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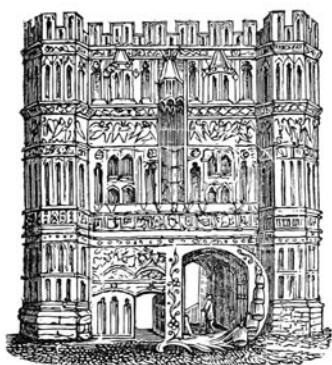
John Martin

Excerpt

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PRIVATELY PRINTED BOOKS.

—
M.D.LXXII.
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E ANTIQVITATE
BRITANNICÆ ECCLESIE
ET PRIVILEGIIS ECCLESIE
CANTUARIENSIS, CUM
ARCHIEPISCOPIS EIUSDEM. 70. AN: DOM: 1572. folio.

Absentem qui rodit amicum,
Qui non defendit alio culpante, solutos dicavis,
Qui captat risus hominum, famamq;
Fingere qui non visa potest, commissa tacere
Qui nequit, hic niger est, hunc tu Romane caueto.

It is not easy to ascertain, at this remote period, whether many of the works which are called privately printed, are strictly entitled to that distinction. The absence of a publisher's name is by no means a certain indication; many of the volumes were written on points of religious or

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political controversy, and being obnoxious to the prevailing system, were naturally put forth in a manner that might not draw down the arm of the law upon the printer; but that they were distributed secretly, and might be purchased by the members of the sect whose opinions they supported, there can be little doubt; many were imported from abroad: a list of them may be seen in Strype's *Life of Parker*,*—these bearing no place or publisher's name, are frequently designated as privately printed; an erroneous conclusion, as it was simply from fear of prosecution that these marks are found wanting.

The rare and curious volume now under consideration may, however, justly be entitled a privately printed volume. The copy which Archbishop Parker sent to the Lord Treasurer Burghley, was accompanied by a letter,† in which he states:—

“The reason of his employing himself in this study, was to make compensation for his not preaching oftener. For neither his health nor quiet would suffer him to be a common preacher; yet he thought it not unfit for him to be otherwise occupied in some points of religion, for his meaning was by that his *poor collection*, thus caused to be *printed and yet reserved to himself*, to note at what time Augustin, his first predecessor, came into England, &c.” The work was printed at Lambeth, by John Day: the archbishop states in another part of the same letter, “that he had within his house in wages, drawers [of pictures], and cutters [that is, engravers], painters, limners, writers and bookbinders.”

The archbishop's share in this compilation has been a matter of considerable dispute. In the letter above mentioned, he states it to have been the amusement of his leisure hours; and Dr. Drake, in the preface to his edition, is of opinion that Parker was himself the author. The fair conclusion, however, will I think be that the archbishop received considerable assistance, the chief of which was from Dr. Ackworth‡ and Josselyn his secretary. In the copy in the Lambeth library, there are

* Vol. ii. p. 392.

† Strype's *Life of Parker*, vol. ii. pp. 244-5.

‡ Dr. George Ackworth had been orator of the University of Cambridge, and became an inmate of Parker's house about 1570; which Strype observes, “was a kind of common receptacle for learned and ingenious men.”

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several manuscript papers, letters, and notes; among them will be found some proofs that Ackworth and Josselyn had a considerable share in the compilation. At the beginning of the *Life of St. Augustine*,* we find this note: "These 24 pages of *St. Augustine's Life* were thus begun by George Ackworth, Dr. of laws, at the appointment of Mathew Parker, Archbishop of Canterbury, and the lives of all the Archbishops should have in this course been perfected—(some words not intelligible)—but death prevented it." Dr. Ackworth was living in 1576, but how long after is not known. In the title page of the *History*, in the same copy, is the following note: "This historie was collected and penned by John Josselyn, one of the sons of Sir Thomas Josselyn, Knight, by the appointment and oversight of Mathew Parker, Archbishop of Cant.; the said John being entertained in the said Archb. house, as one of his antiquaries, to whom, besides the allowance afforded to hym in his house, he gave to hym the parsonage of Hollinbourn in Kent, &c." There can be little doubt that the plan of the work was laid down by the archbishop; and although he received considerable assistance in its progress, the materials were chiefly supplied from his own collections of ecclesiastical history.

The number of copies printed must have been very small. In the letter already quoted, the author states, "he had not given to four men in the whole realm; and peradventure, it shall never come to sight abroad, though some men, smelling of the printing it, were very desirous cravers of the same." Dr. Drake states, at the period he was preparing his new edition, that he had met with twenty-one copies. I have taken some pains to trace out those existing at the present time, the list of which is as follows:—

1. The British Museum, Queen Elizabeth's copy.
2. In the same library, Lord Arundel's copy.
3. Lambeth Library.
4. Cambridge Public Library, Bishop Moore's copy, and formed one of the collection presented to that University by George I.

