

## 1576

At **HAMPTON COURT**, Middlesex.

Jan 1, Sun New Year gifts.

Works set up 'tables for the banquet and for her Majesty's New Year's gifts'.

Among 195 gifts to the Queen:

by the Earl of Shrewsbury: 'In a blue purse in dimy sovereigns, £20';

by the Countess of Shrewsbury: 'A kirtle and a doublet of yellow satin cut lined with black sarcenet wrought all over with short staves of pearled silver with a like passamain';

by Lady Burghley: 'A small coffer of mother-of-pearl garnished with woodwork gilt, with eight books in it. With the Queen';

by Lady Sheffield: 'A scarf of tawny silk wrought all over with silk of sundry colours...to be aired because it was made in a house infected';

by Sir Gilbert Dethick, Garter King of Arms: 'One Book of Arms containing the history of the Knights of the Garter made in the times of King Edward the Sixth and Queen Mary, covered with crimson velvet and edged with a passamain of gold';

by Sir Henry Lee: 'A book of gold enamelled, full of leaves of paper and parchment printed with certain devices';

by Levina Teerlinc: 'The Queen's picture upon a card. With the Queen';

by Petruccio Ubaldini: 'A book of Italian written of eight English ladies'.<sup>NYG</sup>

Also Jan 1: play, by Earl of Warwick's Men.<sup>T</sup>

Jan 1: George Gascoigne dedicated to the Queen: 'The Tale of Hemetes the Hermit, pronounced before the Queen's Majesty at Woodstock, 1575'.

Frontispiece of Gascoigne kneeling as he presents his book.

Verses: 'Behold (good Queen) a poet with a spear...

A soldier armed, with pencil in his ear,

With pen to fight, and sword to write a letter...

Peerless Prince, employ this willing man

In your affairs, to do the best he can'.

Epistle: 'To the Queen's most excellent Majesty'. Gascoigne himself refers to 'this tedious preamble', leading up to the presentation of 'these rude lines, having turned the eloquent tale of Hemetes the Hermit (wherewith I saw your learned judgement greatly pleased at Woodstock) into Latin, Italian, and French ...Such Italian as I have learned in London, and such Latin as I forgot at Cambridge, such French as I borrowed in Holland, and such English as I stole in Westmorland, even such...have I here poured forth before you'...

'I vow to write volumes of profitable poems, wherewith your Majesty may be pleased. Only employ me (good Queen)...Your Majesty shall ever find me with a pen in my right hand, and a sharp sword girt to my left side...willing to attend your person in any calling that you shall please to appoint me'.

I 'have been (more than once), recomforted with the pleasant sound of your cheerful voice, so that your Highness hath vouchsafed to know me, and that... emboldened this enterprise, wherein I presume...right humbly to kiss the delicacy of your imperial hands, beseeching the Almighty to bless you with many prosperous new years, and to enable me for your service according to my desires this first of January 1576 and ever'.

'Your Majesty's loyal and deeply affectionate subject, G.Gascoigne'.

The Tale was published in 1579 and 1585.

[Gascoigne's Works, ed. J.W.Cunliffe (Cambridge, 1910), ii.473-510].

Gascoigne, soldier, translator of the Tale of Hemetes, author of a variety of works, wrote part of the Kenilworth entertainment, 1575. He was employed by the Crown later in 1576 and presented verses to the Queen at New Year 1577.

[1576] Jan 2, St John's [Clerkenwell, Middlesex], Mrs Elizabeth Wingfield to the Countess of Shrewsbury, of the Earl and Countess's New Year gifts to the Queen (see Anthony Wingfield's letters to his wife, 13 Oct and 13 Dec 1575):

'We have reaped such recompense as could not desire better. First her Majesty never liked anything you gave her so well. The colour and strange trimming of the garments with the ready and great cost bestowed upon it hath caused her to give out such good speeches of my Lord and your Ladyship as I never heard of better. She told my Lord of Leicester and my Lord Chamberlain [Earl of Sussex] that you had given her such garments this year as she never had any so well liked her, and said that good noble couple they show in all things what love they bear me, and surely my Lord I will not be found unthankful'.

'If my Lord and your Ladyship had given five hundred pound, in my opinion it would not have been so well taken'. [Folger X.d.428, no.130].

January 2-March: Dutch special Ambassadors in London.

An embassy from Holland and Zeeland, sent by the Prince of Orange, to invite the Queen to become Countess of Holland. Paul Buys, Advocate of Holland; Philippe de Marnix, Sieur de St Aldegonde; Frans Maelson; with some 12 other gentlemen and servants. Colonel Edward Chester, John Hastings, and Daniel Rogers also returned to England. Rogers kept a monthly journal, Jan-July 1576: 'The second I found the Prince of Orange's ambassadors at Gravesend, with whom I came to London'. [Journal printed Kervyn de Lettenhove. January: KL.viii.98].

De Guaras, Jan 9, London: 'The envoys from Orange arrived here on the 2nd... They came in two warships...The English left the others quietly at Gravesend, Chester going post to court', John Hastings to Dr Wilson's house in London. The Dutch were to stay 'in the house of the Flemish postmaster'. [Span.ii.516].

By January 3-February: French special Ambassadors in London.

The Sieur de la Porte, one of the Duke of Alençon's Chamberlains and Councillors, came with La Mothe Fénelon (Ambassador to England 1568-1575).

Their secret mission was to re-open marriage negotiations and to request that Alençon might visit England for a meeting with the Queen. They stayed with the resident Ambassador, Mauvissière.

Jan 3, Tues French special ambassadors at Hampton Court for audience. Rogers: 'Upon the 3 came to the court three Ambassadors from the French King, Mauvissière resident, and De La Mothe Fénelon with De La Porte, Knights of the Order, which De La Porte was sent from the Duke of Alençon'.

On January 6 they were proposing to return on January 11 (but remained for weeks longer). [SPF.xi.225].

Jan 6, Fri Sir Henry Cobham at Hampton Court, on return from Spain. Cobham had been a special Ambassador to King Philip II.

Also Jan 6: play, by the Children of Paul's.<sup>T</sup>

Jan 7, Sat Dutch special ambassadors at Hampton Court. Daniel Rogers: 'I came in the court and delivered my letters unto Mr Secretaries the 6th of January; the 7th at night I came with the Ambassadors of the Prince to the court'.

Jan 7: christening. Queen was godmother to 'Earl of Rutland's child'.<sup>T</sup>

Parents: Edward Manners, 3rd Earl of Rutland, of Belvoir Castle, Leics; wife: Isabel (Holcroft), former Maid of Honour. Piers Pennant went to Belvoir Castle to make ready. Queen's Deputy: Lady Clinton.<sup>T</sup> Queen's gift, January 7: one pair of gilt pots.<sup>NYG</sup> Child: Lady Elizabeth Manners, born c.December 1575; became Baroness Ros on her father's death in 1587; married (1589) William Cecil, Lord Burghley's grandson; she died in childbirth (2nd child), 1591.

Jan 9, Mon Dutch special ambassadors at Hampton Court for audience.

Jan 9, De Guaras: They were escorted to court 'accompanied by two courtiers sent for the purpose...It is openly asserted that the object of Orange's envoys is to offer the Queen the possession of a large part of Holland and Zeeland'...

'The Flemings are bringing a very beautiful watch sent from Orange to the Queen, as a sort of emblem to remind her of the opportunity presented at this time. They are instructed to inform the Queen of the object of their embassy in a speech...in writing, and in the form of a petition...Nothing else is spoken of all over the country'.

On the 6th 'Harry Cobham arrived in court from Spain, and the only person now wanting is Corbet, in order that they may all put their heads together to disturb the States'. [Span.ii.517-518]. Robert Corbet arrived later in January.

Rogers: On January 9 'came there a courier from the Ambassador Dale advertising that the Duke of Alençon had almost been poisoned in a cup of wine'...

'The Prince's Ambassadors came to the court, were brought by the gardens unto the Privy Chamber, where they were with the Queen's Majesty for an hour long. There were present at that time with the Queen my Lords of Leicester, Sussex, my Lord Treasurer [Burghley], Mr Francis Walsingham and Mr Hastings'.

'The 10th, they returned unto the court, where my Lords of the Council dealt with them four hours long: many objections they resolved'. [KL.viii.98].

*January 12: Gavin Smith became one of the Queen's drummers.*

*He had previously written to Francis Walsingham asking for his support, listing:*

*'The names of all such marches as I can sound on the Drum.*

*The English March. The Gascon March. The Almain March. The Spanish March.*

*The Flemish March. The Emperor's March. The French March. The Italian in post.*

*The Piedmont March. The Battery. The High Almain. The Italian at length.*

*Besides all manner of Drums and Songs to be sounded on the Drum with the Fife'.*

*There was a warrant on May 23 from the Lord Chamberlain to the Great Wardrobe for Gavin Smith's livery; he received 12d per day for life.*

*Smith was a drummer from 1576-1603. [SP12/157/49; Ashbee, 1023].*

Jan [14], Hampton Court, Francis Lord Talbot to the Earl of Shrewsbury, his father: 'Here are ambassadors out of France, both from the King and from Monsieur; it was a bruit that Monsieur was poisoned but now advertisements are come to the contrary ...Here is also Sir Henry Cobham returned out of Spain, with answer of his messages'.

'Also here is come one from the Prince of Orange, out of the Low Country, with a couple of chief merchants of Flanders, to make offer of the country to be delivered into her Majesty's hands; and if it will please her to keep it, they will...pay her Majesty such tribute as before they paid to the King of Spain; they also require speedy answer'.

'The Council be all at the court; they sit daily, and the ambassadors come to them. The ambassadors have had audience of the Queen twice. Her Majesty is troubled with these causes, which maketh her very melancholy, and seemeth greatly to be out of quiet. What shall be done in these matters as yet is unknown, but here is ambassadors of all sides, and laboureth greatly one against another. Her Majesty hath put unto her to deal both betwixt the King of Spain and the Low Country; the King of France and his brother'...

'It is thought her Majesty will remove very shortly to Whitehall'.

[LPL 3197/121; dated Jan 4].

Jan 20, Fri via Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey. Kingston churchwardens paid: 'To the ringers the 20th day of January the Queen coming through the town, 12d'.

Jan 26-27: Dutch special ambassador, St Aldegonde, at Hampton Court.

*January 27-March 28: Governor of Antwerp in London as special Ambassador. Frédéric Perrenot, Sieur de Champagny (1536-1602), Governor of Antwerp, came from Don Luis Requesens, Governor of the Low Countries for Spain.*

*Champagny's mission was to delay until after Parliament had closed the Queen's acceptance of William of Orange's request to provide assistance to Holland. He crossed from Calais to Dover, finding the English coast full of pirates from Flushing. He arrived in London on January 27, at a house obtained for him by Antonio de Guaras.*

*As Lord Burghley had come to London on January 26, ill with gout, Champagny sent a man with De Guaras to ask Burghley for a meeting with him and to procure him audience with the Queen.*

*Champagny's dispatches in French to Requesens, and to the Council of State, are printed by Kervyn de Lettenhove, vol.viii. Given here in English versions.*

Jan 27, Lord Burghley to Francis Walsingham:

'This evening a gentleman came with Guaras to me from Monsieur de Champagny to notify his arrival in the city and with compliments to require that he might come to me, and also to procure for him audience as soon as it might please her Majesty. I told him that I would give knowledge of his arrival, but by reason that the principal Councillors of State about her Majesty have required licence for three or four days to be absent, as now they were, I doubted her Majesty would bear to have him at the court until they were returned. And for his desire to speak with me, I thanked him, but I thought myself very unmeet to deal with any person of estimation, whilst I was a prisoner in chains of the gout, for I would be free from grief when I would speak with him'...

'I concluded that, as I find myself tomorrow after my medicine, so would I send him word. He said he would be with me tomorrow in the forenoon. And now I doubt what I shall answer, for I would gladly have you to seek her Majesty's mind herein, that, if I shall not speak with him, I will make my gout to answer him. If she will, I will not deny to hear him'...

'I pray you as soon as you may let me have your opinion or rather her Majesty's pleasure'.

Jan 28, London, Champagny to Don Luis Requesens:

'St Aldegonde went alone to the court the day before yesterday. He returned yesterday evening...and is with his colleagues...I saw near here on the Thames the two warships which brought them. They had a great banquet in public, in a tavern, for several English captains who have done them service'...

'I am thinking of going to see Lord Burghley, for Antonio de Guaras tells me that he is in effect the King of England'.

Later on January 28 Champagny had a long private meeting with Burghley, but reserved the details of his mission until he met the Queen. [KL.viii.137-139].

Jan 31, Champagny to Requesens: 'Wilson and Corbet came to see me yesterday, one after the other, and this afternoon Henry Cobham, who has been in Spain... I have still not obtained audience. Tomorrow, or the day after, the French will have audience...Parliament has been deferred for eight days...and the Queen's arrival in London has also been put back to next week'. [KL.viii.151-152].

*Feb 1, De Guaras to Secretary Zayas (Philip II's Secretary), of a meeting on January 30 with Burghley, who referred to the Spanish in the Low Countries as 'foreign intruders', saying angrily 'You people are of such sort that wherever you set foot no grass grows and you are hated everywhere'. [Span.ii.520].*

Feb 2, Thur French special ambassadors at Hampton Court to take leave. Burghley noted: 'La Mothe Fénelon and La Porte had their answer at Hampton Court, that during the troubles in France it was not convenient for Monsieur [Duke of Alençon] to come into England'.<sup>B</sup>

Also Feb 2: play, by Earl of Sussex's Men.<sup>T</sup>

Feb 5, Sun Champagney at Hampton Court for first audience.

Feb 5, Kingston, Champagney to Don Luis Requesens:

'The day before yesterday the Queen assigned me audience for today, by one whom they call a Gentleman Usher, and on the same day a gentleman came to see me from Mr Hatton, Captain of the Guard, with a very courteous letter in respect of the welcome which he had received on his way through Antwerp [summer 1573]. Yesterday evening I came to this place, and today I left by water for Hampton Court, from where they sent a coach and several people to accompany me. Sir Henry Cobham came to welcome me when I left the barge, and Mr Hatton at the court, where I was taken to a low chamber, and very well-treated by Mr Hatton, who accompanied me all the time until I left the palace'...

'I had been told in London that the delay in giving me audience was because Sir Henry Cobham was at the Spanish court for 17 days before he could obtain audience [in 1575]...At Hampton Court Cobham excused this delay because when I arrived all the lords were away from court, and the Queen had promised audience to the French, who were dispatched last Thursday and are about to leave for France, having had two audiences previously'...

'I had scarcely arrived in the Presence Chamber when the Earl of Sussex came to find me; and after many compliments led me to the Queen, who was standing in an inner chamber, where she received me with an expression which seemed to me sour'. I proceeded to explain the purpose of my embassy.

During a long audience the Queen began to complain about the Spanish.

'I showed her what a good neighbour your Excellency had always been... She said that she knew very well what this neighbourliness had been, and that they thought to make a circle to girdle this kingdom, it seeming to them that they had only to deal with a woman, that the people of this country were effeminate, and that this kingdom could be conquered by a very few Spaniards... She said that I should not think that King Henry, her father, would ever have suffered the Spanish to go so far in the Low Countries; she, a woman, would know well how to look to it'. Then she complained about the Dutch, but insisted that she would offer to mediate between the Dutch and the Spanish, and affirmed that she was not aiding the rebels, but said that in her opinion the Low Countries should keep their ancient privileges. [KL.viii.156-162].

Court news. Feb 6, London, De Guaras: 'Monsieur de Champagney was received by the Queen, and when he entered she received him with so much coolness that it was evident what her answer to his embassy was to be...It was quite in accord with Burghley's expressions to me [Feb 1]...They are resolved to send troops, stores, and victuals to Orange at once'...

'The French ambassadors have taken leave, and depart today or tomorrow'.

[Many of Antonio de Guaras's letters are drafts with no addressee, probably for King Philip's Secretary, Gabriel de Zayas]. [Span.ii.522].

*February 6: The Queen left Hampton Court.*

*Richard Todd, Keeper of the Standing Wardrobe and Privy Lodgings at Hampton Court, with two men and eight labourers 'for breathing, taking down, brushing and making clean as well the Privy Lodgings, as also all such hangings and other wardrobe stuff as is belonging to his charge after her Majesty's departing from Hampton Court', February, £9.10s.<sup>T</sup>*

Feb 6, Mon dinner, Syon, Middlesex.<sup>C</sup>  
 Syon House; Crown property. Charles Smyth, Page of the Robes, made ready  
 the Office of the Robes at Syon.<sup>T</sup>

Feb 6, Mon **WHITEHALL PALACE.**<sup>C</sup>  
 The Queen moved to Whitehall prior to the new session of Parliament.

Feb 7: Queen's gifts delivered:  
 To Monsieur de la Mothe, Ambassador from the French King: one chain of gold.  
 To Monsieur de la Porte, likewise Ambassador of France: one chain of gold.<sup>NYG</sup>

Court news. Feb 8, London, Antonio de Guaras: Champagney has greatly shone  
 'at court and in this city, by reason of his brilliant talents, of which people  
 speak with admiration'. [Span.ii.523].

**Feb 8, Wed: Parliament began.** Neither ceremonial opening by the Queen nor  
 presentation of the Speaker of the House of Commons were required, as it was  
 a prorogued Parliament (from June 1572) and Robert Bell was still Speaker.

