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Brian Vickers

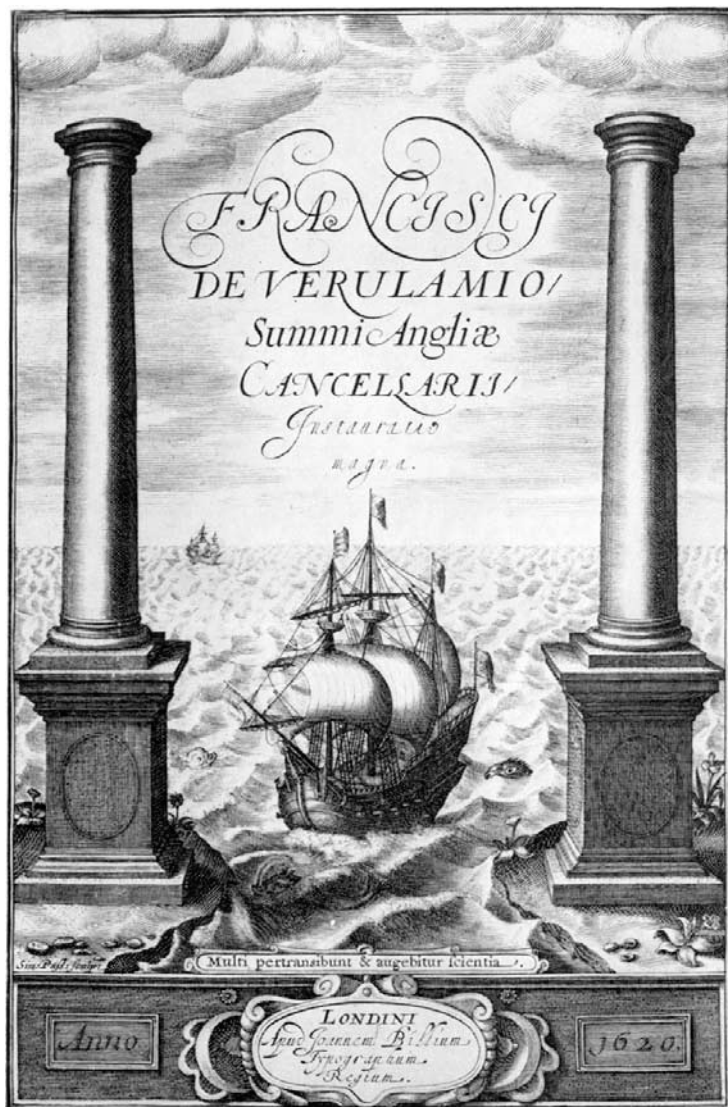
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The title-page of the *Novum Organum*

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FRANCIS BACON  
AND  
RENAISSANCE PROSE

BY  
BRIAN VICKERS

*Assistant Lecturer in English in the University  
of Cambridge, and Fellow of Downing College*



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*for*  
ILSE-RENATE

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B. W. V.

*Downing College  
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## BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

All references to Bacon are to the *Works* edited by James Spedding, R. L. Ellis, and D. D. Heath (London, 14 volumes, 1857–74), and are given in abbreviated form, e.g. Volume 3, page 375: (3, 375).

References to secondary material concerning Bacon are set out in full in the analytical Bibliography (pp. 307–12), and are cited elsewhere by the item number; thus ‘B 51’ refers to Jones, R. F., *Ancients and Moderns*, and ‘B, §iv’ refers to section iv of the Index to Subjects (e.g. ‘Philosophy’, ‘Sources’), p. 312.



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THUS have I concluded this portion of learning touching Civil Knowledge; and with civil knowledge have concluded Human Philosophy; and with human philosophy, Philosophy in General. And being now at some pause, looking back into that I have passed through, this writing seemeth to me, (*si nunquam fallit imago*) as far as a man can judge of his own work, not much better than that noise or sound which musicians make while they are tuning their instruments; which is nothing pleasant to hear, but yet is a cause why the music is sweeter afterwards. So have I been content to tune the instruments of the muses, that they may play that have better hands.

*The Advancement of Learning, Book 2*