* This is the *Life of St. Augustine*, mentioned in the description of the copy in the Lambeth Library. No. 3—which see.

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5. Cambridge Public Library : with this is bound “*Annales Witichendi Monachi Corbiensis.*” Franc. 1577.

6. Cambridge, Peter House, ex dono Andræ Perne, olim huius Coll. et Decani Cath. Eccl. Eliensis (circa 1589), master of Peter House. He built the library, and left this among other volumes, amounting to 300 A letter from Perne, then Vice Chancellor, to Parker, thanking him for his donation of books to the library at Cambridge, is printed in Strype.

7. Oxford. Bodleian. Lord Oxford’s copy, afterwards Rawlinson’s. In this copy is this note:— “*5to Januarii, 1593.*

“*Hunc Librum, dono dedit Richardo Cosin Johannes Parker armgr. filius primo genitus Matthei Parker, nuper Cantuariensis Archiepi cuius auspiciis et sumptibus liber iste et collectus et impressus est proprys in ædibus Lamethæ positus.*”

8. Oxford. Bodleian; also Rawlinson’s, and the copy mentioned in Strype’s *Life of Parker*, as then in the library at Ely.

9. Oxford. Merton College.

10. Oxford. Magdalen College, dono Richardi Boughton ejus. Coll. Socii.

11. Earl Spencer.

12. Mr. Grenville.

13. The Rev. T. Russell: formerly Mr. Bindley’s, afterwards Mr. W. Taylor’s, then Mr. Dent’s, and purchased at the sale of his library.

14. Library of the Dean and Chapter at Westminster.

15. Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. Since I was at Cambridge, Dr. Lamb has informed me there is one in that library, presented by Baker the antiquary. By a memorandum in the book, he appears to have purchased it at York, for 1*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*; it is the copy mentioned in

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Strype's Life as being Mr. Baker's intention to have presented to St. John's College; but in the copy of Strype's Life in that library, there is a note in Baker's hand writing, "So intended by me, but I found reason to alter my intentions, and disposed of my three copies otherwise; viz. two to the Archbishop of Cant., and one to Ben'et College." Baker mentions a copy of this work, with various notes in the hand-writing of Sir John Parker (the archbishop's son), and adds, "this copy is now in the possession of Lord Sunderland." It is, perhaps, now at Blenheim.

16. Eton College Library. This copy, which is one of the books presented by Storer, was formerly Mr. Tutet's, who purchased it at West's sale, with the rare portrait by Hogenberg, for 2*l.* 2*s.* The portrait has been taken out, and placed in the celebrated illustrated Granger in that library. The following note is in Rawlinson's hand writing, "collated, and according to my best thoughts, this edition perfect." It has a few illustrations added to it, and has a modern blue morocco binding, but the binder has played sad work with the margin.

THESE are all the copies I have been enabled, after considerable inquiry, to discover;* all of which I have collated. In Lord Spencer's copy, most obligingly sent from Althorp for my inspection, I find a note of his lordship's, stating that there is a copy at Holkham. Whether the splendid copy sent to the Lord Treasurer, which Parker states "that he had bound it costly, and laid in colours the arms of the Church of Canterbury, empaled with his own paternal coat," still remains in the library of his descendant, I have been unable to ascertain.

It has been observed that no two copies of this work have been found alike; and I can bear witness to the truth of the assertion in those I have collated. For this there is perhaps a *prima facie* reason in Parker's own words: who says—"For the present he purposed to keep it by him, while he lived, to *add and mend* as occasion should serve him, or

* Since these pages were in the printer's hands, the editor has been informed by the Rev. Archdeacon Wrangham, to whom he is very greatly indebted for several interesting communications, that there is a copy in the cathedral library at York, and he has also heard that there is another in the library of the Dean and Chapter at Durham.

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utterly to suppress it, and to bren it." The variations are however so singular, that long as this account already is, I trust the rarity of the volume will excuse my giving some account of them as they occur in the copies enumerated above.