Feb 8, in the Commons: Peter Wentworth (1524-1597) made a long oration  
 claiming freedom of speech in Parliament without interference by the Crown.  
 He began 'Sweet is the name of liberty, but the thing itself a value beyond all  
 inestimable treasure'. He asserted that in the Parliaments of 1571 and 1572  
 'I saw the liberty of free speech...so much and so many ways infringed...  
 as hath much grieved me'. He listed the benefits of free speech, and then  
 the impediments to it. 'Two things do great hurt in this place...The one is  
 a rumour which runneth about the House, and this it is, take heed what you do,  
 the Queen's Majesty liketh not such a matter, whosoever preferreth it, she will  
 be offended with him; or the contrary, her Majesty liketh of such a matter;  
 whosoever speaketh against it, she will be much offended with him'.

'The other: sometimes a message is brought into the House, either of  
 commanding or inhibiting, very injurious to the freedom of speech and consult-  
 ation. I would to God, Mr Speaker, that these two were buried in Hell, I mean  
 rumours and messages'. He gave reasons 'to prove them wicked', and that  
 'if we follow not the Prince's mind, Solomon saith the King's displeasure is  
 a messenger of Death', but also 'In the way of the righteous there is Life'.

Wentworth recalled that in the 1572 session the Queen sent a message 'that  
 we should not deal in any matters of religion, but first to receive it from  
 the Bishops'; and she had refused 'good and wholesome laws for her own safety'.

Wentworth declared 'None is without fault, no, not our noble Queen'.  
 He complained at great length about her refusal in 1572 to assent to a Bill  
 'for her safety', and about her not allowing freedom of speech on religion.

'The House, out of a reverent regard of her Majesty's honour stopped his  
 further proceeding before he had fully finished his speech'. Wentworth was  
 'sequestered the House' and 'committed to the Serjeant's Ward as prisoner',  
 and in the afternoon was examined by a Committee of the House, which agreed to  
 his request that a copy of his speech be delivered to the Queen.

Wentworth wrote a Report of the Committee's questions and his answers, with  
 the concluding exchange: Committee: 'Mr Wentworth will never acknowledge himself  
 to make a fault, nor say that he is sorry for anything that he doth speak';  
 Wentworth: 'I will never confess that to be a fault to love the Queen's Majesty  
 whilst I live'. [D'Ewes, 236-244].

Feb 8: Convocation of Bishops began.  
 It passed Articles concerning the admission of fit persons to the ministry, and  
 establishing good order in the Church. In a speech to the Commons on March 9 Sir  
 Walter Mildmay mentioned that the Queen had conferred with some of the Bishops.

*Feb 9: in Parliament: The Commons ordered that Peter Wentworth 'should be committed close prisoner to the Tower'. His release: March 12.*

Court news. Feb 11, London, Champagny to Requesens, after having a long meeting with the Earl of Leicester at his house:

'St Aldegonde asked to have audience today, but could not have it, although he went to court this morning with Walsingham'.

'They wish to publish a genealogical tree here, to prove that Holland and Zeeland belong to this Queen, and Brabant to another lord here'. [KL.viii.171].

Feb 12, Sun Queen reported to four Privy Councillors 'the sum of the speech that passed between Champagny and the Queen at the time of his access [Feb 5]'

'Her Majesty conceived his message to stand upon three points': King Philip's goodwill towards her; to desire her not to assist the King's rebels; to send away St Aldegonde, one of the rebels. [KL.viii.172-4].

The Queen declined to send away St Aldegonde.

Court news. Feb 15, London, Champagny to Requesens: 'Last week this Queen and her principal Councillors (who met with her for long consultations many times) were in such turmoil that they could think of nothing except whether she should resolve to take openly the protection of Holland and Zeeland'.

She was about to accept, then changed her mind.

On Monday afternoon [Feb 13] 'I visited the Earl of Sussex at the Earl of Leicester's house, as he had arranged, Leicester being absent, and we were together for a long time...Yesterday morning the Earl of Sussex told me that the Queen desired me to speak to the Council, to whom I went the same day, escorted by Corbet. I found there only Lord Burghley and the two Earls... Burghley repeated in Latin all the points which I had made to the Queen'.

A long discussion followed. [KL.viii.175-7].

Feb 15, Queen to the Treasurer and Chamberlains of the Exchequer, to deliver £1000 to Humphrey Michell [Clerk/Surveyor of the Works at Windsor].

'We be credibly informed that our Castle of Windsor, unto the which we have often repair, and there have made our abode for the most part during the plagues within our City of London, is at this present in divers parts of the same in great ruin and decay, and will daily grow into greater if speedy order be not taken for the amendment of them'.<sup>PS</sup>

Feb 15: Edmund Grindal was confirmed as new Archbishop of Canterbury.

*Feb 16, from Westminster School, Edward Grant dedicated to the Queen: Disertissimi viri Rogeri Aschami. In Latin, with dedicatory verses and Epistle to the Queen, described as Founder of Westminster School.*

*Roger Ascham, the Queen's former Latin Secretary, died 30 December 1568. Edward Grant, Moderator of Westminster School, wrote a biography of Ascham, and collected and edited his letters, and some verses, including verses intended for the Queen as a New Year gift, 1569. 160p. (London, 1576).*

Feb 17, Westminster: Two lords summoned to the Privy Council:

'There were called before my Lords the Lord Zouche and the Lord North, and upon declaration of some contention risen betwixt them they were both commanded upon their allegiance to the Queen's Majesty to keep the peace the one against the other, as well for themselves as for their servants and friends, the which they both promised before their Lordships that they would dutifully perform'.<sup>APC</sup>

Roger 2nd Lord North (1531-1600); Edward 11th Lord Zouche (1556-1625).

Feb 18, Sat Champagney at Whitehall for second audience.

Feb 18, Champagney to Requesens: 'Yesterday I sent to the Earl of Sussex to ask for audience, and at the same time one of his own gentlemen came to tell me that the Queen had commanded her Council to give me an answer this afternoon. When my man spoke to the Earl, he asked him to tell me that the Queen would await me at the time which she had appointed to her Council. The Earl of Leicester sent to me the same morning to invite me to dinner tomorrow'.

'Today Sir Henry Cobham came for me at the time when I had to go to court, and the Earl of Leicester sent me a very well equipped horse, and his barge, in which I was accompanied by two of his own gentlemen'.

'The Earl of Pembroke came to welcome me at the Palace stairs and took me to the Presence Chamber, while the Earl of Sussex informed the Queen'.

'After a short interval the Queen sent for me to enter, and received me very graciously. Before allowing me to speak she excused herself for the small welcome I had received the other time (although for myself as a private person I was very welcome). She said that, speaking frankly, she had heard more than a month previously that they were going to send someone to defy her and threaten her, and she had thought it was me'...

'I left after being very well-treated by the Queen, having thanked her, and for the good welcome I had been given by the Earl of Pembroke, whom she calls her son, and who had accompanied me as far as the Guard Room, the Earl of Sussex to the Presence Chamber, the Earl of Leicester to the ante-chamber, and Lord Burghley, who is very gouty, to the door of the Queen's chamber. Sir Henry Cobham with others brought me back'. [KL.viii.188, 192-3].

Feb 19, Sun knighting, Whitehall: Lord Mayor, Ambrose Nicholas, salter.<sup>M</sup>

Also Feb 19: Champagney at Whitehall with Leicester and the Queen.

Feb 19, Champagney to Requesens: 'The Earl of Leicester made very great cheer for me, with great honour; before dinner we were alone in his room'.

A discussion about the Low Countries broke off 'because the food was on the table. The rest of the day was spent in watching the dancing, at which her Majesty was present and was partnered by the Earl. The talk was only of pleasure, and I cannot think when I have ever received more favour'.

'When her Majesty withdrew she took me into her chamber, where she told me that she desired me to speak to her Council as soon as possible, to reach a conclusion, for the state of affairs required speed and quick resolution. That made me think that they wish to give me my *congé*, since my mission is not to their taste'. [KL.viii.193-4].

Feb 23, Mauvissière, French Ambassador, to Henri III:

'At his last audience the Queen made Champagney remain covered and be seated, which she has not previously been accustomed to do, except for someone who has come on behalf of a great commander'.<sup>BT</sup>

Feb 25, London, Champagney to Requesens:

'I have spent an idle and useless week, for the Queen had told me that on Monday I should speak to her Council. They did not assign me a time, so I sent to ask Lord Burghley, who referred me to the Earl of Sussex'.

'On Tuesday the Council dined with the man they call the Bishop of London, where I was invited, but I excused myself, and was later told that these lords had thought of negotiating with me there. On the same morning they assigned me a time on Wednesday'.

'At two in the afternoon the son of Knollys, Treasurer of the Household, came for me, but while I was on my way the Queen sent to make their excuses, as unforeseen events prevented them seeing me that day. I underhand enquired the cause. They said that Parliament would go on late and the Council could not finish some business with the Queen as early as they expected'...



'On Thursday the Earls of Leicester and Sussex went for field sports, at a house of Thomas Gresham [Osterley, Middlesex], and after dinner St Aldegonde was at the palace, though he did not have audience with the Queen, but, having waited a long time in the Presence Chamber, went to find Walsingham, and then was with Lord Burghley until 10 o'clock'.

'Yesterday, Friday, I went to Lord Burghley, who saw me in his house, where he came from the palace after dinner. I told him I was losing much time, and that...I was waiting to know what it would please the Council to say to me... The Earls have returned this evening, so I hope that on the day after tomorrow at latest I shall be summoned to the Council or to the Queen'. [KL.viii.198-200]

*Feb 25, Cologne, Dr Henry Furstemburg (one of the Queen's financial agents) to Francis Walsingham, in Latin: I am to try to find money for the Queen's use, upon reasonable conditions. I know not how to thank her for sending me a silver gilt cup. If I should offer to praise her divine virtues, justice, and bountifulness it would be as ridiculous as if I should boast that I was able to give more light to the sun. March 4, Antwerp, Edward Castelin (another agent) to Walsingham, of a meeting with Dr Furstemburg. I presumed to present to him, in the Queen's name and as her gift, a fair gilt cup of the value of £10.6s.*

*PS. My charges to Cologne, remaining 16 days and returning, are £20.3s, and the cup, £10.6s. [SPF.xi.250,261].*

Feb 27, Mon marriage, \*at court. [Bride and groom not identified].

Also: play, by 'Alfruso Ferrabolle and the rest of the Italian players'.<sup>T</sup>

Alfonso Ferrabosco (II), one of the Queen's musicians 1562-1588.

Court news. Feb [27], Champagney to Requesens: 'Yesterday Hatton came to visit me...Today I had been assigned a meeting with the Council. They sent Corbet to me to make their excuses, because they were invited to a wedding... Hatton invited me for the day after tomorrow to a place two leagues from here'.

Feb 28: 'Today after dinner the Council sent Corbet to take me to them, who brought me a coach belonging to the Earl of Leicester, which the Earl had ordered because the weather was bad...and because I was lodged so far from the court'. Present were Burghley, Leicester, Sussex, Walsingham, Earl of Lincoln.

'They told me, by Lord Burghley, that their mistress had commanded them to declare to me her final answer'. This answer was again that the Queen desired to act as a mediator. [KL.viii.205,207-8].

Court news. Feb 29, Mauvissière to Henri III: 'For eight days M.de Champagney has been as favourably received, treated, caressed, feasted, honoured, and respected as he had been badly previously. He has acquired friends in a short time, both men and women, for the King his master. He has been at infinite expense, and has been feasted at court, and last Sunday [February 19] the Queen danced before him. Mr Hatton, Captain of the Guard, and Sir Henry Cobham went to see him with more than 30 gentlemen. He makes feasts and banquets every day. The Earl of Leicester has also treated him with favour and feasted him'...

The Queen of Scots 'has sent me a present of a fore-skirt and sleeves, of very rich fashion, to present to the Queen as a sample of the complete dress, if she is agreeable to it. I will do as she asks me'...

'As for the succession to the Crown, I am told the Queen had her father the late King's will brought to her, which says: "Edward my son will be my heir and King after me; and if he dies, Mary my daughter; after her Elizabeth my other daughter. And in the event of the death of all three without children, the right of succession will go to my elder sister, and to her children (from whom the Queen of Scots is descended); and in default of her, to the other younger sister (from whom the Countess of Hertford is descended); and after to the third (from whom Lady Margaret, the Earl of Derby's wife, is descended)". [Teulet, iii.2-4].

*Note: King Henry VIII had two sisters, not three. Margaret, elder sister, became Queen of Scotland; Mary, younger sister, became Queen of France.*

*Countess of Derby: Margaret, daughter of Mary and her second husband, and thus a first cousin of Queen Elizabeth. Countess of Hertford: Lady Catherine Grey, who secretly married the Earl of Hertford in 1560 and died in 1568, leaving two sons, declared to be illegitimate.*

Feb 29-March 1, Champagney at Eltham Palace, with Tournament at Greenwich. Christopher Hatton, Captain of the Guard, who invited Champagney, was Keeper of Eltham Palace and Parks, Kent (Crown property).

Hugh Underhill, of the Removing Wardrobe of Beds, hired eight labourers 'to make ready at Greenwich against the coming of the Spanish Ambassador'.<sup>T</sup>

Champagney to Requesens, March 3, London: 'I went with Mr Hatton to Eltham, a house of the Queen's which she has given him for life. He came to my lodgings for me with some 150 or more horse, accompanied by many principal gentlemen, including Cobham and Corbet, and first took me to dine in this town, in the house of an officer, his friend, where we were very magnificently entertained. From there we left the town, and first he let us see some hunting in the parks of his house. Then he welcomed me to his house with very great pomp, and made a feast more splendid than one can say, with music and comedies'.

'Next day [March 1] he took me to Greenwich, where he showed me the Queen's palace, furnished throughout as richly as if she were there herself'...

'Then after dinner he arranged a joust with lists, done as well as I have ever seen one, for the number of gentlemen who took part. From there we came back here...He made me a present of a couple of hackneys with fine harness, and two couple of very handsome greyhounds'. [KL.viii.221].

Champagney's further description (in a letter intercepted and translated):

'I was...one day by Sir Christopher Hatton, Captain of her Majesty's Guard, invited to Eltham, a house of the Queen's, whereof he was the guardian'.

'At which time I heard and saw three things that in all my travel of France, Italy, and Spain, I never heard or saw the like. The first was a consort of music, so excellent and sweet as cannot be expressed. The second a course at a buck, with the best and most beautiful greyhounds that ever I did behold. And the third, a man of Arms excellently mounted, richly armed, and indeed the most accomplished Cavaliero I had ever seen'.

'This Knight was called Sir Henry Lee, who that day (accompanied with other Gentlemen of the Court), only to do me honour, vouchsafed at my return to Greenwich to break certain lances: which action was performed with great dexterity and commendation'. [Segar, *Honor*, 200].

In Sir Henry Lee's 'Challenge' before Champagney, Lee appeared in green as 'a strange Knight that wars against hope and fortune'.

['Challenge': Nichols, *Progresses* (2014), ii.482-3].

March 1: marriage, at St Anne Blackfriars: John Marbury married Dorothy Midigert. Marbury was the son of Mrs Elizabeth Marbury, a Gentlewoman of the Bedchamber, who had been in Elizabeth's household at Hatfield before her Accession. Queen's gift, March 1: 'To Mr John Marbury esquire being her Highness's godson at his marriage one gilt bowl with a cover'.<sup>NYG</sup>

1 March 1576-January 1578: Daniel Rogers was Agent in the Low Countries. Rogers, *Journal*: 'The 17th of February I departed from London...The last of February I came to Ostend in extreme danger'. 'The first of March I departed from Ostend towards Antwerp'. To Lord Burghley, May 7, Antwerp: 'As I sailed towards Flushing I was driven by tempest to Ostend, and because the ship in which I came began to leak...I came hither'. [KL.viii.154,216,239].

Mar 2, Fri sermon, Whitehall: John Young, Master of Pembroke Hall, Cambridge. Text: from Psalm 131: 'Lord, I am not high minded'.

Sermon on humility. Young, who quoted Latin and Greek, made the first known court sermon reference to the New World, lamenting that man's pride reached 'even to America, the West Indies, the fourth and new found part of the world'.

Printed at once, with a prefatory note: 'For that this Sermon may be more advisedly considered of the Readers, which was not well taken in part of some of the hearers, where it was spoken, it is therefore thought expedient that the Preacher thereof should cause it to be put openly in print, and so to refer it to be expounded by the learned and others of ripe judgement'.

*March 2, in the Commons: A Bill for Reformation of the Discipline of the Church was read. This was presented to the Queen by a deputation of six Privy Councillors from Lords and Commons. [Neale, Parl. i.351-2]. See March 9.*

Also March 2: Champagney at Whitehall for audience.

March 3, Champagney to Requesens: The Queen 'yesterday sent a gentleman called [Edward] Wotton, who was formerly at Naples, to call for me and to accompany me to court...Everyone thought that it was to give me my dispatch... She drew me aside, and had a chair brought for me, and began by declaring the confidence she had in me...She assured me that not a Councillor, not a living soul, not even her own chemise, would know what was said'.

In a long audience the Queen repeated her desire to intervene as mediator between the Dutch and the Spanish.

March 4: A formal answer in Latin was given to Champagney, conforming to the Queen's responses to him, wishing to mediate. [KL.viii.222,227].

Also March 4, Shrove Sunday: play, by Earl of Leicester's Men.<sup>T</sup>

*March 4: News that the Portuguese Ambassador's betrothed had been robbed by Dutch pirates. Francisco Giraldi, Portuguese Ambassador to England, was to marry Lucrecia d'Affaytadi, daughter of Carlo d'Affaytadi, a wealthy Italian merchant in Antwerp. The Queen had sent Lord Cobham's brother John Cobham to escort Lucrecia safely from Antwerp to Dover.*

*March 4, Middelburg, John Cobham to Burghley: 'On Thursday last [March 1]... four ships of war of Flushing and of Arnemuiden met me within six miles of Dover, and shot four great shot at me, and with one of their shot they hit our boat within four inches of the water, so that I was forced to yield unto them. They by force entered the boats and have robbed and spoiled us of all our goods and money, and I was turned into Arnemuiden in my hose and my doublet'.*

*'They took away from us our swords and daggers; they have also robbed the poor ladies of all their chains and bracelets...When we spoke unto them of our good Queen they like varlets answered unreverently'...*

*'If my ship had been equal to his, I would have sent him to God or to the Devil...The poor lady and her company are like to be in miserable state, for the varlets mean to put her and her company to ransom...I must humbly desire your Lordship, seeing her Majesty hath received her and her company into her protection, that her Majesty will take order for her good deliverance'.*

[KL.viii.229].

