

THE LETTERS OF LADY ANNE BACON





THE LETTERS OF LADY ANNE BACON

edited by GEMMA ALLEN

CAMDEN FIFTH SERIES Volume 44



FOR THE ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY University College London, Gower Street, London WC1 6BT 2014



CAMBRIDGEUNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781107056541

© Royal Historical Society 2014

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 2014

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

SUBSCRIPTIONS. The serial publications of the Royal Historical Society, Royal Historical Society Transactions (ISSN 0080-4401) and Camden Fifth Series (ISSN 0960-1163) volumes, may be purchased together on annual subscription. The 2013 subscription price, which includes print and electronic access (but not VAT), is £142 (US \$237 in the USA, Canada, and Mexico) and includes Camden Fifth Series, volumes 43 and 44 and Transactions Sixth Series, volume 23 (published in December). Japanese prices are available from Kinokuniya Company Ltd, P.O. Box 55, Chitose, Tokyo 156, Japan. EU subscribers (outside the UK) who are not registered for VAT should add VAT at their country's rate. VAT registered subscribers should provide their VAT registration number. Prices include delivery by air. Subscription orders, which must be accompanied by payment, may be sent to a bookseller, subscription agent, or direct to the publisher: Cambridge University Press, The Edinburgh Building, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8RU, UK; or in the USA, Canada, and Mexico: Cambridge University Press, Journals Fulfillment Department, 100 Brook Hill Drive, West Nyack, New York, 10994-2133, USA.

SINGLE VOLUMES AND BACK VOLUMES. A list of Royal Historical Society volumes available from Cambridge University Press may be obtained from the Humanities Marketing Department at the address above.

ISBN 978-1-107-05654-1 Hardback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication, and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.



CONTENTS

LIST OF FIGURES	vi
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	vii
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	x
INTRODUCTION	I
EDITORIAL CONVENTIONS	47
THE LETTERS OF LADY ANNE BACON	51
INDEX	280



FIGURES

- 1. Nicholas and Anne Bacon to William Cecil, 18 August 1557 (4), CP152/19, fo. 27r. Reproduced by permission of the Marquess of Salisbury.
- 2. Anne Bacon to Robert Cecil, 13 July 1594 ($\mathbf{109}$), CP 27/33, fo. 59r. Reproduced by permission of the Marquess of Salisbury.
- 3. Anne Bacon to Robert Devereux, earl of Essex, 23 December [1595] (146), CP 128/68. Reproduced by permission of the Marquess of Salisbury.
- 4. Detail from *Anne Bacon to Anthony Bacon*, 1 April 1595 ($\mathbf{123}$), LPL 651, fo. 108r. Reproduced by permission of Lambeth Palace Library.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This edition has been many years in the making and has left me with numerous debts. I first began working with Anne Bacon's letters during my doctoral research. After my initial despair over the indecipherable nature of Anne's handwriting, the correspondence formed an important part of my thesis and subsequent monograph. I owe a huge debt of gratitude to Felicity Heal, who supervised my doctoral studies and who has been kind enough to guide and encourage my labours ever since. The suggestion that I should compile an edition first came from James Daybell, over a cup of tea in Blackwell's coffee shop in Oxford. I am very much indebted to James for his support of the project ever since and for generously sharing his expertise in early modern epistolary culture. Lynne Magnusson and Alan Stewart both read the edition in its entirety at a particularly busy point in the academic year. I am hugely grateful for their herculean efforts; their erudition and detailed knowledge of the Bacon archive has saved me from countless errors. As literary director for the Camden series, Ian Archer has shown unstinting patience as more letters were discovered and deadlines were revised; I am grateful too for his perceptive comments on various letters. Many other scholars were generous with advice and references, including Timothy Barnes, Susan Brigden, Susan Doran, Clive Holmes, Diarmaid MacCulloch, Michael McVaugh, Alison Wall, and Alison Wiggins. My colleagues at both Pembroke College and, more recently, the Open University have encouraged my labours with the letters; I am most grateful to them all and in particular to Eleanor Betts, Amanda Goodrich, Helen King, Anne Laurence, Donna Loftus, Rosemary O'Day, and Gabriella Zuccolin. I must also acknowledge the patience shown by my students, for indulging my enthusiasm when Anne Bacon letters made appearances in tutorials.

This edition includes translations of Latin, Greek, Hebrew, and French, and I have to thank many colleagues for their help in the very difficult task of deciphering and translating the foreign languages used in the letters. Carolinne White and David Butterfield assisted with the Latin and Greek translations; they were hugely generous with both their expertise and their time. Joshua Teplitsky and Aaron Graham translated the Hebrew for me, while Dunlaith Bird and Thibault



viii

Miguet provided guidance regarding the French translations. I am most grateful to them all for assistance. Without the great intellectual generosity shown to me by academic colleagues across the world, this would have been a much poorer edition. The errors that remain are, of course, my own.