The collation of Nos. 1 and 2 will be found in Lowndes's Bibliographical Manual, and I apprehend these to be the earliest copies that issued from Parker's press. Queen Elizabeth's is bound in green velvet; the title pages with the arms of the bishoprics are illuminated, and on vellum. The volume is ruled throughout. Lord Arundel's copy "Ex dono Mathei Cantuariensis Archiepiscopi," has no vellum leaves; but the arms of the bishoprics, with some of the capital letters, are illuminated. These two copies, with the one presented to Burghley, most probably form part of the *four* the archbishop states as having been presented by him; since it is pretty certain that he would present his royal Mistress and her principal officers with the first that issued from the press. In page 4 (of these two copies)—Augustine, the lines commencing "adde quod" are printed in two columns, and in italics; at page 95, the enumeration of bishops and abbots, after the bishop of London, ends thus—"cum multis aliis episcopis et abbatis ut en Archiuus patet;" this distinction prevails also in Nos. 4 and 10.

In all the other copies (with the exception of Mr. Grenville's), which I apprehend to have been printed subsequently, the verses will be found not in double columns, but in long lines, and in Roman characters. The "multis aliis" are enumerated, occupying nearly half a page; with these copies also the Life of Parker,* printed in 1576, will frequently be found; which is not the case with those which are considered the earlier ones.

I proceed to notice the variations from the copies No. 1 and 2, in the British Museum.

* "For it is to be known, that our archbishop's life was written in elegant Latin, and ready for the printing, under the title of Matthæus; and though it came not forth with the rest of the Lives in the aforesaid book, yet it got into the press afterwards, and, as it seems, in the archbishop's life-time, and with his privacy. Those (and they very few) that were printed, were kept carefully undispersed (I believe) in the archbishop's own possession till his death."

Strype, vol. ii. p. 246.

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No. 3.—Lambeth copy: contains in addition a single leaf, entitled, “*Cantriæ status ab adventu Cæsaris*,” signed B. C., who is stated to be *Barth. Clerk, postea Decanus de Arcub Lond. Life of Parker, pp. 1—23. On the last leaf is the rare portrait of the archbishop. Two copies of the leaf of the wood-cut of the public schools, with Elizabeth at the back of *one* only. De Scholarum Collegiorumque; *two* leaves paged at the bottom, 27, 8, 9, 30. Catalogus Cancellm, &c.; the arms of the colleges at the back, those of St. Peter and the University are as *now* borne: see remark on this, page 9. No vellum leaves in this copy: the title is *written*, and not printed: Scholarum Pub. Extractio is wanting. It contains also the Life of St. Augustine; A—c in fours, printed in three columns, the text in the centre, and a commentary on both sides, of which Drake, who has reprinted it in his edition, says—“*Fusior Augustini historia; opus rarum, ac nisi quatuor in exemplaribus frustra quærendum.*” It will be found in the Bodleian, No. 8; in the Chapter library of Westminster, No. 14; and in the Eton copy, No. 16.

No. 4.—Cambridge; De Scholarum, &c., *two* leaves—the title pages and the arms of the bishops are on vellum and emblazoned; the volume is ruled throughout with red lines; the capitals are illuminated. The single leaf “*ac præter*,” the “list of books,” “*Scholarum publicarum extractio*,” and *errata*, are wanting in this copy, which contains several marginal notes in the hand-writing of Parker.

No. 5.—Cambridge. This copy contains the Life of Parker, pp. 1—18 (17, a single leaf, printed on one side only), 19, 20, 21, 22 (23 not paged); the arms of Peter House and Cambridge correct.

No. 6.—Peter House. This copy contains the Life of Parker—but is very imperfect—it wants the title, last leaf of the preface, and pages 247, 8, 9, 50.

No. 7.—Bodleian. This copy contains the Life of Parker. Catalog.

* Dr. Bartholomew Clerk was a member of the university of Cambridge, and admitted in King’s College in 1554; he was a very good scholar, and had an excellent Latin style: through the interest of Parker and Burghley, he was made, after much opposition on the part of Elizabeth, Dean of the Arches.

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Canc.: the wood-cut with the arms of Peter House and Cambridge, incorrect. Another leaf, the same with the arms, correct. Two copies of the wood-cuts of the schools as in No. 3.

No. 8.—Bodleian. This copy contains the rare portrait. Life of Parker. The wood-cut of Peter-house and Cambridge, incorrect. It contains also the History of Augustinus.

No. 9.—Merton College. This copy contains the Life of Parker, and two leaves of the wood-cut of the schools as in No. 7. The title is wanting—is supplied by a leaf with a wood-cut from some other volume; pp. 311, 12, 13, 14, are supplied by MSS.

No. 10.—Magdalen College. This copy is very imperfect. The arms of the bishops, from Lanfrancus, p. 93, to Baldwinus, 127, have been cut out and pasted over the initial letter. The lines, “*adde quod,*” and the archbishops, &c., as Nos. 1 and 2.