*March 5-May 10: John Herbert was special Ambassador to the Low Countries. March 5: Herbert was 'sent to Flushing to complain of the spoils committed against the English'.<sup>B</sup> His main mission was to secure the release of Lucrecia and to have her brought safely to England.*

Mar 5, Shrove Monday Champagney at Whitehall, for bear-baiting.

Also: play, by Earl of Warwick's Men.<sup>T</sup>

Works: 'making of scaffolds for plays, tragedies and bear-baitings'.

March 5, London, Champagney to Requesens, informing him that Chevalier Giraldi's wife has been taken and robbed between Dover and Calais by Flushingers. 'The Queen resents it so strongly that she has ordered (so I hear) the arrest of the Deputies from Holland and Zeeland and all their ships and merchandise in this kingdom until they have made reparation for this injury and restored everything, down to the last pin'...

'Many London merchants, in an orderly body, went yesterday to complain to the Queen of many other robberies by these ships'...

'This morning they sent Corbet to me to ask me to come to court this afternoon, to see the sports to be shown there...At the palace nearly all the time was spent in watching bears and bulls fighting with dogs'.

The Queen 'complained to me of how the Flushingers had insulted Chevalier Giraldi's wife, and how they pillage her subjects, which she will not suffer'.

[KL.viii.237-8].

*March 5, in Brussels: death: Don Luis Requesens, Governor of the Low Countries, who had sent Champagney to England, died of illness.*

*The Council of State took over the government, until King Philip sent a new Governor. Don John of Austria, his half-brother, arrived in 1577.*

Court news. March 6, Antonio de Guaras: 'Aldegonde and his companions are still at court and there is no talk of their leaving'.

'When M.de Champagney first arrived here they received him very sourly...but his great talent has changed them, and he is now much caressed by the Queen and Council. Mr Hatton, the Captain of the Guard, has entertained him like a prince, although lampoons greatly libelling Hatton have been circulated'.

[Span.ii.528-9].

Mar 6, Shrove Tuesday Champagney at Gresham House and Whitehall.

Champagney to Requesens, March 10, hoping that a report of his sudden death will not be confirmed (by March 12 Champagney knew that he had indeed died, at 46).

'Last Tuesday I dined at Sir Thomas Gresham's [Gresham House, Bishopsgate], where he invited the principal Councillors, and nobles...Lord Burghley was more jovial than usual. The Earls of Leicester and Sussex came to escort me to my lodging, and it was all I could do to stop everyone accompanying me, which has made the French Ambassador very jealous and the people amazed'.

'After supper the Queen sent Sir Henry Cobham for me, to see with her the feasting at the palace, where she greatly favoured me'. [KL.viii.248-9].

Also March 6, at Whitehall: play, by Merchant Taylors School.<sup>T</sup>

March 9, Fri, in the Commons: 'Touching the Petition for Reformation of Discipline of the Church', Sir Walter Mildmay brought word from the Lords that the Queen 'before the Parliament had a care to provide in that case...and at the beginning of this session her Highness had conference therein with some of the Bishops, and gave them in charge to see due reformation thereof', but if they 'should neglect or omit their duties therein, then her Majesty by her Supreme Power and Authority over the Church of England would speedily see such good redress therein as might satisfy the expectation of her loving subjects to their good contentation, which message and report was most thankfully and joyfully received by the whole House with one accord'. Immediately a Member moved for another Petition 'for persuading of her Majesty for marriage'. [D'Ewes, 257].

March 11, Westminster, Privy Council's order: Christopher Saxton is 'to be assisted in all places where he will come for the view of meet places to describe certain counties in cartes [maps], being thereunto appointed by her Majesty's bill under her Signet'.<sup>APC</sup> [Further orders: July 10].

March 12, Mon, in the Commons: Christopher Hatton brought a message from the Queen that she had released Peter Wentworth from the Tower and was sending him back to them. As for his speech on February 8 'she had not only forgiven but also forgotten the inconsiderateness of the same'.

Wentworth was brought in, made submission on his knees to the House, craving pardon, and resumed his place. [Neale, *Parl.i.330-332*].

The Commons went on to request the Speaker to move the Queen to marry.

*March 14: Slanderous words of the Queen, in Cheshire.*

*Matthew Smith made declaration of slanderous speeches by Francis Edderman, surgeon, to him: 'The Earl of Leicester is so great with the Queen that he may do what he will, and my Lord of Leicester say the word it is done...My Lord of Leicester hath had two children by the Queen...I tell you this in secret as to a friend, and bury it here, for else it is but your yea and my nay'. After Smith reported the speeches Edderman was imprisoned at Chester; on July 13 the Privy Council ordered the Mayor to release him, as he had been committed to prison on the evidence of a single witness, who was his private enemy. [HMC 8th Rep. 396].*

**Mar 14, Wed Queen at Closing of Parliament (adjourned).**

*Thomas Cromwell's Journal: 'In this afternoon the Queen resorted to the House, and being set in her robes under the cloth of state, and all the Lords likewise set in their robes, our Speaker came in'. In Speaker Bell's oration he praised the blessings of the Queen's reign, then petitioned her to marry, and desired her to remember that she was mortal. 'This oration ended, the Parliament was adjourned to the next day at 3 o'clock'. [Parl.i.493-4].*

**Mar 15, Thur Queen at Closing of Parliament.**

Sir Nicholas Bacon, Lord Keeper, made an oration in reply to the Speaker.

As he was about 'to exhort and to admonish' the Commons concerning the Subsidy 'the Queen interrupted him, whereupon he said he would proceed no further, since her Majesty had declared unto him that in that point she neither would have them exhorted nor admonished; and so he ended'.

After the ceremony of the Royal Assent Parliament was prorogued; some of those present had left before the Queen unexpectedly rose to make an oration herself.

The Queen declared: 'If any look for eloquence, I shall deceive their hope... As for those rare and special benefits which many years have followed and accompanied me with happy reign, I attribute them to God alone, the Prince of rule, and account myself no better than his handmaid...These seventeen years God hath both prospered and protected you with good success under my direction... Consider with yourselves the bitter storms and troubles of your neighbours'...

'Now, touching dangers chiefly feared...if I were a milkmaid with a pail on my arm, whereby my private person might be little set by, I would not forsake that poor and single state to match with the greatest monarch. Not that I do condemn the double knot, or judge amiss of such as, forced by necessity, cannot dispose themselves to another life'...

'I know I am but mortal...I prepare myself to welcome death whensoever it shall please God to send it...although I trust God will not in such haste cut off my days but that, according to your own desert and my desire, I may provide some good way for your full security'.

'And thus, as one that yieldeth you more thanks...than my tongue can utter, I recommend you unto the assured guard and best keeping of the Almighty, who will preserve you safe, I trust, in all felicity'. [Neale, *Parl. i.364-367*].

March 15, Champagney to the Council of State: 'Parliament ended today, and would have ended yesterday, were it not that the Queen arrived there too late, and that there were some difficulties over their proposal to declare her successor or who she would marry...It will be very late before she gets back'.

March 16, Francis and Gilbert Talbot to the Earl of Shrewsbury, their father: 'The Queen's Majesty herself...made a very eloquent and grave oration, which was as well uttered and pronounced as it was possible for any creature'.

[KL.viii.268; LPL 3197/125]. Next session of Parliament: January 1581.

The Queen sent a copy of her speech to 15 year-old John Harington, one of her godsons. He later noted: 'These good words were given unto me by my most honoured Lady and Princess, and did bring with them these good advices:

"Boy Jack, I have made a clerk write fair my poor words for thine use, as it cannot be such striplings have entrance into Parliament assembly as yet. Ponder them in thy hours of leisure, and play with them till they enter thine understanding. So shalt thou hereafter perchance find some good fruits hereof when thy Godmother is out of remembrance. And I do this because thy father was ready to serve and love us in trouble and thrall"' [in Queen Mary's reign].

[*Nugae Antiquae*, i.127-8. This is a revised version of the Queen's speech].

Mar 16, Fri Champagney at Whitehall for audience.

March 17, Champagney to the Council of State (in Antwerp): 'I was called yesterday to have audience with the Queen, to hear (as it seemed to me) what news I had'. Champagney gives the Antwerp Council descriptions of the characters of the principal Privy Councillors. [KL.viii.276-9].

Mar 18, Sun Deputies of Holland at Whitehall to take leave.<sup>WA.</sup>  
Also: Duke of Alençon's envoy, De la Tour, at Whitehall for audience.

Court news. March 19, Morillon (one of Champagney's men) to Cardinal Granvelle (Champagney's brother): 'Monsieur de Champagney...has been feasted more than any ambassador for a long time. Milord Hatton...has entertained him twice in several of his own houses outside London, coming for him with 150 horse, and has made him a present of hackneys, so that it has made people jealous, and the Queen has treated him very well, even wishing to dance with him, which he declined with good grace and modesty'. [KL.viii.249].

Mar 19, Mon Champagney at Whitehall for audience.

To give the Queen official notification of the death of Requesens (March 5).

March 19, Champagney to Council of State: Yesterday I received your letter of March 9 with news of the death of Don Luis Requesens. 'Today I informed the Queen of it', and of other matters I am charged to say to her. [KL.viii.282].

March 20, Champagney to the Council of State: 'A French gentleman called Monsieur de la Tour has come here, sent by Monsieur Alençon, who had audience of the Queen on the day before my last audience, which was the same day as he arrived, so you will understand the haste that he is in'...

'Yesterday, after I left the Queen, she called the Countess of Warwick, and asked her where her husband was [Earl of Warwick, Master of the Ordnance], and when she said that he was ill, she began to curse him, saying that in the end he would only ever plunge her into a thousand troubles, and I understand that it is he who would have sold some artillery removed from the Tower'.

The Queen summoned Francis Walsingham and demanded various documents.

'She spoke very bitterly to Walsingham; and was so upset, all evening, that she struck one or two of her women. Today she stayed in bed very late, without going to the sermon, saying that she had not been able to sleep all night'...

'They have asked me to go to the Council tomorrow for my dispatch'. [KL.viii.288]

Mar 21, Wed Champagney at Whitehall to take leave.

March 21, Champagney to the Council of State: 'Mr Corbet came to take me to the Council this afternoon. They were in the Lord Treasurer's chamber, because of his indisposition; with him there were the Earls of Leicester and Sussex and Secretary Walsingham and they gave me the Queen's final answer...and told me that they had made ready one of the Queen's warships at Margate, for my crossing ...Then they escorted me to the Queen, who was waiting to give me my dispatch'.

She was insistent that her offer to mediate be accepted. [KL.viii.293-4].

March 23: Queen's gift: 'To the Governor of Antwerp one chain of gold made of two pieces'.<sup>NYG</sup>

Richard Brackenbury and 4 men were 'sent by the Queen's Majesty's commandment from Westminster to attend upon Monsieur Champagney Ambassador for the Spanish King being at London and from thence to Dover'.<sup>T</sup>

The Queen directed *The Achates* or *The Handmaid* to transport Champagney. Champagney sailed on March 28 (but not in a royal ship).

Also March 23: News of the Queen's answer to the Dutch Ambassadors.

The Queen declined to become Countess of Holland, and to provide assistance or a loan to Holland and Zeeland.

She sent her answer in writing to the Dutch; Lord Burghley sent word of it to William Herle.

March 23, Red Cross Street [London], William Herle to Lord Burghley:

'These poor Hollanders...were here betimes this morning...The poor men were in a marvellous passion, for the answer that they had received in writing before they came to me from her Majesty, wherein, beside that she had expressly denied them either her aid or relief, she had threatened them further if they should join with any other, which they least expected at her Majesty's hands, they said, whom they had always accounted gracious and no tyrant, and therefore had addressed themselves to her above all other, and of whom they had deserved well...in presenting to her themselves and all that they had'...

'They said...that they had consumed here so much time...and spent great sums that might have been better employed...being persuaded to come over by her Majesty's own messenger...yet satisfied in nothing, but must depart without thanks'. Paul Buys 'confessing to me that this journey will cost them one way and another £3000, having entertained Mr Hastings in Holland...with a table for 18 persons full furnished continually, defraying all his other costs beside while he was in the country (which indeed in Holland is very chargeable), presenting him with a chain of 600 ducats, and appointing two men-of-war to bring him over, which they entertained here a great while'.

'Likewise to [Daniel] Rogers and to all those that came from her Majesty they had been bountiful and loving, marvelling whence then these unkind and hard dealings here towards them should be so provoked...which I told him surely proceeded of Champagney's negotiation, who was a cunning and a diligent fellow'.

[KL.viii.296].

Court news. March 24, Antonio de Guaras: 'Aldegonde and his companions are still at court, promoting their treason'. [Span.ii.529].

Mar 25, Sun knightings, at Whitehall:  
William Courtenay, of Devon;  
John Killigrew, of Cornwall;  
Richard Rogers, of Dorset. [Shaw].

Mar 25, Sun sermon, Whitehall: Dr Richard Curteys, Bishop of Chichester.  
Text: from Acts 20, St Paul's exhortation.

28: 'Take heed to yourselves, and to all the flock over the which the holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath made again with his own blood'. 29: 'For I know that as soon as I am gone there will burst in upon you ravening wolves not sparing the flock'.

30: 'And of yourselves shall arise men speaking crooked things to draw scholars after them'. 32: 'And thus brethren I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to finish his buildings, and to give you an inheritance amongst all his blessed Saints'.

Curteys made an exhortation to Godliness and good government among rulers. He complained of ministers who are 'puffed up with vainglory to get themselves a name, and that the changeable people may flock to their sermons, and their lectures, and their churches, and their disciplines, drawn and fed with their fond novelties whereof the simple be too too desirous'.

If certain Scriptures are 'dark', let the ignorant 'with the blessed Virgin Mary, lay the same up in their hearts, and suspend their judgement'.

[Sermon printed, 1576].

*March 25, Paris, Dr Dale (Ambassador to France) to Francis Walsingham, recommending to him Petro Capponi, a Florentine. Coming in displeasure as he does he has need of some favour for his own safety, whereof he cannot assure himself in this country. [Petro or Piero Capponi (c.1550-1582), previously at the English court in 1572, was implicated in an alleged conspiracy against the Duke of Florence in 1575; he came to take refuge in England].*

*March 25, Dr Dale to Lord Burghley: There is one Scotto, an Italian, that plays such knacks as Feates does upon the cards, who comes to show the Queen some of his toys. He has been made much of in this court, and has been in the Emperor's court, and makes himself a jolly fellow. [SPF.xi.278-279].*

*Reginald Scot, in The Discoverie of Witchcraft (1584) makes several references to 'Bomelio Feates', writing: 'This fellow by the name of Feates was a juggler, by the name of Hilles a witch or conjuror, every way a cozener; his qualities and feats were to me and many other well known and detected. And yet the opinion conceived of him was most strange and wonderful'. (For Scotto see May 30).*

March 26, Westminster. Proclamation (612):  
Offering Rewards for Information on Libels against the Queen.

'Within these few days there have been certain infamous libels full of malice and falsehood spread abroad and set up in sundry places about the city and court tending to sedition and dishonourable interpretations of her Majesty's godly actions and purposes...invented of cankered malice...by lewd persons not worthy to enjoy the benefit of this her Majesty's quiet government'...

'Whosoever can and will discover the authors...of those libels, and will open it to her Majesty or to some attendant about her person...shall be rewarded' with £40 if 'under the degree of a gentleman', £100 if a gentleman.

'Any such seditious bills...found in or about the court...to be secretly brought to some of her Majesty's Councillors, or other her faithful servants attendant about her person'.

c.March 28: French envoy, Duplessis, at Whitehall.  
Philippe Duplessis-Mornay, sent by the Duke of Alençon to ask assistance from the Queen. She replied assuring him of her care for his welfare.  
[SPF.xi.240,290].



March 29, Red Cross Street, William Herle to Lord Burghley, of the Dutch Ambassadors: 'Tomorrow in the afternoon they depart hence'...

'This morning the Post is come out of the Low Countries, by whom I perceive that Champagnay took seas yesterday in the morning, by the break of day, at Dover, in a very small vessel, belike to steal a passage while the bruit was that he would be transported in one of the Queen's Majesty's ships'.

[KL.viii.309].

March 31-May 18: William Davison was Agent in the Low Countries.

March 31: He 'was dispatched into the Low Countries'.<sup>WA</sup> Sent to the Council of State, and the Prince of Orange, for the purpose of negotiating a cessation of arms, in order to give an opportunity for treating of a lasting peace.

March: death: Charles, Earl of Lennox (c.1556-1576), father of Lady Arbella Stuart and uncle of King James VI. Funeral: Hackney Church, Middx.

The widowed Elizabeth (Cavendish), Countess of Lennox, received an annual pension of £400 from the Queen; she died in 1581. After King James became King of England he had the Earl of Lennox's remains moved to the Westminster Abbey tomb of his mother Margaret Countess of Lennox, as she had wished.

April 1-May 24: Thomas Randolph was special Ambassador to France.