Various institutions have provided financial support for the numerous archive trips involved in producing this edition, particularly Jesus College, Oxford, and the Open University. I am also indebted to the repositories that hold Anne Bacon's letters for allowing me to reproduce transcriptions in this edition. In particular I must acknowledge the kindness of Heather Wolfe at the Folger Shakespeare Library; Gill Cannell at the Parker Library; Mary Robertson at the Huntington Library; Cornelia Hopf at the Forschungsbibliothek Gotha; Daniel Meyer and Christine Colburn at the University of Chicago Special Collections; Michael Frost and Margaret Clay at the Inner Temple Library; and Robin Harcourt Williams and Vicki Perry at Hatfield House. I am also grateful to the staff at the British Library, the Bodleian Library, Cambridge University Library, and the Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies Centre. My greatest thanks must be reserved for the staff at Lambeth Palace Library. They have provided invaluable assistance on my countless visits over the last few years, never tiring of repeatedly fetching the heavy Bacon volumes for me. It really is a special archive and I feel very lucky to have been able to spend so much time working there. Joaneath Spicer was kind enough to allow me to see the Anne Bacon miniature held by the Walters Art Museum when I visited Baltimore in 2008. The image now forms the cover of this edition and I am grateful to Ruth Bowler for making special arrangements for new colour photography. My sincere thanks also go to Daniel Pearce and the staff at Cambridge University Press for all their support of this volume, as well as to Hester Higton for her meticulous copy-editing.

Finally, I must thank my friends and family for their encouragement and patience during the completion of the edition. My mother and sister, Vanessa and Francesca Allen, chivvied me along the long road to completion; my mother's frequent refrain that 'it's just like a detective story' at times of particular bewilderment over Anne's handwriting or over the dating of letters was always a comforting spur to action. My greatest debt is to my husband, Edward Arnold. He has heard every development in the progress of the edition, has put up with me spending evenings and weekends at the computer, and has kept



ix

me going when it seemed an impossible task to complete. That it is eventually finished is all down to Edward. It will be strange for us both to live without Lady B. in our midst. While at times editing her letters has proved exasperating, they have never been dull; I'll miss having Anne around.

Gemma Allen, Oxford, July 2013



ABBREVIATIONS

Bacon Letters and Life J. Spedding (ed.), The Letters and the Life of Francis Bacon, Including All His Occasional Works, 7 vols (London, 1861-1874).

British Library.

'Catalogue of field names' C. Moor, 'Catalogue of field names occurring

on the Hertfordshire estates of the earl of Verulam', Transactions of the St. Albans and Hertfordshire Architectural and Archaeological

Society (1927), pp. 1-118.

Sir Nicholas Bacon Collection, University of Chicago

Chicago Special Collections, Chicago,

Illinois, USA.

Cooke Sisters G. Allen, The Cooke Sisters: education, piety and

politics in early modern England (Manchester,

2012).

A.E. Gibbs, The Corporation Records of St Albans, Corporation Records

with Lists of Mayors, High Stewards, Members of

Parliament &c. (St Albans, 1890).

CPCecil Papers, Hatfield House, Hertfordshire. Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, DC, Folger

USA.

Gotha Gotha Forschungsbibliothek, Thuringia,

Germany.

HALS Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies,

Hertford.

History of Parliament P.W. Hasler (ed.), The History of Parliament: the

House of Commons, 1558-1603, 3 vols (London,

1981).

Huntington Library Huntington Library, San Marino, California,

Inner Temple Inner Temple Library, Inner Temple, London.

LPL Lambeth Palace Library, London.

'Money-lenders' C. L'Estrange Ewen, 'Francis Bacon and the

money-lenders', Baconiana, 3rd series, 21

(1934), pp. 238-253.

OEDOxford English Dictionary.

ODNBA.R. Matthew (ed.), The Oxford Dictionary of

National Biography (Oxford, 2004).



Frontmatter More information

ABBREVIATIONS

xi

Parker Library, Corpus Christi College,

Cambridge.

SP State Papers, The National Archives, London.
Stiffkey A. Hassell Smith, G. Baker, and R. Kenny

(eds), The Papers of Nathaniel Bacon of Stiffkey, 4 vols, Norfolk Record Society, 46, 49, 53, 64

(Norwich, 1979–2000).

Troubled Life L. Jardine and A. Stewart, Hostage to Fortune: the

troubled life of Francis Bacon (London, 1998).

VCH Victoria County History.

Wealth of the Gentry A. Simpson, The Wealth of the Gentry, 1540–1660:

East Anglian studies (Chicago, 1961).