norris, eldest son and heir of Henry 1st Lord Norris, of Rycote, Oxon, died of illness. His son Francis (born 6 July 1579) became heir to Lord Norris, who died in 1601. The Queen wrote to Lady Norris with condolences on the loss of her son. [SP12/45/p.40].

The widowed Mrs Elizabeth Norris married (c.1586) Henry 2nd Earl of Lincoln; she died in 1611.

Dec 26, Sat play, *The Duke of Milan and the Marquis of Mantua*, by Earl of Sussex's Men. Revels: 'wholly furnished in this office, some new made and much altered', including '4 new head attires; scarves, garters; a country house; a city; 7 pair of gloves'.

Revels, 1579: 'Examining and rehearsing of divers plays and choice making of ten of them to be shown before her Majesty'.

Dec 27, Sun French Ambassador at Whitehall for audience.
 Mendoza to Philip II, 13 Jan 1580: The Queen sent for the Ambassador, after receiving letters from the King of France, his mother, and Alençon, who said 'that he was making ready for his departure, and would come as she pleased, either with or without a company, and either before or after the signing of the capitulations'. He was 'grieved to learn that she was not showing so much favour as formerly to the Earl of Leicester...He entreated her not to bear ill-will to Leicester and the other Councillors who had opposed the match, as they no doubt did so, as they thought, in her interests. He said he had now his mother's blessing and his brother's permission for the marriage'.

The King of France wrote 'that if it was necessary to alter any of the conditions, they who had drafted them might do so. This greatly gratified the Queen and she loaded the Ambassador with caresses'. [Span.iii.1].

Also Dec 27: play, *Alucius*, by the Children of the Chapel Royal.

Revels provided: 'many garments new made, many altered and translated; a city; a battlement; 18 pair of gloves'.

Dec 28: play, a history, prepared by Earl of Leicester's Men, 'being in readiness in the place to have enacted the same...But the Queen's Majesty could not come forth to hear the same therefore put off'. [Revels].

Court news. Dec 28, Mendoza to Philip II: 'Leicester and Hatton... are now in disgrace, especially Leicester'. [Span.ii.709].

Dec 30, court, Sir Francis Walsingham to Sir Henry Cobham:
 'I have no access of speech to her Majesty since my repair to court, being still entertained as a man not thoroughly restored to her favour'. [SPF.xiv.111].
 [1580 Feb 11, Waterford, Edward Waterhouse to Walsingham, after news
 'of the good grace and favour wherein you stand with her Majesty'. SP63/71/40].

1579: 'Translation by Queen Elizabeth of one of Tully's familiar *Epistles*, given by her to John Harington, 1579'. [Epistles by Cicero].

Given to John Harington the younger (1560-1612), a godson of the Queen.

Translation of Book II, *Epistle 6*, Marcus Tullius Cicero to C.S.Curio.

[Elizabeth I: Translations 1544-1589, 433-436].

1579: *Sir Thomas Chaloner: De Republica Anglorum Instauranda*.
 Comprising ten books in Latin verse. With reprints of miscellaneous shorter works by Chaloner (1521-1565), a former Ambassador, including Latin verses dedicated to the Queen in 1560, 1562, and 1564. 379p. (London, 1579).

1579: *Dr John Dee: 'De imperatoris nomine, autoritate, et potentia'*. MS.
 Listed in Dee's *Compendious Rehearsal* as dedicated to the Queen in English.

1579: *Christopher Saxton (c.1543-c.1610)* published the first edition of his *County Maps of England and Wales*.

Frontispiece of the Queen enthroned between figures representing Astronomy and Geography; above her are small figures of Peace and Righteousness; below her are two Surveyors at work, and a Latin verse in her praise dated 1579.

Saxton has 34 maps depicting numerous features, but not roads.

Modern edition: *Christopher Saxton's 16th Century Maps, with an Introduction* by William Ravenhill (Shrewsbury, 1992).