April 1: 'Mr Randolph was dispatched to the French King with a special message'.<sup>WA</sup> He 'was sent into France to treat of a peace'.<sup>B</sup>

April 6, Middelburg, John Cobham to Burghley, of Lucrecia, the Portuguese Ambassador's betrothed, taken by pirates: 'The good lady with the rest of her company and her stuff and baggage is delivered, but they have opened every chest and trunk, and did deliver them to the lady's own hands, but...they have taken away a chest with 13 whole pieces of velvet and 40 pair of silk netherstocks. The lady thinketh herself much bound to her Majesty, and for that her Majesty hath sent Thomas Cotton with one of her ships for her, so as I mean, God willing, to come home with the next wind that God will send'. [KL.viii.332].

Court news. April 8, Mauvissière to Henri III: 'I am assured that the Queen, when the two principal presidents and judges of this kingdom took leave of her at the close of Parliament before going to their homes, summoned them to a special Council to beg them truthfully and on their consciences and by the oath of allegiance which they took to this Crown, to tell her who was the true heir after her? They replied that they implored her to pardon them, for fear of offending her, if they said anything which was not agreeable to her'.

'She ordered them to say, without any fear, what they were thinking... She asked who comes after her? They said that King Henry her father had a son and two daughters who succeeded one after the other, and sisters, of whom the elder should inherit after them. To which the Queen promptly replied "What! the elder was married in Scotland, and consequently the Queen of Scots should therefore be my heir?" To which they replied that it seemed so to them'.

'At which the Queen cut them off very short with "I do not want to know any more". And bid them adieu and gave them their *congé*'.

'Some time afterwards she summoned the Earl of Leicester and Walsingham, and said to them "I see well that people wish henceforth to pay court to the one who will be my heir, for it is the custom to leave the old and the setting sun to go to the rising sun". I am told that she had a very long conference with them on this matter; of which nobody except the three of them knows anything, for Lord Treasurer Burghley has been ill for nearly a month, without moving from his bed. As I have written previously to your Majesty, most of this kingdom would support the Prince of Scotland, if the Queen should die'. [Teulet, iii.5-6].

On February 29 Mauvissière had told a similar anecdote.

April 9: Lucrecia left Holland for England, after her release by pirates. The Queen sent Sir Thomas Cotton in *The Achates* to bring Lucrecia to England for her marriage to Giraldi, the Portuguese Ambassador.

April 16-July 26: Robert Beale was special Ambassador to the Low Countries, being sent to William of Orange. His Instructions stated: 'Her Majesty finds her honour greatly wounded by the daily misusing of her subjects, and specially by the outrage lately committed upon the Earl of Oxford'.

News had come that as the Earl of Oxford returned to England after a year in France and Italy his ship had been intercepted and boarded by pirates and his goods stolen, including a collection of beautiful Italian garments. His life was in danger, had he not been recognised by a Scotsman.

Beale was sent to Flushing partly 'to require restitution of goods taken by Flushingers from the Earl of Oxford betwixt Dover and Calais'.<sup>B</sup>

Walsingham noted: 'My brother [in-law] Beale was dispatched into Holland'.<sup>WA</sup>

April 16, Burghley to the Prince of Orange, complaining of Lord Oxford's misusage, being robbed by Flushingers 'who are only a rabble of common pirates'.

Burghley expects the Prince to execute the pirates. [KL.viii].

April 18, Sheffield, Earl of Shrewsbury to the Earl of Leicester, sending his servant with 'a tame stag, unbaked, which being indifferent fat your Lordship may present to the Queen's Majesty'. April 27, Greenwich, Leicester to Shrewsbury, of 'Your very fat great stag which I presented to her Majesty in your Lordship's name'. [LPL 3206/759, 3199/20].

Apr 19, Maundy Thursday ceremonies and alms-giving, at Whitehall Palace. By the Queen, with John Piers, new Bishop of Rochester, Queen's new Almoner; to 42 poor women, each 20s in a red purse and 42d in a white purse.

William Treasurer, Tuner of her Majesty's Instruments 'for removing and carrying of a pair of organs from St James to Whitehall against the Maundy for the allowance of himself and his three servants these two years past either year two days to and from, and for carrying of a pair of virginals with two keys from Westminster to Greenwich and for tuning of the same', 25s.<sup>T</sup>

April 20: Edward de Vere, 17th Earl of Oxford (1550-1604), Burghley's son-in-law, returned to England. The Queen, who was 'marvellously angry' at his losses from pirates, sent Lord Howard to Dover to welcome and console him.

The Earl brought a Venetian choir-boy, Orazio Coquo, who lived with him in England for 11 months. The boy told the Venetian Inquisition he had spoken to the Queen, and sung in her presence; she wished to convert him to her faith.

[Details: Alan H.Nelson, Monstrous Adversary (Liverpool, 2003), chapters entitled: 'Journey Home'; 'Orazio Coquo'].

Apr 21, Easter Saturday: Queen adjourned Garter ceremonies, Whitehall.

Herald: 'The Sovereign appointed a Chapter to be held on Easter Eve at her Palace of Westminster, whereunto all the Knights of the Order...being assembled in their mantles in the Council Chamber there proceeded into the Privy Chamber, and Garter with them, where the Sovereign with the consent of the Knights did ordain that the day of the Feast of St George should be adjourned until the Tuesday then next ensuing, and so the Chapter ended'. [BL Add MS 10110, f.121].

An engraving of 1576 depicts a Garter Procession; by Marcus Gheeraerts the Elder, who sets the Procession at Windsor, not Whitehall, and includes some foreign Knights who never came to England.

Reproduced and discussed by Roy Strong, Cult of Elizabeth, 169-172.

Apr 22, Easter Day: The Queen 'received the Holy Communion'.

Apr 23, Easter Monday, St George's Day: Eve of Garter ceremonies.

*Herald:* The Knights assembled in mid-afternoon in the Presence Chamber 'until the time that the Sovereign came forth...And then they all proceeded in their order. First the Heralds of Arms, then the Knights of the Garter... Then next before the Sovereign went the Officers of the Order. Then the Sword borne by a peer of the realm, and then the Sovereign...And in this usual manner proceeded to the Closet [a chapel] through the Great Chamber and Gallery there'.

'Whereas in the said Closet was prepared a chair and cushions for the Sovereign', who 'presently held a Chapter...and did there appoint the Earl of Bedford to be her Lieutenant for that time of the Feast' and 'the Commission signed and sealed for him under the Great Seal of the said most noble Order was delivered to him by her Majesty'...

'Then all the said Knights came forth of the Closet in order, and proceeded through the same Gallery and the Great Chamber down the stairs through the Hall and so to the Chapel. Which was prepared and with the arms of the Sovereign and all the Companions set up according to their stalls or seats at Windsor'...

'Then began the Evening Song, by the Gentlemen and Choristers of her Majesty's Chapel'. [College of Arms Vincent 92, p.328-9].

Apr 24, Tues Garter ceremonies, Whitehall.

Queen's Lieutenant: Francis Russell 2nd Earl of Bedford. The Queen was in the processions and at service. The Knights also went to an early morning service.

Later the Queen passed through 'the Great Chamber and the Hall into the Chapel, having on all the habit and robes of the Order and a diadem of pearl on her head. The sword borne by the Earl of Hertford, her mantle borne up from her shoulders by the Earl of Northumberland...and the Lord Russell...her train borne by the Countess of Derby'. The procession went 'through the Hall and so into the outer court, which was strewed with rushes, and the Pensioners followed on each side of her person...Without the Hall door in the court stood a certain round canopy of green taffeta the which was borne on the sunny side to shadow her Majesty's person from the sun'. On return to the Chapel the service followed, after which all processed to the Presence Chamber. [BL Add MS 10110, f.123].

Apr 25, Wed Final 1576 Garter ceremonies, Whitehall. No new Knights elected.

*By April 25: death, in London: Countess of Pembroke. She was Katherine (Talbot), wife of Henry Herbert, 2nd Earl of Pembroke, close friends of the Queen. Funeral: May 15, Salisbury Cathedral, Wiltshire.*

*The Earl married Mary Sidney, at court (21 April 1577).*

Also April 25: Herald's proclamation at Whitehall deferring Tournament.

'Jousts prorogued after the death of the Countess of Pembroke, where Sir Henry Lee was one of the chief challengers. This was proclaimed at Whitehall - the Presence Chamber two days after St George's Day'.

At Woodstock in 'the year now last past two strange knights' had challenged 'all noblemen and gentlemen at arms that willingly for love and virtue's sake would...encounter them at the Tilt, Course of the Field, the Tourney, and Barriers' at court next May Day. 'Now...the chiefest of them and in their opinion of greatest worth in love of his mistress...hath by the cruel stroke of death, even at this instant against this time lost the cause of all his comfort'. The Queen 'hath countermanded their desires' and there is to be 'no further proceeding in this said Challenge until her Majesty shall at her good pleasure appoint the time and place, upon 40 days warning'.

[Marion Colthorpe, 'A 'prorogued' Elizabethan tournament', *REED Newsletter* (1986), 11.2. The Proclamation has an endorsement mis-dated 1575. There was often a lapse of weeks between death and funeral of high-ranking personages.

The Tournament was apparently not held].

April 25, Lord Burghley wrote a 'Memorial' concerning the Earl of Oxford. At court in 1571 the Earl married Anne Cecil (1556-1588), Burghley's daughter.

The Earl went abroad in February 1575; his first child, Lady Elizabeth Vere, (a godchild of the Queen), was born in July 1575.

Burghley noted that in 1576 'The Earl of Oxford arrived being returned out of Italy, he was enticed by certain lewd persons to be a stranger to his wife'.<sup>B</sup>

Burghley's 'Memorial' concerning the Earl of Oxford:

His wife had a dowry of £3000, yet she pays for 'meat and drink for herself, her women and her servants' and 'the charges of a gentlewoman, a nurse, a rocker and a launder for her child'.

When the Earl knew his wife was with child 'he sent her his picture with kind letters and messages. He sent her two coach-horses. When he heard she was delivered he gave me thanks by his letters for advertising thereof. He never signified any misliking of anything until the 4th of April at Paris, from whence he wrote somewhat that by reason of a man of his...he had conceived some unkindness'. On his return the Earl (now suspicious that the child was not his), would not see his wife nor allow her to come to him.

He would not stay in Burghley's house but went to a friend's house and then to the court at Greenwich, without the Countess. [HT.ii.131-2]. (See April 27).

Apr 26, Thur **GREENWICH PALACE**, Kent.<sup>C</sup>

Work, 1576, on 'the banqueting-house in the Tilt-yard; repairing the Tower in the Park; framing a new house for the Judges in the Tilt-yard'.<sup>W</sup>

By April 26: Michael Slavata in London.

M.de Harlay to Francis Walsingham, March 3, Paris, commending to him M.de Slavata, a Baron of Bohemia, who having travelled over the greater part of Europe is desirous of visiting England and Scotland. [SPF.xi.258].

Michael Slavata, Baron of Chlum and Koschumberg, had become friendly with Philip Sidney in Italy. April 26, Sidney to Hubert Languet, in Latin: 'We have here Baron Slavata, whom I have tried to make welcome, and to whom I should be able to show more kindness if he did not give the impression of avoiding company'. [Kuin, Sidney, 659]. (See May 1).

April 27, Greenwich, Earl of Oxford to Lord Burghley: 'Until I can better satisfy or advertise myself of some mislikes I am not determined as touching my wife to accompany her...You mean if it standeth with my liking to receive her into your house...It doth very well content me, for there, as your daughter or her mother's more than my wife you may take comfort of her and I rid of the cumber thereby...She hath sufficient proportion for her being to live upon and to maintain herself. This might have been done through private conference before and had not needed to have been the fable of the world...That course...made her disgraced to the world, raised suspicions openly'. [HT.MS 9/1].

The Earl refused to see his wife and child until winter 1581.

[Details: Nelson, *Monstrous Adversary*, chapter 'A Stranger to his Wife'].

April 29, Greenwich: Warrant to Lord Admiral Lincoln directing him to send *The Achates*, *The Dreadnought*, *The Foresight*, *The Handmaid*, and *The Swiftsure*, against the pirates infesting the Narrow Seas. [HT.ii.133].

April 30: marriage. John Savage (1554-1615), son of Sir John Savage, of Cheshire, married Mary Allington, niece of Sir William Cordell, of Suffolk, Master of the Rolls. Queen's gift, April 30: one cup of silver gilt, to John Savage, esquire.<sup>PS</sup> Described as 'the marriage of Mistress Savage, the Master of the Rolls' kinswoman'.<sup>NYG</sup> John Savage was in trouble with the Privy Council before he married for refusing to make adequate financial arrangements for his mistress, a relative of his stepmother, Sir John's second wife.

May 1, Greenwich, Council: 'A passport and a placard for post-horses for the Baron of Slavata, a Bohemian, with the Baron of Potlitz, a German, to pass from hence quietly into Scotland with their two servants, and to be served of post-horses and all other necessaries for their money at reasonable prices'.<sup>APC</sup>

Court news. May 2, Lambeth, Archbishop of Canterbury (Edmund Grindal) to Lord Burghley: 'I pray your Lordship's help that Mr Redman, who made a very good sermon before her Majesty, may be Archdeacon of Canterbury. He is a very sufficient man...I have moved her Majesty twice for Mr Redman myself, and Mr Secretary Walsingham hath done the like'. [Grindal, *Remains*, 360].

William Redman, Grindal's Chaplain, became Archdeacon later in 1576.

May 3, Delft, Daniel Rogers to William of Orange, asking for the rest of the company of the Lady Lucrecia to be set at liberty, and also John Herbert, sent to the Prince by the Queen, who is detained in Zeeland. [KL.viii.374].

May 6, in France: Fifth War of Religion was ended by the Peace of Monsieur. Also: Edict of Beaulieu, granting Huguenots freedom of worship except in Paris.

'Monsieur', King Henri III's brother the Duke of Alençon, gained estates in Anjou during 1576, and his official title became Duke of Anjou. To avoid confusion with his elder brother, formerly Duke of Anjou, he is continued to be referred to here as Duke of Alençon (as he was usually in England).

May 9, Wed **LEICESTER HOUSE**, Strand; Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester. John Wynyard and Robert Cotton, of the Removing Wardrobe of Beds, with their men and horses, were sent 'by commandment of the Lord Chamberlain from Greenwich to Leicester House to make ready the lodgings there against her Majesty's coming thither'.<sup>T</sup> Royal household remained at Greenwich.<sup>C</sup>

Lambeth churchwardens: 'Paid the 9th day of May to the ringers that rung when the Queen's Majesty came from Greenwich and took her barge, 3s'.

St Margaret Westminster: 'Paid for ringing when the Queen's Majesty came from Greenwich to Leicester House, 6d'.

**Start of SHORT PROGRESS** in Middlesex and Surrey.

May 10, Thur **OSTERLEY**, Middlesex; Sir Thomas Gresham.<sup>C,WA</sup> Osterley House, Isleworth; owned by Sir Thomas Gresham (1519-1579), the Queen's principal financial agent, and Founder of the Royal Exchange; wife: Anne (Ferneley), widow of William Read; she died in 1596.

Whilst the Queen was at Osterley the fences of Gresham's deer-park were damaged in a violent protest by local men and women against his enclosures of common land. For the subsequent enquiries see 'Miscellaneous': Osterley.

The Queen made a number of visits to Gresham at Osterley, 1564-1576. On one occasion there was a play by Thomas Churchyard, who wrote entertainments in the 1570s for several of the Queen's progresses, as at Bristol and Norwich. In *Churchyard's Challenge* (1593) he lists his printed works, but without dates.

One item is: 'The devices of war and a play at Osterley, her Highness being at Sir Thomas Gresham's'. The play is not extant.

'The devices of war': Churchyard wrote 'A General Rehearsal of Wars, called Churchyard's Choice, wherein is five hundred several services of land and sea as sieges, battles, skirmishes, and encounters'. Dedicated to Sir Christopher Hatton, 15 October 1579.

May 10: Rogers, Journal: 'Departed Mr Herbert...towards England and took with him two pistols' (which had been stolen from the Earl of Oxford). [KL.viii.368].

May 11: News of the theft of goods and jewels from the Queen of Scots.

May 11, Deene [Northants], Sir Edmund Brudenell to the Earl of Shrewsbury, (the Queen's Keeper) at Sheffield: of an outrageous robbery in Leicestershire, and pursuit of the thieves who fled into the Forest of Rockingham.

The letter is brought by Monsieur Dolu. [LPL 701/153].

Dolu, Mary's Treasurer, had been with her to go through his accounts of the monies she received as Dowager Queen of France. (See May 21).

May 12, Sat **PYRFORD**, Surrey; Earl of Lincoln.<sup>C,W</sup>  
'Her Majesty removed to my Lord Admiral's'.<sup>WA</sup>

Pyrford house of Edward Clinton, 1st Earl of Lincoln (1512-1585), Lord Admiral 1558-1585; 3rd wife: Elizabeth (FitzGerald) (c.1528-1590).

May 14, Mon knighting, Pyrford: William More, of Loseley, Surrey. [Shaw].

May 15, Tues **NONSUCH**, Cheam, Surrey; Earl of Arundel.<sup>W,WA</sup>

Built by Henry VIII; owned by Henry Fitzalan, 12th Earl of Arundel (1512-1580).

May 17, Thur **BEDDINGTON**, Surrey; Mr Carew.<sup>C,W</sup>

Beddington manor-house; owned and rebuilt by Francis Carew (c.1530-1611), son of Sir Nicholas Carew, K.G., of Beddington, King Henry VIII's Master of the Horse, and a Privy Councillor, who was executed for high treason in 1539.

Francis Carew was knighted. The Queen made numerous visits to him, 1576-1600. He never married. His gardens and orangery became renowned, and were praised by foreign travellers.

May 18, Fri William Davison 'came out of Flanders'.<sup>WA</sup>

Davison had been Agent in the Low Countries for six weeks.