No. 11.—Lord Spencer's. This copy contains the Life of Parker; the title-page is on vellum; the leaf of the arms of the archbishops on vellum, illuminated; and the Catalog. Cancel. with the arms of colleges also on vellum, the arms only illuminated; the leaf of the public schools, with Elizabeth, is also on vellum, the title illuminated. The arms of Peter House and Cambridge incorrect. This copy wants in “*De Vetustate,*” pp. 57, 58, 63, 64. It contains the rare portrait.

No. 12.—Mr. Grenville's. This copy contains the Life of Parker; with the rare portrait, and Woodburn's copy of it;* but it is very im-

* The distinctions between the original and copy in Mr. Grenville's are these: In the inscription round the portrait, in the original, there is a mark of abbreviation over “*mudus,*” not in the copy. The figures are 70 in the original, 69 in the copy; the date 1573 in the original, 1572 in the copy: the same variations prevail in Mr. Russell's impression of the portrait, in the copy at Eton, the Duke of Buckingham's, that at Lambeth, and in Messrs. Colnaghi's. Mr. Woodburn says, that his was copied from an impression with the mark and figures exactly as he has copied them, but he has no recollection where that impression is at this time. It is remarkable that all the original impressions I have seen, have evidently had the dates corrected since the engraving was executed; impressions therefore of the portrait in the state of Mr. Woodburn's copy, must be very early, and I apprehend very rare; the original copper-plate is supposed to be in existence.

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perfect: there is however a singularity in this copy which I have found in no other. The lines at p. 4, of Augustine, are not in columns, but in long line; and the enumeration of the abbots and bishops ends with the bishop of London, &c. "ut in Archiuis patet." In all other copies, when the lines have been printed in this manner, the bishops have always been enumerated at length.

No. 13.—The Rev. T. Russell's copy is certainly a very fine one as far as it is complete, but it unfortunately wants several of the addenda, viz. the *Catalogus Canc.*; the wood-cut of the public schools; *Catalogus*, sixteen pages, &c.: but, to compensate in some degree for these defects, it contains a very fine impression of the portrait of the archbishop in its genuine state—and the volume is most admirably bound in blue morocco, by C. Lewis.

No. 14.—In the library of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster. This copy, although very incomplete, is remarkable for containing the *History of Augustine*, mentioned in No. 3, but which has evidently been inserted after it had been bound.

No. 15.—Corpus Christi College. This copy wants the title page. The arms of Peter House and Cambridge are incorrect—it is rather singular, that although Parker was so great a benefactor to this college, it did not possess a copy of his work, until Baker presented it.

No. 16.—Eton College. This copy, which is certainly a very complete one, has the title page and the cut of the public schools on vellum; the *Life of Parker*, and the rare "*History of Augustine*." The list of books given by Parker to his college is in MS.: there are several marginal notes; and a letter from Dr. Drake, who consulted it for the purpose of the new edition.

In those copies originally, as I imagine, issued by Parker, the two following variations will be observed from what I consider to be those issued subsequently, viz.—on the wood-cut leaf, "*Catalogus Cancellm.*" with the arms of the colleges at the back, the armorial bearings of Peter House will be found on a shield gules, charged with two keys saltierwise; the arms of the University, a bridge, with the waves issuing through

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three arches; above this device is an interior of a room, with a doctor seated and capped, between two priests standing in robes.

In the later copies, the arms of Peter House will be found, as now borne, viz.—Paly, or, and gules on a border of the second, an orle of crowns, and of the University, gules, on a cross ermine between four lions passant guardant, or, a Bible clasped and garnished.

The arms of Cambridge, as now borne, were granted in 1575; and from Parker being so closely connected with Cambridge, and perhaps being consulted on the grant, he very naturally had the erroneous bearings altered. In the copies No. 1 and 2, now in the British Museum, the corrected arms of Cambridge will be found pasted over the others, but those of Peter House remain incorrect.

The edition of Hanau, folio, 1605, has been reprinted from one of the early copies, as the bishops and abbots end with “*Archiuis patet;*” in Dr. Drake’s edition, 1729, although they are enumerated, yet the arms of Peter House and Cambridge are printed from the wrong armorial bearings.

It is impossible to conclude this account without bearing testimony to the noble example which this eminent prelate held forth in the encouragement of learning and learned men, which is shewn not only in the publication and embellishment of this singular volume, but in the collection of curious and rare books which his library contained, now in Ben’et College.

The wood-cut here given is taken from his work, and is supposed to represent the archbishop preaching.