May 19, Sat **GREENWICH PALACE**, Kent.<sup>C</sup>

Simon Bowyer, Gentleman Usher, 'his two men, three horses, three Grooms of the Chamber and their horses, being sent by the commandment of the Lord Chamberlain to attend upon her Majesty, and for riding from Greenwich to Leicester House, Osterley, Pyrford, Nonsuch, Beddington and so to Greenwich'.<sup>T</sup>

In May Robert Cotton, of the Wardrobe of Beds, sent 28 pallet beds from Greenwich to Durham Place 'to see the feathers taken out and put to new tick', and sent them back to court; he also sent 'three loads of hangings to the wardrobe to be repaired and mended'.<sup>T</sup> Durham Place, Strand: Crown property.

May 21, Greenwich, Council to Sir Walter Mildmay and Sir William Cordell 'to examine Thomas Lea and Thomas Clerk, committed to the Gate-house [Prison] for a robbery committed in Leicestershire...it appeareth that the offenders have had great aid, both before the fact and after'.<sup>APC</sup> (See June 4 and 6).

May 24, Thur Thomas Randolph 'came to the court out of France'.<sup>WA</sup>

Randolph had been special Ambassador for six weeks.

May 30, Paris, Venetian Ambassador, to the Signory: 'Two or three days ago there returned from England to this court a Piacentine gentleman named Geronimo Scotto, who was formerly at Venice, and must be well known to many of your Lordships, who have seen him do many games with cards, supposed to be marvellous, and by reason of which he finds the way open to treat familiarly with Kings and all great personages, as I understand he has also done very privately with the Queen of England during the time he has been at that court'. [Ven.vii.549-550].

Ben Jonson, in *Volpone* (1606) has Volpone disguise himself as 'Scoto of Mantua', an Italian 'mountebank'.

Court news. May 31, London, Mauvissière to Henri III: 'The Sieur de Berny arrived here, bringing the whole resolution of the Peace [of May 6] with the Edict which is printed with it; soon after Randolph arrived. I introduced Berny to the Queen, to present your letters to her...She showed it to be very agreeable'. [The Queen would not permit Berny to go to the Queen of Scots, whose dowry was affected by the Duke of Alençon gaining estates in Anjou].

'I begged her at least to permit the brother of M.Du Verger, the Queen of Scots' Chancellor, who was here, to carry to her letters and a mémoire on her affairs. She permitted that, and in the end allowed M.Dolu her Treasurer, and M.de Lugerie her physician, and Mademoiselle de Rallay, and gave permission for her to go to the Baths [at Buxton] where she will go within eight days'...

'I am seeking justice on those who have robbed M.Dolu, which the Queen and her Council promised me...Dolu returned two days ago...Berny will leave shortly'...

'I am told that the Queen was to arrange a journey to the district where the Queen of Scots is a prisoner, so as to see her by chance, but I believe that it will not be this year'. [Teulet, iii.7,9].

May 31, William of Orange to Lord Burghley: *I was greatly displeased to hear from Robert Beale of the injuries the Earl of Oxford received at the hands of certain sea-captains calling themselves Flushingers; some are already in prison, and if found guilty will be punished in such a manner that all who have been aggrieved by them will be contented.* June 5, Robert Beale to Burghley: *As for the Prince's promises over the pirates, only one had been apprehended 'who hath liberty to walk abroad'.* [KL.viii.396].

Court news. June 1, Claude Nau (Secretary to the Queen of Scots) to Mary's Ambassador in Paris: 'We have had information very secretly that the Queen of England is thinking of coming this summer to the Baths at Buxton, there to relax herself in disguise, and without the knowledge of her court, to come and see our Queen at Chatsworth and communicate with her. I cannot positively assure you of the fact, but her Majesty quite believes it will happen'. [Leader, 376].

June 4, Greenwich, Council to the Sheriff of Leicestershire: Clerk and Lea are 'prisoners under the custody of the Sheriff of London for robbing the goods and jewels of the Queen of Scots, and by their confession have hidden some part of the same in Geddington Wood in Rockingham Forest in the county of Northampton, the which they promise to find out'. The Sheriff is to conduct them to the wood for a search. After the search they are to be conveyed to Leicester Gaol, to be tried by the Assize Judges there.<sup>APC</sup> [Their crime was a hanging offence].

c.June 6: Daniel Rogers in Holland had 'news out of England that the Queen of Scots Treasurer had been robbed, and that three of them which had been of this robbery were taken or slain'. [KL.viii.391].

June 7 [court], Earl of Leicester to the Earl of Shrewsbury, of a visit to court by the Countess of Shrewsbury (later known as Bess of Hardwick).

'Without flattery I do assure your Lordship I have not seen her Majesty make more of anybody than she have done of my Lady'. [LPL 3197/149].

June 7: christening. Queen was godmother to Sir George Carey's daughter. Parents: Sir George Carey, son of Henry Carey 1st Lord Hunsdon (and himself later 2nd Lord Hunsdon); wife: Elizabeth (Spencer).

Anthony Light went from the court at Greenwich to Hunsdon to make ready.<sup>T</sup> Hunsdon Church, Herts, register: 'Mistress Elizabeth Carey...born 24 May and was baptised 7 June 1576. Our Sovereign Lady the Queen's Majesty, the Countess of Warwick godmothers and the Earl of Sussex godfather'.

Queen's gift, delivered June 11: one basin and lair gilt.<sup>NYG</sup> Elizabeth Carey (1576-1635) married (1596) Thomas Berkeley; (1621) Sir Thomas Chamberlain.

June 8, Fri Captain Martin Frobisher on River Thames at Greenwich. Frobisher was preparing to start on his first voyage in search of a North-West Passage to China. He left Deptford at noon with *The Gabriel*, *The Michael*, and a pinnace.

'About 12 o'clock we weighed at Deptford, and set sail all three of us, and bore down by the court, where we shot off our ordnance and made the best show we could. Her Majesty beholding the same commended it, and bade us farewell, with shaking her hand at us out of the window. Afterward she sent a gentleman aboard of us, who declared that her Majesty had good liking of our doings, and thanked us for it, and also willed our Captain to come the next day to the court to take his leave of her'.

'The same day towards night Mr Secretary Wolley came aboard of us, and declared to the company that her Majesty had appointed him to give them charge to be obedient, and diligent to their Captain and governors in all things, and wished us happy success'. [Hakluyt, v.131].

June 9, Sat Martin Frobisher at Greenwich to take leave.

June 11: Edward Castelin and two others had instructions to go to Germany for 'taking up certain sums of money', not more than £200,000 for 7-10 years at 6% per annum. Dr Henry Furstemburg, of Cologne, one of the Queen's financial agents, is to have a pension of 100 dollars. Aug 27, Cologne, Furstemburg to the Queen, in Latin: I am unable to obtain a loan, hope you will not be angry, and am disturbed to know how to deserve my pension. Aug 27, to Francis Walsingham, expressing his gratitude for the pension. Endorsed: 'Excuse for lewd dealing'. [SPF.xi.339,364].

June 12, Whit Tuesday Archbishop of Canterbury at Greenwich.

The Queen asked Edmund Grindal to come to court, concerning 'propheysings', about which complaints had recently been made. These were gatherings of clergy to listen to and discuss two or three sermons preached on the same text, in front of a lay audience. The sermons were then assessed by experienced preachers at a conference from which laymen were excluded.

Grindal regarded these as useful training exercises for preachers, but there had been reports of disorders at some. The Queen asked him to enquire into the matter. He wrote to the bishops, whose reports to him during the next few months were mostly in favour of the propheysings. Grindal had a second meeting with the Queen at an unknown date later in 1576. When he went to court with his report he found her 'so incensed' that she ordered him to proceed against propheysings.

[Patrick Collinson, *Godly People* (1983), 376]. The Archbishop refused to put an end to propheysings, and wrote a 'book to the Queen': see Nov 18, Dec 20.

June 13, Whit Wednesday bear-baiting, at Greenwich.<sup>T</sup>

**June 15-October 2: Captain Martin Frobisher's first Voyage** in search of a North-West Passage to Cathay. Frobisher sailed from Blackwall in *The Gabriel*, with *The Michael*, and a 10 ton pinnace. During July the pinnace was lost, and *The Michael* returned home. Frobisher continued north-westwards, and on July 20 'he had sight of a high land, which he called Queen Elizabeth's Foreland, after her Majesty's name'. He also named Frobisher's Strait after himself, and took captive a fisherman and his small leather boat. [Hakluyt, vi.194-7].

He arrived in Essex: October 2.



June 20, Wed Daniel Rogers at Greenwich on brief return from Low Countries. Rogers, Agent in the Low Countries, noted: 'The 17th I departed from Flushing towards England. I arrived at the court the 20. I returned with Sir William Winter the 24 to Gravesend and came to Flushing the 27 of June'. [KL.viii.392].

June 24-July 26: Sir William Wynter was special Ambassador to William of Orange. His Instructions (June 19) explained 'her Majesty's sharp letter written unto him for the release of Giraldi's wife, wherewith he seemeth greatly to be aggrieved'. As for the Deputies whom he sent to England, she had shown them that 'seeking to displace the Spaniard by placing the French, was like to one that to escape drowning would throw himself into the fire'. [KL.viii.400].

Court news. June 24, Mauvissière to Henri III: 'For three days the Queen has been a little unwell, having kept to her bed and to her chamber, which may delay or break off her plan to go on progress, as is her custom every year'...

PS. 'As I was signing this I was told that the Queen had risen, gone out of her chamber and had a walk, that she is well, and that she had chosen to stay in her chamber and to feign illness'.<sup>BT</sup>

June 25: St Leonard's Church, Shoreditch, Middlesex: burial 'from Greenwich' of Lady Mountjoy. She was Katherine, wife of James Blount, 6th Lord Mountjoy.

June 27: Queen's gift: to 'Le General Le Portall, a Frenchman, one chain of gold'.<sup>NYG</sup> Dr Dale had sent news from France, 13 Sept 1575, that a Frenchman in England who has been of the religion [a Huguenot], called 'le General Portal' has had thanks written with the King's own hand for his advertisements from thence, with promise of recompense. [SPF.xi.132].

General Portall died in England in February 1588.

June: dinner, Eltham, Kent.<sup>T</sup>  
Eltham Palace; Crown property. Keeper: Christopher Hatton (1540-1591), Captain of the Guard; Keeper of Eltham and Eltham Park, and Master of the Game at Eltham, 1568-1591. Works had paid 70s for 'A boat bought new with sculls and other necessaries to the same for the cleansing of the moat about the house' (1573-74). Eltham churchwardens, 1576: 'Paid for bread and drink when the Queen's Grace dined at Eltham, for ringing, 20d'

July: Proposed but abandoned progress to Middlesex and Hertfordshire. The following locations were made ready:

[dinner] Highgate, Middlesex; Mr Lichfield.

Anthony Wingfield and nine men made ready at Highgate, 3 days, 59s.

[dinner] Hendon, Middlesex; Mr Herbert.

Richard Brackenbury and nine men made ready a dining house, 2 days, 39s4d.

[overnight stay] Fold, South Mimms, Middx; Mr Waller (near Barnet).

Simon Bowyer and nine men made ready 'at Mr Waller's house at Barnet with their attendance there, 11 days, £10.16s4d'. There were also Works expenses.

[overnight stay] St Albans, Herts; Simon Bowyer and nine men made ready at St Albans, 10 days, July, £9.16s8d. Hugh Underhill and Richard Kellefet, of the Removing Wardrobe of Beds, with their men and horses, attended at St Albans for 6 days 'after the house was made ready for the coming of her Majesty thither, who came not at the time appointed, and by commandment of the Lord Chamberlain returned with the same stuff to St James's again'.

[overnight stay] Hertford Castle. Anthony Wingfield made ready.<sup>T</sup>

The Queen stayed at Hertford Castle and at The Bull Inn, St Albans, in August. She visited Thomas Lichfield at Highgate and Ralph Waller at Fold in May 1577, but visited Edward Herbert at Hendon only in 1571.

Court news. July 4, Mauvissière to Henri III: 'I asked the Queen and her Council to let me come to the Council before she leaves on the progress which she is considering making, although not so far as she had proposed, but only three or four days' journey from London'.<sup>BT</sup>

July 6, court, Gilbert Talbot to the Earl of Shrewsbury, his father:

'Since my coming hither to the court there hath been sundry determinations of her Majesty's progress this summer. Yesterday it was set down that she would to Grafton, Northampton, Leicester and to Ashby, my Lord Huntingdon's house, and there to have remained 21 days, to the end the water of Buxton might have been daily brought thither for my Lord of Leicester or any other to have used, but late yesternight this purpose altered, and now at this present her Majesty thinketh to go no further than Grafton, howbeit there is no certainty, for these two or three days it hath changed every five hours'.

'The physicians have fully resolved that wheresoever my Lord of Leicester be he must drink and use Buxton water 20 days together. My Lady Essex and my Lady Susan [Bourchier] will be shortly at Buxton, and my Lady Norris shortly after'..

'I have had some talk with my Lord of Leicester since my coming...I never knew man in my life more joyful for their friend than he at my Lady's noble and wise government of herself at her late being here...and that you are matched with so noble and good a wife' [Countess of Shrewsbury, at court in June]...

'Mr Secretary Smith lieth still in hard case at his house in Essex, and as I hear this day or tomorrow setteth towards the baths in Somersetshire; the use of his tongue is clean taken from him that he cannot be understood'...

PS. 'The Queen's Majesty removeth from this house Greenwich on Monday next to St James, and there tarrieth till her Majesty beginneth her progress, but no certainty is yet known of the day that she setteth forward. She will tarry at Grafton 21 days'. [LPL 3197/157].

*July 9: The Queen left Greenwich. John Dowsing, 'Keeper of Greenwich house', 'making clean at Greenwich 3 nights, July 1576'.<sup>T</sup>*

July 9, Mon **ST JAMES'S PALACE.**<sup>C</sup>

James Harman, Keeper of the Standing Wardrobe at Westminster 'for the delivery of certain wardrobe stuff and beds to serve her Majesty at St James ...and carrying the beds', July.<sup>T</sup>

July 10, St James, Council: 'An open letter to all Justices of Peace, Mayors and others, etc. within the several Shires of Wales. That where the bearer hereof Christopher Saxton is appointed by her Majesty under her sign and signet to set forth and describe cartes [maps] in particularly all the Shires in Wales.

That the said Justices shall be aiding and assisting unto him to see him conducted unto any tower, castle, high place or hill to view that country, and that he may be accompanied with two or three honest men such as do best know the country for the better accomplishment of that service, and that at his departure from any town or place that he hath taken the view of, the said town do set forth a horseman that can speak both Welsh and English to safe-conduct him to the next market town'.<sup>APC</sup>

July 11, court, Francis Lord Talbot to the Earl of Shrewsbury, his father:

'The determination of her Majesty's progress hath been so very uncertain till now, I have stood in doubt what to advertise your Lordship; for yesterday it was appointed to Grafton, and so to Ashby my Lord of Huntingdon's house, there to have remained 21 days, but this present day it is altered, and her Majesty will no further than Grafton this year'. [LPL 3197/161].

Neither Grafton, Northants, nor Ashby, Leics, were visited in 1576.

Court news. July 13, Earl of Oxford to Lord Burghley (father of Anne, his estranged wife), 'from my lodging at Charing Cross this morning':

'Yesterday at your Lordship's earnest request I had some conference with you about your daughter, when for that her Majesty had so often moved me, and for that you dealt so earnestly with me to content as much as I could, I did agree that you might bring her to the court with condition that she should not come when I was present, nor at any time to have speech with me, and further that your Lordship should not urge further in her cause. But now I understand that your Lordship means this day to bring her to the court, and that you mean afterward to prosecute the cause with further hope'...

'I will still [always] prefer my own content before others'. [HT.MS 9/15].

July 15, *death: William Scarlet, Master of the Queen's Barges since the beginning of the reign.*

*New Master: William Darrett, another Royal waterman.*<sup>T</sup>

July 18, Wed new appointments: Henry Cheke and Thomas Wilkes were sworn Clerks of the Privy Council.<sup>APC</sup>

July 21, at *Middelburg*: Convention between the Queen's Deputies and the Prince of Orange, for reciprocal restitution of arrested ships. [KL.viii.417].

July 22: *Earl of Essex, Earl Marshal of Ireland, embarked for Ireland after eight months' leave. The Countess of Essex and her young children remained in England. The Earl of Leicester's Huntsman's Book notes that at Kenilworth Castle during 1576 Lady Essex killed three bucks.*

July 23, Mon **WHITEHALL PALACE.**<sup>C</sup>

George Bright, 'Keeper of her Majesty's outer lodgings at Westminster, making clean her Majesty's lodgings at Whitehall by night, July 1576'.<sup>T</sup>

July 24/28: supper and hunting, Hyde Park, Westminster; Crown property.

July 24/28: supper and hunting, Marylebone Park; Crown property.

Anthony Wingfield, Gentleman Usher, 'for the allowance of himself, one Yeoman Usher, three Yeomen of the Chamber, two Grooms of the Chamber, two Grooms of the Wardrobe and one Groom-Porter, for making ready for her Majesty a supper house and a standing at Hyde Park by the space of three days and for making ready another time a supper house and a standing at Marylebone Park by the space of other three days, July 1576', 118s.<sup>T</sup>

July 26, Thur Sir William Wynter and Robert Beale at Whitehall.<sup>WA</sup>

July 28, Antonio de Guaras to Secretary Zayas: 'The Queen's Vice-Admiral arrived from Zeeland three days ago accompanied by Beale, the Secretary of the Council, who has been for some time negotiating with [the Prince of] Orange. The Queen abandoned her progress and hunting in order to return to the Palace here to await their arrival, the Council being also summoned'. [Span.ii.531].

*In July 1576, probably partly as a result of the abandoned visits, proposals were drawn up, and annotated by Lord Burghley, concerning: 'Reformations to be had and put in use for the diminution of the great expenses of her Majesty's house'.*

*See: 'Court': Royal Household Orders.*

July 30, Mon dinner, Stratford, Middlesex; Mr Young.<sup>T,WA</sup>  
 Stratford house of Richard Young, a 'Customer' of the Customs of London;  
 prominent Justice of the Peace; married to a wealthy widow; he died c.1594.  
**Start of SUMMER PROGRESS** in Middlesex, Essex, Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire.

July 30, Mon **HAVERING**, Essex.<sup>C</sup>

Havering manor-house, Havering House; Crown property.

Anthony Wingfield made ready 'at Havering in the Bower with a standing for the hunting there'.<sup>T</sup> St Martin in the Fields: 'For ringing at the Queen's remove from Whitehall to Havering, 8d'; St Mary Woolchurch Haw: 'For ringing when the Queen's Majesty removed from Whitehall to Havering, 12d'.

c. Aug 1/4: dinner, Pyrgo, Havering, Essex.<sup>T</sup>

Pyrgo estate of Henry Grey (1547-1614), son of Lord John Grey, of Pyrgo, and cousin of 'Queen' Lady Jane Grey, Lady Catherine Grey, and Lady Mary Grey; Gentleman Pensioner 1569-1603, when he was created Lord Grey of Groby;  
 wife: Anne (Windsor) (1549-1605), a former Maid of Honour, daughter of William 2nd Lord Windsor.

Aug 6: *Roger Lord North's accounts: 'Lost at play with the Queen, £28. Lost at primero, £33'.<sup>A</sup>* *Apparently losses over several weeks.*

\*Aug 7, Tues dinner, Chigwell Hall, Essex.<sup>T</sup>

Chigwell Hall manor, Chigwell parish; owned by Robert Wroth (c.1539-1606); wife: Susan, daughter of John Stoner of Luxborough, Chigwell.

Aug 7, Tues **LUXBOROUGH**, Chigwell, Essex; Mr Stoner.<sup>C,T</sup>

'Luxborough within our Forest of Waltham'.<sup>CH</sup>

Luxborough manor-house, Luxborough Hall, Chigwell; owned and built by John Stoner (died 1579); wife: Anne (Tyrell), daughter of John Tyrell and step-daughter of Sir William Petre (with whom the Queen stayed at Ingatestone, Essex, 1561). Simon Bowyer made ready 'a standing at Chigwell'.<sup>T</sup>

Court news. Aug 7, London, William Herle to Edward Chester, in the Low Countries: 'Her Majesty is so moved with these insolent dealings of the Prince and his Zeelanders as none dare move her to any consideration towards them, but all is set upon revenge of their lewd acts and worse speeches, and to exterminate them out of the world, rather than to endure it any longer'...

'Mr Wynter was charged why he had not written oftener to her Majesty, who said plainly that there was such swift intelligence even of those things that her Majesty did most secretly that he durst not write before his own coming, and would not deliver your articles to her Majesty but with his own hands and those also sealed, which her Majesty told me herself'...

'In haste, haste, a thousand times farewell. From London as I was riding out of town the 7th of August 1576'. [Murdin, 296,299].

[Aug 10, Fri] dinner, Coopersale, Theydon Garnon, Essex.

Coopersale estate, Theydon Garnon; owned by Henry Archer, died 1615; wife: Anne, daughter of Simon Crouch, London Alderman; she died 1640.  
 Simon Bowyer made ready 'a dining house at Cupper Shawe'.<sup>T</sup>

Aug 10, Fri **MARK HALL**, Latton, Essex; Mr Altham.<sup>C,W</sup>

Mark Hall, Latton parish (later part of Harlow); owned by James Altham, clothworker, formerly a London Alderman, died 1583.

2nd wife: Lady Mary Judd (c.1516-1602). She was Mary (Matthew), widow of:  
 (1) Thomas Wolley; (2) Thomas Langton;  
 (3) Sir Andrew Judd, skinner, Lord Mayor of London 1550-1551.

[Aug 11,Sat] dinner, Sir Thomas Barrington.<sup>T</sup> [Hatfield Broad Oak, Essex].  
The Priory, Hatfield Broad Oak, converted into a house by Sir Thomas Barrington (1530-1581), Chief Forester of Hatfield Forest.

2nd wife: Winifred (Pole), widow of Sir Thomas Hastings.  
She was the daughter of Henry Pole, Lord Montagu (executed in 1539), who was the grandson of King Edward IV's brother George Plantagenet, Duke of Clarence (allegedly drowned in a butt of malmsey wine at the Tower of London in 1478).

Aug 11,Sat **GREAT HALLINGBURY**, Essex.

'Hallingbury Morley, Mr Parker's house'.<sup>W</sup> 'The Lord Morley's'.<sup>T</sup>  
Great Hallingbury manor-house, Hallingbury Place.

Crown property, confiscated. Henry Parker, 11th Lord Morley (c.1531-1577) left England without licence in 1570 to live abroad in a Catholic country; his wife joined him in 1575. Morley's estates were in the hands of the Crown from 1572-1578, when they were restored to his son Edward Parker, 12th Lord Morley.

*August 14: The Queen left Great Hallingbury. Hugh Underhill and Richard Kellefet, of the Removing Wardrobe of Beds, with their men and horses, remained behind 'at Hallingbury Morley...2 days upon commandment of the Lord Chamberlain to send away certain wardrobe stuff from thence to Mr Bashe's, which could not be sent before by reason of lack of carts'.<sup>T</sup>*

[Aug 14,Tues] dinner, Mr Chauncy.<sup>T</sup> [Gilston, Herts].  
Netherhall manor-house, called New Place, Gilston; owned and built by Henry Chauncy, died 1587; 2nd wife: Jane Salisbury, a widow.

Aug 14,Tues **STANSTEAD ABBOTS**, Herts; Mr Bashe.<sup>C</sup>

Stanstead Abbots manor-house, Stanstead Bury; owned by Edward Bashe (c.1507-1587), Surveyor of Victuals for the Navy 1547-1587. 2nd wife: Jane (Sadler) (died 1614), daughter of Sir Ralph Sadler, Privy Councillor.

Simon Bowyer made ready at Stanstead, and a standing. John Wynyard with his man 'sent by her Majesty's own commandment from the court at Mr Bashe's to the Portuguese Ambassador lying at London and for his return back again', 10s.<sup>T</sup>

Aug 15/18: hunting, Harold's Park, Waltham, Essex.  
Simon Bowyer made ready 'a standing in Harold's Park'.<sup>T</sup>

Manor owned by Edward Denny (1569-1637); his elder brother Robert was buried at Hunsdon, Herts, Aug 12. Their mother Elizabeth, daughter of William Lord Grey of Wilton, had married (2) Edward Greville, who was now living at Harold's Park.

Edward Denny became (1604) Baron Denny; (1626) Earl of Norwich.

Aug 20,Mon **HERTFORD CASTLE**, Herts.<sup>C</sup>

Crown property. A deferred visit. Anthony Wingfield made ready 'at Hertford Castle the first and second time, by reason of her Highness' discontinuance'.<sup>T</sup>

Court news. Aug 24, Theobalds [Lord Treasurer Burghley's house, Herts], Thomas Horsman to Sir William More (of Loseley, Surrey): 'It is thought the Queen's Majesty will not come to your house this summer; she removeth tomorrow to Hatfield from Hertford, and there remaineth it is not well known how long, and so to St Albans, and then to Chenies or to Mr Sandys' house, and to Reading, and there remaineth during her pleasure, for my Lord Treasurer told me that he heard the plague was about Oatlands'. [HMC.7th Report, 629].

Aug 26, Hertford Castle, Earl of Lincoln to Sir Nicholas Bacon:

'This day I do perceive by some of my Lords that her Majesty doth not intend to go to St Albans but directly to go from Hatfield to Mr Sandys' house near to Chenies, which is 14 miles from Hatfield, and from thence to Windsor'.

'Whether this will hold or not I am not sure'. [Bacon, i.207].

Aug 27, Mon **HATFIELD**, Herts.<sup>C</sup>  
Hatfield manor-house; Crown property.

[Aug 27] 'from Hatfield this present Monday', Earl of Lincoln to Sir Nicholas Bacon: 'As I did write to your Lordship yesterday, it is appointed that her Majesty doth tarry here till Saturday, and that day removeth from hence to Mr Sandys, and there Sunday, and on Monday to Windsor and there three days, and so to Sunninghill and to Loseley in Surrey, Sir William More's house'.  
'What change will happen to alter this I know not'. [Bacon, i.208].

*The Queen stayed with Miles Sandys at Latimer, September 1-3, at Loseley with Sir William More, September 12-15, and at Reading, September 22-October 8. She did not visit the Earl of Bedford at Chenies, Bucks, in 1576.*

Aug 30, Thur dinner, Northaw, Herts; Earl of Warwick.<sup>T</sup>  
Northaw manor-house, also called Northall or North Hall.  
Formerly Crown property, owned from 1576 by Ambrose Dudley, Earl of Warwick (c.1530-1590), elder brother of the Earl of Leicester; Master of the Ordnance, Privy Councillor. 3rd wife: Anne (Russell) (c.1548-1604), daughter of Francis Russell, 2nd Earl of Bedford; they married at court in 1565.

Aug 30: North Hall: Privy Council meeting.<sup>APC</sup>

Aug 30, Thur **ST ALBANS**, Herts; *The Bull Inn*.  
Inn-keeper, John Goodrich; paid 66s8d by the Cofferer of the Household.<sup>C</sup>  
Anthony Wingfield made ready at St Albans, eight days, August.<sup>T</sup>  
Works had expenses of £4.12s3d at *The Bull*. St Peter's Church, St Albans:  
'Paid to the ringers when the Queen's Majesty came to *The Bull*, 9s.'

Aug 30: *Treasonable words at Ingatestone, Essex.*  
*Mary Clere, spinster, traitorously said 'that the Queen's Majesty was base born and not born to the Crown, but that another Lady is the right inheritor thereunto. And that it did not become a woman to make knights, which she would justify'. Guilty of treason: to be drawn to the place of execution and burnt.*  
[Assizes, Essex, 157]. *The only such sentence on a woman for treason in the Essex records for the reign; it is not known if it was carried out.*

Aug 31, Sept 1: St Albans: Privy Council meetings.

[Sept 1, Sat] dinner, Gorhambury, St Albans, Herts.<sup>T</sup> Sir Nicholas Bacon.  
Gorhambury, near St Albans; owned and built by Sir Nicholas Bacon (1510-1579), Lord Keeper 1558-1579, Privy Councillor.

2nd wife: Anne (Cooke) (c.1528-1610), daughter of Sir Anthony Cooke; mother of Anthony and Francis Bacon; sister of Lady Burghley.

Sept 1, Sat **LATIMER**, Bucks; Mr Sandys.<sup>C,W</sup>  
Isenhampstead Latimer manor-house; owned by Miles Sandys, Clerk of the Crown and Attorney of the Queen's Bench 1559-1597; died 1601.

1st wife: Hester (Clifton). Miles Sandys was the younger brother of Edwin Sandys, Bishop of London 1570-1577, Archbishop of York 1577-1588.

John Pigeon, Jewel-house Officer, 'hire of two horses riding from the Tower to the court at sundry times with chains of gold and plate given by her Highness in reward at sundry times at Hatfield, at Mr Sandys and at Windsor Castle', £4.10s.<sup>T</sup>

c.Sept 3: *proposed visit, Mr Gardiner.*<sup>T</sup> [Chalfont St Giles, Bucks].  
*Grove Place manor-house, Chalfont St Giles; owned by John Gardiner; Catholic; married; he died 1595/1601.*

[Sept 3, Mon] dinner, Sir Robert Drury.<sup>T</sup> [Chalfont St Peter, Bucks].  
 Sir Robert Drury settled at Chalfont St Peter in the 1530s; he owned Brudenells manor and Chalfont manor in Chalfont St Peter, and also Bulstrude manor and Hedgerley manor in the adjacent parish of Hedgerley; he died in 1577;

wife: Elizabeth (Brudenell), daughter of Edmund Brudenell of Brudenells manor, and widow of Drew Barrington. Their 9 children included: Sir William Drury, who became Lord Justice of Ireland; Dru Drury, Gentleman Usher of the Privy Chamber.

Sept 3, Mon **WINDSOR CASTLE**, Berks.<sup>C</sup>

Anthony Wingfield made ready at Windsor Castle; and 'a standing in Windsor Forest for her Majesty' and 'a standing in the New Park'.<sup>T</sup>

Sept 4/8: dinner, Foliejon Park, Berks; Crown property.  
 Anthony Wingfield made ready 'a dining house at Folly John'.<sup>T</sup> Winkfield parish.

John Norris of Fifield, Berks, was Keeper of Foliejon Park, 1536-1577; also Comptroller of Works at Windsor Castle, and Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod and of the Garter; previously Gentleman Usher to Henry VIII, Edward VI, Mary and Philip; he died in 1577; wife: Mary (Staverton), of Bray, Berks.

Sept 5: marriage. Edmund Tremayne (c.1525-1582), a Clerk of the Privy Council, married Eulalia St Leger, daughter of Sir John St Leger, of Devon.

Queen's gift, Sept 5: To 'Edward [sic] Tremayne, one of the Clerks of our Council': one cup of silver gilt.<sup>PS</sup>

Sept 6, Thur Sir Amias Paulet at Windsor to take leave.<sup>WA</sup>  
 Paulet was newly appointed Ambassador to France, replacing Dr Valentine Dale.

Sept 6: Queen's gift to Arthur Throckmorton 'going into France with Mr Amias Paulet Ambassador lieger there, a chain of gold'.<sup>NYG</sup>

Francis Bacon (aged 15) also accompanied Paulet; he referred in 1595 to 'these one and twenty years [sic], for so long it is that I kissed her Majesty's hands upon my journey into France'. [Birch, i.198].

6 Sept 1576-December 1579: Sir Amias Paulet was **Ambassador** to France.  
 Paulet to John Petre, Sept 8: 'My train hath been great by reason of divers gentlemen recommended unto me by the Queen's Majesty, as Mr Dr Caesar, Mr Throckmorton and Mr Hilliard, besides those of my own company'.

Dr Julius Caesar, lawyer, after a time returned to his studies at Oxford, but was again in France 1578-1581; Nicholas Hilliard, goldsmith and painter, returned in autumn 1578; Arthur Throckmorton returned in December 1578; Francis Bacon returned in March 1579 after his father's death.

Nicholas Hilliard painted a self-portrait of himself in 1577, age 30. His paintings in France included miniatures of the Duke of Alençon, who gave him a post in his household. [Self-portrait: reproduced in *Dynasties*, ed. Karen Hearn, 125].

Sept 7, Fri: Queen's birthday celebrations, e.g.

St Botolph Bishopsgate: 'For bread and drink for the ringers when they rang for the birth of the Queen's Majesty, 14d'. St Margaret Westminster: 'For ringing the day of the birth of the Queen, 12d'.

Court news. Sept 7, Earl of Lincoln to Sir William More:  
 'The Queen's Majesty doth remove upon Monday next to Byfleet [September 10], and will tarry Tuesday all day, and on Wednesday to your house at Loseley, but how long her Highness will tarry there I cannot yet learn'. [HMC.7th Report, 629].

Sept 9,10: Woodstock tenants' complaints to the Queen over enclosures. Burghley received a warrant on 9 July 1576 for payment of £309 for building a wall enclosing additions to Woodstock Park, Oxon (Crown property). [HT.ii.135].

Earl of Leicester to Lord Burghley, in haste this Thursday [September 13]:

'Touching the matter of Woodstock there was at Windsor certain of the tenants to complain for the enclosure of some piece of common, and for change of the highway. And her Majesty by the Master of the Requests commanded I should talk with them, and so I did, the Master of Requests Mr Wilson being by'.

'Finding upon the knowledge I had myself of the matter (being with your Lordship to see the ground and places they complain of), that they had indeed no cause at all to complain...I did...let them understand how little cause they had to be grieved, but rather offered great cause to her Majesty to be much offended to find so unthankful and unnatural subjects...to grudge at a Prince's doings'..

'Her Majesty would have nothing there should not be recompensed to the uttermost. The next day, which was the day of her remove, there came 40 or 50 more who were persuaded by the other four which I had dispatched', who 'as her Majesty passed by made open declaration, at which she was greatly offended, and commanded them to depart or to be punished'. She 'willed your Lordship should hear their complaints'...

'Surely my Lord it is not to be suffered that a Prince in such a case should be grudged at, when every upstart and yeoman almost can have more a thousand times at their tenants' hands to enclose, whole towns and Lordships, and to change twice as far highways, and no complaint at all of it'. [HT.MS 160/112].

Sept 10, Mon dinner, Thorpe, Surrey; Mrs Polsted.

Anthony Wingfield made ready 'a dining house at Thorpe Mr Polsted's house by the way from Windsor to Byfleet'.<sup>T</sup>

Hall Place manor-house, Thorpe; occupied by Mrs Elizabeth Polsted (1552-1600). She was Elizabeth (More), daughter of Sir William More of Loseley, Surrey, and widow of Richard Polsted of Thorpe, who died on 31 March 1576, having settled the manor on her. She married: (1577) John Wolley; (1597) Sir Thomas Egerton.

**Start of second SUMMER PROGRESS**, in Surrey, Hampshire, and Berkshire.

Sept 10, Mon **BYFLEET**, Surrey.<sup>C</sup>

Byfleet manor-house; Crown property.

Keeper of Byfleet Park: Earl of Lincoln.

Sept 11, Tues **PYRFORD**, Surrey; Earl of Lincoln. [As on May 12].

Walsingham, Sept 11: 'Her Majesty removed to Pyrford. I went to Pyrford'.<sup>WA</sup>

*Sept 11: Request from Germany for the Queen's picture.*

*Sept 11 [Cologne], Robert Colshill (one of the Queen's Gentlemen Pensioners) to Francis Walsingham: Count Adolph Newenar's wife is a very modest and virtuous lady, and well affected to the Queen. The Count desires you to further his wife's request for her Majesty's picture, 'for she never goes without her Majesty's counterfeit in her bosom, and is so ill done as it grieveth me to behold the same, knowing the excellency of her Majesty'. [SPF.xi.374].*

Court news. Sept 12, Pyrford, Francis Walsingham to Lord Burghley: 'Her Majesty is fearful to go to Odiham, for that she doubteth that some little charges I shall be at with the entertaining of her'. [SP12/109/6].

She stayed at Odiham September 20-22.

Sept 12, Wed **LOSELEY**, Surrey.<sup>C</sup> 'Sir William More's house near Guildford'.<sup>W</sup>

Loseley manor-house, Guildford, owned and built by Sir William More (1520-1600); knighted in May 1576. 2nd wife: Margaret (Daniel), died 1587.



Sept 13/14: dinner and hunting, Guildford Manor, Surrey.  
Crown property. Anthony Wingfield made ready 'a dining house and two standings for hunting at Guildford Manor'.<sup>T</sup>

Sept 15, Sat **FARNHAM CASTLE**, Surrey.<sup>C,T</sup> Bishop's Palace.  
Dr Robert Horne (c.1514-1579), Bishop of Winchester 1561-1579;  
wife: Margery, who died during 1576.

Sept 20, Thur **ODIHAM**, Hants.<sup>C</sup>  
Odiham royal manor-house, occupied by Francis Walsingham (c.1532-1590), one of the Queen's two Secretaries. 2nd wife: Ursula (St Barbe), widow of Sir Richard Worsley, of the Isle of Wight; she died in 1602.

*The Works made payments at 'Odiham, Mr White's house' (as at the Queen's visit in 1574), but Walsingham was living at Odiham by 1575 and was the host in 1576. He was at Odiham on September 14-24, apart from two visits to Farnham.<sup>WA</sup> He was granted Odiham manor in 1585.*

[Sept 22, Sat] dinner, Mr Hall.  
Anthony Wingfield made ready 'a dining house at Mr Hall's'.<sup>T</sup>  
[Not located; listed in the accounts between Odiham and Reading].

Sept 22, Sat **READING**, Berks.<sup>C,W</sup>  
Reading Abbey; Crown property.  
Simon Bowyer made ready at Reading, and 'the church at Reading'.<sup>T</sup>  
St Lawrence's Church: 'Expenses about ringers, the Queen being in Reading: in bread, drink, money, and candles, to watch the Queen's seat, with the travers and arras hanging in the chancel, 6s3d'.  
Richard Farrant, Master of the Children of Windsor Chapel, brought 15 of the 'singing men' of the Chapel and six of the Children of the Chapel to Reading 'at her Majesty's...being there, by her Majesty's commandment', for 4 days.<sup>T</sup>  
Works: John Symonds was paid 'for his labour and pains in drawing of plattes [plans of houses] for Woking, Reading and Guildford and attending at the court...during all the progress time'.

*Sept 22, in Dublin: death: Walter Devereux, 1st Earl of Essex (1539-1576), K.G., Earl Marshal of Ireland, died of illness, leaving four young children. He had written from Dublin Castle, Sept 20, to 'my most gracious Sovereign' of 'my humble suit' for 'my poor children, that since God doth now make them fatherless, yet it would please your Majesty to be as a mother unto them, at least by your gracious countenance and care of their education and matches'... 'The Lord God prosper your Majesty, send you long and happy reign'. The Earl's corpse was taken to Carmarthen Castle, Wales. Devereux accounts: For 'transportation of the Earl's body to Carmarthen, viz. by sea from Dublin to Pwllheli in Caernarvonshire, and from thence with most painful labour of his servants in extreme tempestuous weather upon their backs, where horses with litters could not go', £9.10s. [Devereux, i.141-2; Bath, v.248].*  
*Funeral: November 24, St Peter's Church, Carmarthen.*  
*Expenses of the funeral, and abstract of the will: Devereux, ii.481-6.*  
*The Earl's son Robert Devereux, Viscount Hereford (1565-1601), who was living at Chartley, Staffordshire, became 2nd Earl of Essex.*  
*The widowed Lettice (Knollys), Countess of Essex (1543-1634) married: (1578) Earl of Leicester; (1589) Sir Christopher Blount.*

*Sept 23: death. Dowager Countess of Huntingdon.*  
*She was Catherine (Pole), widow of Francis Hastings, 2nd Earl of Huntingdon.*  
*Funeral: October 17, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire.*

Sept 24, Reading: 'A placard for the Lord of Gartley, Scottishman, to go into Scotland by the way of Berwick'. [George Berkeley, Laird of Gartley].  
 'A placard for Canay and Ulec, two Frenchmen, to pass over into France'.<sup>APC</sup>

c. Sept 25/Oct 7: Portuguese Ambassador, Francisco Giraldi, at Reading. Charles Smyth, Page of the Robes, was 'sent from Reading to Windsor with the Ambassador of Portugal to show him the Castle and Wardrobe there'.<sup>T</sup>

Oct 1: Stationers entered a book translated by Edward Hellowes, published as: 'A Chronicle containing the Lives of Ten Emperors of Rome. Wherein are discovered their beginnings, proceedings, and endings, worthy to be read, marked, and remembered. Wherein are also contained Laws of special profit and policy. Sentences of singular shortness and sweetness. Orations of great gravity and wisdom. Letters of rare learning and eloquence. Examples of vices carefully to be avoided, and notable patterns of virtue fruitful to be followed'.

'Compiled by the most famous Sir Anthony of Guevara, Bishop of Mondonnedo, Preacher, Chronicler, and counsellor to the Emperor Charles the fifth; and translated out of Spanish into English, by Edward Hellowes, Groom of her Majesty's Leash'. Dedicated to the Queen.

Epistle Dedicatory: 'To the most excellent and virtuous' Queen, 'Long life, with accomplishment of all Godly desires'. 'Presuming of your Majesty's mild and accustomed favour, provoked by the eloquence of the Author, encouraged by the profit and pleasure of the matter, emboldened because this history hath been...accepted of Charles the fifth, an Emperor of no common renown' I am constrained 'to present unto your magnificence this my simple travail'.

With the 'Prologue' by Guevara to the Emperor. 484p. (London, 1577).  
 Edward Hellowes also translated Guevara's Familiar Epistles (1574) and his Art of Navigation (1578).

Oct 2: Martin Frobisher, after his first Voyage in search of a North-West Passage, landed at Harwich, Essex. In London 'he was highly commended of all men for his great and notable attempt, but specially famous for the great hope he brought of the passage to Cathay'. A fisherman he had captured 'died of cold which he had taken at sea'. [Hakluyt, v.194-7]. Frobisher had explored Labrador. He made further voyages in the same direction in 1577 and 1578.

Oct 7: A book on religion for the Queen, by William Fuller, who knew the young Elizabeth at Hatfield before her Accession. 'With my confession of faults then made and sent, when I thought to die, delivered by the Lady Stafford'. [MS].

[Albert Peel, The Second Parte of a Register (Cambridge, 1915), 60].  
 Fuller's biography, and extracts from another book for the Queen: 2 July 1585.

[Oct 8, Mon] dinner, Rotherfield Greys, Oxon; Sir Francis Knollys. Simon Bowyer made ready 'a dining house for her Majesty at Greys, Mr Treasurer's house'.<sup>T</sup> Rotherfield Greys manor-house; owned by Sir Francis Knollys, widower; Treasurer of the Household 1570-1596; his monument is in the church, with his wife Katherine, and 16 children. Also the monument to his son William, later Earl of Banbury, and his first wife.

Oct 8, Mon **HURST**, Berks; Mr Ward.<sup>WA</sup>  
 Simon Bowyer made ready 'at Mr Cofferer's'.<sup>T</sup>

Hurst manor-house; owned and built by Richard Ward (c.1514-1578), successively Clerk of the Scullery, of the Poultry, and of the Spicery, to King Henry VIII; Cofferer of the Household to Queen Elizabeth 1567-1578; a widower.

Hurst Church has a monument to Richard, his wife Colubra, and 17 children.

Oct 9, Tues **WINDSOR CASTLE**, Berks.<sup>WA</sup>

October 12: *The Queen left Windsor. Richard Kellefet and Hugh Underhill, of the Removing Wardrobe of Beds, with their men and horses 'remaining behind at Windsor by the commandment of the Lord Chamberlain for the sending away of certain wardrobe stuff which remained behind for lack of carts when her Majesty removed from thence'.<sup>T</sup>*

Oct 12, Fri **HAMPTON COURT**, Middlesex.<sup>WA</sup>

Oct 12, in Prague: death. Emperor Maximilian II (1527-1576), K.G. His son Rudolf (1552-1612), Archduke of Austria, King of Hungary and Bohemia, became Emperor Rudolf II. Philip Sidney was sent in 1577 to the new Emperor, to 'condole and congratulate'.

Oct 19: Court news of a secret marriage. Thomas Gorges (1536-1610), of Wiltshire and Whitefriars, London, a Groom of the Privy Chamber, married the Lady Marquis of Northampton (1549-1635), one of the Queen's close friends and attendants. She was Helena (Snakenborg), the Swedish-born widow of the Marquis of Northampton (she retained her title after her 2nd marriage).

They married without obtaining the Queen's consent, as was required of her attendants; Gorges had a spell in prison, and his wife was barred from court, as is known from her letter begging the Lord Chamberlain to intercede for her:

Oct 19, to the Earl of Sussex: 'If the extreme anguish of a sorrowful mind may move your lordship to regard a woeful complaint, I beseech you (my very good lord) to have some pity of mine unfortunate misery, whose painful passion no lingering time can appease'. I crave 'if any sorrowful grief or most secret heart breaking...may be a sufficient punishment for an offence, that then it may please your lordship in pitiful consideration be some means that I may get unto the court, if it be but before her Majesty'...

'If any pity may move your lordship to me, a poor desolate and banished creature, I beseech you to remember my sorrowful cause to her Majesty that, if any hope be left, I may receive some relief'....

'From my solitary house in the Whitefriars...The most unfortunate Helena Northampton'. [C.A.Bradford, *Helena, Marchioness of Northampton* (1936), 66-7].

Before long both were fully restored to favour; the Queen was godmother to their first child, August 1578. Helena lived to be Chief Mourner at the Queen's funeral, 1603.

Oct 22: christening. Queen was godmother to Mr Henry Knollys' daughter. Parents: Henry Knollys, son of Sir Francis Knollys, Treasurer of the Household; wife: Margaret (Cave). Simon Bowyer, with a Groom of the Chamber and a Groom of the Wardrobe, was sent from Hampton Court to Westminster to make ready, and attended there six days 'for the coming of the Lady Warwick her Majesty's Deputy'.<sup>T</sup> Queen's gift, Oct 22, one gilt bowl with a cover.<sup>NYG</sup>

Child: Elizabeth Knollys; she married Henry Willoughby.

Oct 23, Tues King Henri of Navarre's Ambassador at Hampton Court. 'Monsieur du Pin, being sent to her Majesty from the King of Navarre, came to the court'.<sup>WA</sup>

Du Pin was Secretary to Cardinal de Châtillon in England, 1568-1571.

Oct 24, Wed Dr Dale at Hampton Court.<sup>WA</sup>  
Dr Valentine Dale had returned from France, where he was Ambassador 1573-76.

25 Oct 1576-13 July 1577: Dr Thomas Wilson was special Ambassador to the Low Countries. Wilson, a Master of Requests, was sent to Don John of Austria, the new Governor, instructed to find out the true state of affairs there.

Oct 25: Dr Wilson 'was dispatched into the Low Countries'.<sup>WA</sup>  
Don John arrived in the Low Countries in 1577, when Wilson had audience.

Oct 26, Fri Du Pin, Navarre Ambassador, at Hampton Court to take leave.<sup>WA</sup>

Oct 27: in Germany: death. Frederick III, 'the Pious', Elector Palatine (1515-1576). His son became Elector Ludwig VI. Philip Sidney was sent in 1577 to the new Elector and his brother John Casimir to 'condole and congratulate'.

Oct 29, Mon Treaty with Portugal, concluded at London by Francis Walsingham and Signor Giraldi. Walsingham noted: 'I concluded a Treaty of Truce between England and Portugal for three years, with the Ambassador of Portugal'.<sup>WA</sup>

Nov 1, Thur All Saints' Day service, Hampton Court. Richard Todd was sent from Windsor to Hampton Court 'for a table and frame and other stuff against All Hallowtide and for carrying and recarrying of the same by water with a barge'.<sup>T</sup>

Nov 2-Dec 16: Lord North's accounts: 'Lost at play with the Queen, £32'.<sup>A</sup>

Nov 4: Baron d'Aubigny at Hampton Court.  
Gilles de Lens, Baron d'Aubigny, sent by the States of the Low Countries on a special embassy to explain that they had been obliged to take up arms against the Spanish forces in their own defence, to ask the Queen to intercede with King Philip, and for a loan of 200,000 or 300,000 angels. [KL.viii.481].  
The Baron previously came on embassy to the Queen in January 1574.

Nov 4, Sun Baron d'Aubigny at Hampton Court for audience.<sup>WA</sup>  
Burghley noted that the Baron came 'to declare the insolvency of the Spaniards, and the cause of resumption of arms'.<sup>B</sup>

Nov 4: death. John Paulet, 2nd Marquis of Winchester (c.1510-1576), died at Chelsea, Middx. Funeral: Basing, Hants. His son William Paulet, Lord St John (c.1532-1598), became 3rd Marquis of Winchester.  
The widowed Winifred, Dowager Marchioness of Winchester, died in 1586.

November 4: Portuguese Ambassador and the Recorder of London.  
On Sunday November 4 William Fleetwood, the Recorder, with the two Sheriffs of London, went to the Charterhouse, the residence of Francisco Giraldi, the Portuguese Ambassador, in search of English subjects secretly attending Mass (who were sent to prison). Giraldi complained of the behaviour of the Recorder and Sheriffs, and next day they were called to appear before the Privy Council.

Nov 5, Mon Recorder Fleetwood and the Sheriffs came before the Council. Lord Burghley was absent, and Fleetwood sent him a detailed description of the events at the Charterhouse on November 4. After an altercation with the Porter they had found large numbers of people at Mass with Signor Giraldi, his wife, and Antonio de Guaras; daggers, rapiers, and swords were drawn, and then 'all the mass-hearers, with Mr Giraldi's wife, and her maids, were all in a heap forty persons at once speaking in several languages'...

'This is not the first time that his house hath been dealt withal by the Sheriffs. Strumpets have been gotten with child in his house'...

'Whether Signor Giraldi were an ambassador or not, surely, my Lord, I knew it not until my Lords of the Council had told me thereof upon Monday last at the Council board'.  
[Wright, ii.37-41: November].

Nov 5: new appointment: Dr Valentine Dale was sworn a Master of Requests.<sup>APC</sup>

Nov 7, *Ex Fleta*, William Fleetwood to Lord Burghley: At court (November 5)  
 'We were heard as much as we could say for ourselves. My Lords made a true report to her Majesty. At their return they said we had done but according to the law, yet notwithstanding, for honour's sake, insomuch as Signor Giraldi was upon his dispatch, and for that by his good means there was an honourable conclusion of traffic [trade] brought to pass, therefore it was thought meet by her Majesty that we should go to the Fleet, and thereupon at the board we received our warrant to Mr Warden of the Fleet to receive us'. [Wright, ii.41].  
 [The Sheriffs protested so much that the Recorder alone went to prison].

Nov 7, Wed Hampton Court, Privy Council to Lord Keeper Bacon, Lord Treasurer Burghley, and Sir Walter Mildmay: 'Her Majesty being given to understand that the Ambassador of Portugal doth not rest satisfied with the punishment extended by her Highness's order upon the Recorder, insisting greatly upon the outrage committed by the said Recorder in the manner of his proceeding in the late search made by him in the said Ambassador's house, as in beating of his Porter, the entering in with naked swords, the laying of violent hands upon the Lady his wife, the taking of his host and chalice, and the breaking open of certain doors, and other such like violences, wherewith the said Ambassador hath acquainted the Lord Treasurer, they are required, lest the said Ambassador might aggravate the matter more than is cause, to examine the said particularities in calling before them as well such strangers [foreigners] as they can learn were there, not being of the Ambassador's family, as also such as accompanied the said Recorder, whom they shall think fit to be examined in that matter; which examination being taken they shall send with all speed, to the end her Majesty may be the better able to answer in case the said Ambassador shall urge any further satisfaction'.<sup>APC</sup> [Fleetwood's release: November 19].

Nov 8, in the Low Countries: *Pacification of Ghent. Peace Treaty between Holland, Zeeland, and the remaining 15 Dutch Provinces.*

Nov 11, Sun Baron d'Aubigny at Hampton Court to take leave.<sup>WA</sup>  
 D'Aubigny 'was answered to his demand to a loan of money for the States, that her Majesty would lend them none, but would send to the King of Spain to obtain peace for them'.<sup>B</sup>

Nov 12, in London: death. Sir Edward Saunders (1506-1576), Chief Baron of the Exchequer 1559-1576.

Funeral: Weston-under-Wetherley Church, Warwickshire, where his monument remains, erected in 1573.

A ballad by Lodowick Lloyd was published, entitled 'An Epitaph upon the death of Sir Edward Saunders'. This purports to include his farewell to the Queen:  
 'O peerless pearl, O diamond dear, O Queen of Queens farewell,  
 Your royal Majesty God preserve in England long to dwell.  
 Farewell the Phoenix of the world, farewell my sovereign Queen,  
 Farewell most noble virtuous prince, Minerva's mate I ween...  
 My heart, my mind, my love I leave unto my prince behind.  
 Farewell you nobles of this land, farewell you Judges grave,  
 Farewell my fellows, friends, and mates, your Queen I say God save'.  
 [Ballads and Broad-sides, ed. H.E. Collman (Oxford, 1912) 174-6].  
 Lloyd incorrectly dates Sir Edward's death as November 19.

Nov 17, Sat: **Accession Day** celebrations.

The Queen's Printer, Richard Jugge, printed in 1576: 'A Form of Prayer with Thanksgiving to be used every year, the 17th of November, being the day of the Queen's Majesty's entry to her reign'. This sets out prayers, psalms, Lessons, a Collect for the Queen, and a final prayer beginning 'O Lord God, most merciful Father, who as upon this day, placing thy servant our Sovereign and gracious Queen Elizabeth in the kingdom, didst deliver thy people of England from danger of war and oppression, both of bodies by tyranny, and of conscience by superstition, restoring peace and true religion, with liberty both of bodies and minds, and hast continued the same thy blessings, without all desert on our part, now by the space of these 18 years'. [Marginal note: 'Increase this number, according to the years of her Majesty's reign']. [Liturgy, 548-558].

Allhallows London Wall: 'Paid to the Clerk for the ringers the 17th of November 1576 for solemnising the day of the Queen's Majesty's reign, 3s4d; for two books of prayers for the Queen's Majesty, 6d'.

St Dunstan in the West: 'Paid to the singing men of Paul's and the rest the 17th of November being the first day of the Queen's reign, 5s;

Paid to the Sexton for ringers the same day and night, 3s'.

St Mary Woolnoth: 'For candles for the ringers at the change of the Queen's reign, 4d; to the ringers at the change of the Queen's reign spent in bread and drink, 2s6d; for 3 books of prayers of thanksgiving for the preservation of the Queen's Majesty's reign appointed by the Bishop to be read in the church, 6d'. [Bishop of London, Edwin Sandys].

St Peter Westcheap: 'For a book and two ballads, 4d'.

Battersea Church, Surrey: 'Laid forth in bread and beer for the ringers the first day of the Queen's Majesty's reign, 20d'.

Cambridge, King's College: 'To the musicians at the Queen's day, 7s'.

Heckington Church, Lincs: 'For bread and wine on the Coronation year day and on Sunday after, 12d'. Kilmington Church, Devon: 'Paid for drink for the ringers when they did ring for the Queen, 4d'.

Liverpool, Lancs: Thomas Bavand, Mayor, caused 'in the evening a great bonfire to be made in the Market-place, near to the High Cross of the same town, and another against his own door, giving warning that every householder should do the like throughout the town, which was done accordingly. And immediately after caused to call together his brethren the Aldermen and divers others of the burgesses of the same town, and so went all together to the house of Mr Ralph Burscough, Alderman, where they banqueted a certain time. Which done, Mr Mayor departed to his own house, accompanied of the said Aldermen and others, a great number, upon whom he did bestow sack and other white wine and sugar liberally, standing all without the door, lauding and praising God for the most prosperous reign of our most gracious Sovereign Lady the Queen's most excellent Majesty, whom God grant long over us to reign with great tranquillity and victorious success over all her Grace's enemies. And so, appointing his Bailiffs and other officers to see the fires quenched, departed and went in'.

[J.A.Twemlow, ed. Liverpool Town Books (Liverpool, 1935), ii.240-241].

Minchinhampton Church, Gloucs: 'For ringing the day of the Queen's Majesty's entering unto the Crown, whom God long time we beseech to preserve, 9d'.

Oxford Chamberlains: 'For wine, 12s10d; two quarters of ale, 10s; a kilderkin of beer, 4s8d; bread and cakes, 7s; for two stone pots lost, 10d'.

St Peter's parish, Herts: 'Paid the ringers at the day of remembrance of the Queen's Coronation, 5s4d'.

Warwick, St Nicholas: 'To the ringers for ringing on the 17th day of November being the fulfilling of the 18th year of our Sovereign Lady our Queen, 2s'.

Nov 18: 'The Queen absolutely commanded the Archbishop of Canterbury to make a general suppression of the exercises called the prophecies, hereupon the said Prelate craved audience before her Majesty, and not obtaining' wrote to her. [Harrison's 'Chronology']. (See Dec 20).

Nov 19, Council: 'A warrant to the Warden of the Fleet to release William Fleetwood, Recorder of London. The like for the releasing of William Bromfield and William Worlington, two of the Gentlemen Pensioners'.<sup>APC</sup> (See Dec 2).

Nov 21: 'Mr Gascoigne came out of the Low Countries with letters'.<sup>WA</sup>  
Warrant 'to pay George Gascoigne, gentleman, £20 for bringing letters from Antwerp to Hampton Court'.<sup>T</sup> Gascoigne had dedicated a translation to the Queen on New Year's Day 1576, and had requested some employment.

c. Nov 23: John Smith at Hampton Court for knighting and to take leave.  
Nov 23: 'Sir John Smith was dispatched into Spain'.<sup>WA</sup>

23 Nov 1576-July 1577: *Sir John Smith was special Ambassador to Spain. Smith was a nephew of Queen Jane Seymour, King Henry VIII's third wife, one of Queen Elizabeth's stepmothers, who was the mother of King Edward VI. He was sent in response to Baron d'Aubigny's embassy to the Queen. His Instructions explained that the Queen is sending John Smith, 'a gentleman of my family', with proposals for pacification of Flanders.*

November 1576-March 1577: *Dutch envoy in England. Jacques Taffin was sent from the Prince of Orange, and the States of Holland and Zeeland, mainly to deal with complaints by English merchants against the Prince.*

Nov 25, Sun Dutch envoy Taffin at Hampton Court for audience.<sup>WA</sup>

Dec 2, Council: 'A warrant to the Knight Marshal to set at liberty two servants of Mr Buckler's, one of the Gentlemen Pensioners, lately committed for a fray between them and William Bromfield and William Worlington, two Gentlemen Pensioners'.<sup>APC</sup> [Buckler: Richard Bulkeley: Worlington: alias Worthington].

Dec 8, St Die [France], Sir Amias Paulet to Francis Walsingham:  
'This bad world and this grave assembly banish all new fashions, so my wife [Margaret Harvey] has provided a simple toy called a countenance [a muff], and prays you to present it to the Queen if you shall think so good. I send also a toy to Lady Lincoln, which I pray you to deliver'. [SPF.xi.441].

Court news. Dec 12, Richard Brackenbury to the Earl of Rutland:  
'Mr John Smith is gone from the Queen to the King of Spain. At his departure he was made knight...The court remains much as you left it...Here is no sport but slide-thrift night and day'.<sup>RT</sup> A game also known as slide-groat or shove-groat. From the 19th century known as shove-ha'penny (halfpenny).

Dec 13, London, Antonio de Guaras to Secretary Zayas:  
'Since it is publicly stated in court to incense people against us, there is no harm in my writing freely that they say that Don Juan of Austria has come to the States, not only with the intention of conquering them, but also to marry the Queen of Scotland and change religion and government here'. [Span.ii.537].

Dec 15, Sat Dutch special Ambassador at Hampton Court for audience.<sup>WA</sup>  
François Halewyn, Sieur de Sweveghem, who had several times previously been on embassies to the Queen. He now came from the States of the Low Countries at Brussels to request a loan of 200,000 angels. [SPF.xi.436].

Dec 16, St Die, Sir John Smith to the Queen, of an audience he had with the French King and Queen, the Queen Mother, and others: In the Queen Mother's chamber 'there were besides other ladies, young and old, fair and foul, to the number of nine or ten, but this I do assure your Majesty of my faith that there is more beauty in your Majesty's little finger than there is in any one lady that there was, or in them all'. [The ladies were all in black]. [SPF.xi.446].

Dec 18 and Dec 20: Dutch envoy had further audiences at Hampton Court.

The Queen told Sweveghem that she was determined to assist the Low Countries, and agreed to a loan of £100,000 for eight months; she initially sent £20,000 in bullion, which Sweveghem and Thomas Windebank (Clerk of the Signet) counted out and sealed up in coffers to take to Brussels. [KL].

Richard Brackenbury, Gentleman Usher, and two men, a guide, their 4 horses, and two Grooms of the Chamber, were 'sent in post by the commandment of the Lord Chamberlain to attend upon Monsieur Sweveghem, Ambassador to her Majesty from the Low Countries, unto London and unto Dover being 72 miles to see him well used by the way and furnished of all things necessary and for tarrying there four days and returning', £13.6d.<sup>T</sup>

Dec 19, Hampton Court, Privy Council wrote 'to Mr Justice Manwood and the rest of the Justices of the county of Kent concerning the punishment of a jury absolving one Paramour, having used certain lewd speeches against her Majesty'.

John Paramour or Paramore had been kept in safe custody by the Sheriff of Kent until the Quarter Sessions.<sup>APC</sup> The fate of the jury is not known.

*Dec 19: christening. Queen was godmother to William Brydges' son. Parents: William Brydges, brother of Giles Brydges 3rd Lord Chandos (and himself later 4th Lord); wife: Mary, daughter of Owen Hopton, Lieutenant of the Tower. Piers Pennant went to 'Blomsdon' to make ready.<sup>T</sup> [Blunsdon St Andrew, Wilts]. Queen's gift, December 19: one bowl of silver and gilt with a cover.<sup>NYG</sup> Child: died in infancy.*

Dec 20, Thur The Queen received the Archbishop's 'book to the Queen'.

Edmund Grindal, Archbishop of Canterbury, wrote a 6000 word letter to the Queen, 'touching the two matters wherewith her Highness showed herself offended at my last being at court'. This became known as his 'book to the Queen'.

It was taken to court on December 8 by the Earl of Leicester, but appears to have reached the Queen on December 20. She had ordered Grindal to reduce the number of preachers, and put an end to 'propheysings'.

Grindal wrote: 'The speeches which it hath pleased you to deliver unto me when I last attended on your Highness, concerning abridging the number of preachers, and the utter suppression of all learned exercises and conferences among the ministers of the church...have exceedingly dismayed and discomforted me... I thought it therefore my duty by writing to declare some part of my mind'...

'Madam. First of all, I must and will, during my life, confess that there is no earthly creature to whom I am so much bounden as to your Majesty'...

'Madam! is the scripture more plain in any one thing, than that the gospel of Christ should be plentifully preached...If your Majesty come to the city of London never so often, what gratulation, what joy, what concourse of people is there to be seen? Yea, what acclamations and prayers to God for your long life...Whereof cometh this, Madam, but of the continual preaching of God's word in that city, whereby that people hath been plentifully instructed in their duty towards God and your Majesty...But it is thought of some, that many are admitted to preach, and few be able to do it well...God forbid, Madam, that you should... go about to diminish the preaching of Christ's gospel'...



'Now, where it is thought that the reading of the godly homilies, set forth by public authority, may suffice...The reading of homilies...is nothing comparable to the office of preaching', but 'better half a loaf than no bread' ...'Concerning the learned exercise and conference amongst the ministers of the church...divers of my brethren, the bishops...think the same as I do, viz. a thing profitable to the church, and therefore expedient to be continued'.

Grindal gives a detailed account of the 'exercises', in which ministers interpret a particular Scriptural text; also of the profit ensuing from them, e.g. ministers are kept 'from idleness, wandering, gaming'; 'where afore were not three able preachers, now are thirty, meet to preach at St Paul's Cross'.

'I cannot..give my assent to the suppressing of the said exercises... If it be your Majesty's pleasure, for this or any other cause, to remove me out of this place, I will with all humility yield thereunto'...

'Bear with me, I beseech you, Madam, if I choose rather to offend your earthly majesty, than to offend the heavenly majesty of God'.

I most humbly pray you to consider two short petitions.

First: 'That you would refer all these ecclesiastical matters which touch religion, or the doctrine and discipline of the church, unto the bishops and divines of your realm...For indeed they are things to be judged'... in the church, or a synod, not in a palace.

Second: 'When you deal in matters of faith and religion, or matters that touch the church of Christ...you would not use to pronounce so resolutely and peremptorily...as ye may do in civil and extern matters; but always remember that in God's causes the will of God, and not the will of any earthly creature, is to take place'...

'Remember, Madam, that you are a mortal creature. Look not only...upon the purple and princely array wherewith ye are apparelled, but consider withal what is that that is covered therewith. Is it not flesh and blood? Is it not dust and ashes? Is it not a corruptible body, which must return to his earth again, God knoweth how soon?...And although ye are a mighty prince, yet remember that He which dwelleth in heaven is mightier...God hath blessed you with great felicity in your reign, now many years; beware you do not impute the same to your own deserts or policy, but give God the glory...I beseech God, our heavenly Father, plentifully to pour his principal Spirit upon you, and always to direct your heart in his holy fear. Amen'. [Grindal, *Remains*, 376-391].

The Queen's response, forbidding prophesyings: 7 May 1577.

*William Harrison (1535-1593), a clergyman in Essex, where prophesyings were popular, wrote an enthusiastic description of them in 1577, explaining that it is 'a notable spur unto all the ministers thereby to apply their books, which otherwise (as in times past) would give themselves to hawking, hunting, tables [backgammon], cards, dice, tippling at the ale-house, shooting of [archery] matches, and other like vanities'.*

[*'Description of England', in Holinshed's Chronicles (1577; revised 1587, when Harrison added that 'Satan' had now caused prophesyings to be ended).*

20 Dec 1576-15 Jan 1577: Edward Horsey, Captain of the Isle of Wight, was special Ambassador to Don John, who was on his way to be new Governor of the Low Countries. Horsey was sent 'to move a pacification'.<sup>B</sup>

Dec 20: 'Mr Captain Horsey was dispatched to Don Juan d'Austria'.<sup>WA</sup>

Dec 26, Wed play, *The Painter's Daughter*, by Earl of Warwick's Men. Revels paid: 'John Kelsey for using of his drum in the Duttons' play, 2s6d'. [Duttons: John and Lawrence Dutton, two of Warwick's Men, 1575-1576].

Dec 27, Thur bear-baiting.<sup>T</sup> Also play, *Tooley*, by Lord Howard's Men.

Dec 28, Fri play by Earl of Leicester's Men ready, deferred.

Dec 30, Sun play, *The History of the Collier*, by Earl of Leicester's Men.

1576: Thomas Drant wrote: Angli Advordingamii Praesul Eiusdem Sylva.

A presentation copy to the Queen of the printed book has three stanzas in English before the title-page, written in green ink, addressed:

'Lady, and life of this thine English land,  
Choice rare and dear in person, gifts, and price...  
Since that thine ears I never could attain...  
Lend me thine eyes (high Dame) do not disdain...  
Thou art the wight should have an endless praise:  
Where is the mouth can blow an endless blaze?'. [BL.c.45.d.8].

Dedication and Epistle in Latin to Edmund Grindal, Archbishop of Canterbury, prefacing 'Angli Praesul', in Latin verse. New title-page for 'Carminum Sylva', which comprises Latin verses dedicated to the Queen, to Grindal, and the Earl of Leicester, and further verses mainly to various courtiers. (87p).

Thomas Drant (c.1540-1578), Archdeacon of Lewes, poet and translator.

c.1576: Lord Henry Howard dedicated 'Regina Fortunata' to the Queen.

Coloured frontispiece of the Queen, with an open book inscribed in Latin 'Peace be with you my handmaid'. Howard, a Catholic, thus likens the Queen to the Virgin Mary. A further inscription, from Virgil, likens her to Venus.

A Latin prose eulogy of the Queen. 74 folios. [BL Egerton MS 944].

Howard (1540-1614) was created Earl of Northampton in 1604.

1576: James Sanford published 'Hours of Recreation, or Afterdinner, which may aptly be called The Garden of Pleasure'. 'Done out of Italian'.

The Dedication to Christopher Hatton, Captain of the Guard, includes fulsome praise of England's 'learned and eloquent Queen', a 'peerless virgin' who lives and reigns 'in great quietness' and preserves 'a great multitude, as Christ saved all by his death and passion'.

She has 'such a Majesty that it hath daunted stout warriors, as it did Marquis Vitelli few years past at Windsor [in 1569]...Her Majesty endowed with the gifts of the mind, body and fortune did (as it appeared and as he confessed) so much appal him, that he said: He was never so out of countenance before any other Prince, as he was in the presence of her Highness'.

She is 'the sweetest flower in this garden. God grant that we may long enjoy her with pleasure, not fading as a flower, but lasting as a precious jewel or diamond'.

Sanford added in Latin, Greek, Italian, French, and English:

'Certain poems dedicated to the Queen's most excellent Majesty'. These include 'A Ternary given to the Queen's most excellent Majesty on New Year's Day 1576'.

[Ternary: a poem in three parts].

The first edition of Sanford's book, 1573, was dedicated to the Earl of Leicester, and was entitled The Garden of Pleasure.

1576: Common Conditions.

Anonymous play published as: 'An excellent and pleasant comedy, termed after the name of the Vice, Common Conditions, drawn out of the most famous history of Galiarbus, Duke of Arabia, and of the good and evil success of him and his two children, Sedmond his son, and Clarisia, his daughter. Set forth with delectable mirth and pleasant shows'. 56p. (London, 1576).

Characters also include three Tinkers: Shift, Drift, Unthrift.

The Epilogue ends:

'As duty binds for our dread Queen Elizabeth let us pray,  
That God will still defend her Grace and be her staff and stay.  
Now and always Lord her defend, from foes her Grace Lord shield,  
And send her Nestor's years to reign in peace her realm to wield.  
Her Council Lord likewise preserve her Preachers in like case,  
The Commons eke, the rich and poor, Lord send us all thy grace'.

