

16. *Titulus libri.*

*Exemplar Epistolæ cuiusdam scriptæ à Mag'ro quodam Artium Cantabrigensi ad Amicum suum Londini agentem de vita, moribus et actionibus Comitis Lecestrensis et amicorum in Anglia.*

Quæcunque concepta dicta aut publicata sunt in hoc libro cum protestatione efficacissima bonæ uoluntatis et affectionis obsequij plenissimæ erga ecc<sup>mam</sup> maiestatem suam et totum Regnum scripta 54, f. 115. esse intelliguntur quibus solis et vsui et commodo esse possit multis communi.

Libellus iste à Catolico conscriptus in hominem hereticum, eo usque heretici personam et laruam induit ut multa in religionem, in ceremonias, in Papam ipsum dicat scandalosa, hæresim sapientia, et ualde ridicula et contemptus plena.

Huius libri auctor publica fama habetur P. Personius, qui personam heretici induens, multa dicit in hominem hereticum uera et in Republica civili castigatione digna, uerum ut hæc liberius promulgaret, multa dicit in preiudicium Religionis Cat<sup>æ</sup>. et consura ecclesiastica digna.

Argumenta quibus probatur Patrem Personium huius libri auctorem fuisse sunt publica fama, stilus optimè et familiarissime quamplurimis notus, confessio D'ni Caroli Arundelij qui se confessus est huic libro subiectum et materiem subministrasse, P. autem Personium methodum, stilum, et formam. Huic accedit Ill<sup>mi</sup> Car'lis Alani calculus qui, tali asperitate aut supercilio librum talem promulgari, putauit periculosissimum, at priuata quædam obiectorum Licestrensi priuatim mittenda censuit ad hominem mitigandum, uel deterrendum. P. uero Personius contra aliorum mentes libellum hunc in persona heretici conceptum et concinnatum divulgauit.<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> "The Copie of a Letter wryten by a master of arte of Cambridge to his friend in London concerning some talke past of late between two worshypful and grave men,

Unde sequuta sunt martyria plus minus 25. Sacerdotum et Catholicorum.

54, f. 135b.

Verum de auctore non ualde laboramus nec P. Personio tantam iniuri Notam desideramus, ut propositiones hæreticas, aut temerarias uideatur (dum nimis artificiosus et subtilis esse studuerit) in vulgus protulisse. Verum cum libellus iste plurima contineat quæ hereticam religionem uel confirmare, uel ornare, uel honestare potuerint, nihilque quod scintillam habeat uiri Catolici, ualde uidetur hisce temporibus expedire, ut libellus iste sine auctoris nomine condemnetur, quod si de auctore ulterius sit agendum tot tractatus et libelli de rebus politicis et de suis gestis et encomijs à P. Personio alieno nomine conscripti, et sibi ipsi aliquando dedicati, suspectum faciunt negotium. Verum si sua Sanc<sup>tas</sup> de auctore uelit fieri certior, datis ad id in Angliam et Franciam deputatis plus centum prodibunt testes qui ab illo conscriptum et promulgatum esse librum istum probabunt.

Folio 5<sup>to</sup>. et ubique Catholicos uocat in contemptum Papistas.

Fol. 13. Ita uelim moderari inter nos differentias Religionis, ut status communis patriæ nostræ et benedictum regnum maiestatis suæ et communis causa ueræ religionis in periculum non uocetur.

about the present state, and some proceedings of the Erle of Leycester and his friendis in England," 1584, n.p. It was reprinted under the title of "Leicester's Commonwealth." Quite apart from Parsons' very explicit denial of the authorship (Preface to his *Warnword*, 1602), it is incredible that he should have written it, and the passages here quoted should be alone sufficient to prove this. Mary Stuart, writing to the Archbishop of Glasgow in May 1586, and referring to the book as written "nearly two years ago," declares that Leicester believed it was written by Morgan with the archbishop and Lord Paget; that the earl in consequence "was in the utmost rage against all three," and had procured the imprisonment of Morgan. Turnbull, discussing the question in his Introduction to the *Letters of Mary Stuart*, xvii-xxi), cites the arguments of Dr. Ashton and Dean Mosse in favour of the opinion that the book was "the work of some subtle courtier who for safety got it printed abroad and sent into England under the name of Persons," and quotes a letter from Tierney who considers Ashton's arguments from internal evidence "quite conclusive." But it is significant that the scandalous duplicity and disloyalty towards his church attributed to Parsons, on the supposition that he wrote the book, should have created no difficulty in the minds of the appellants.

Fol. 15. uocat Lecestrensem ueræ religionis euersorem et inimicum acerrimum, quam protestanticam esse intelligit.

Fol. 20. uocat communionem hereticorum sanctam communionem.

Fol. 22. de Sua Sanc<sup>to</sup> ridicule admodum loquitur his uerbis, 51, f. 186. quod ad Papam attinet bene poterit fistulas suas reponere.

Fol. 27. uocat Ducem Alensium moderatum Papistam, et qui uirtute et prudentia Reginae facillimè ad Euangelium, id est, ad religionem protestantium potuerit trahi; unde Euangelium illud (protestanticum vlt) per totam Europam potuit disseminari sicut fratres in francia bene considerauerunt et sperauerunt.

Fol. 30. uocat Essexium, hominem hereticum, patronum ueræ Religionis et predicatorum huius sectæ.

Fol. 58. uitio uertit Lecestrensi, quod cum Academia Oxoniensis fuerit patronus et Cancellarius, Collegia et Seminaria papistica et Collegia Jesuitarum ex illa Academia exierunt; Thesaurario autem Cecilio laudi ducit quod, ex eius Academia cui profuit prodierunt omnes doctissimi pseudoepiscopi et uerbi predicatorum, etc.<sup>a</sup>

Fol. 79. Bayleus et Culpeperus, uterque notus Papista.

Fol. 112. Uetus ille Legalius obstupuit, et illorum more fecit cruces in aere quod nobis risum commouit; in margine, contemptus causa, uocat cruces istas papisticas benedictiones.<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> "By Leicester's chancellorship of Oxford," says the author, "is cancelled almost all hope of good in that University: and by his protection, it is like soone to come to destruction. . . . it were sufficient to behold the present state of the two Universities whereof they [Leicester and Cecil] are heads and governors. For our owne [Cambridge] I will not say much, lest I might seeme partiall: but let the thing speak for itselfe. Consider the fruit of the Garden, and thereby you may judge of the Gardiner's diligence. Look upon the Bishopricks, Pastorships, and Pulpits of England and see whence principally they have received their furniture for the advancement of the Gospell. And on the contrary side, look upon the Seminaries of Papistry at Rome and Rhems, upon the Colledges of Jesuists, and other Companies of Papists beyond the seas and see where-hence they are, especially, fraught." Edit. 1641, p. 69.

<sup>b</sup> "At these words the old Lawyer stepped back, as somewhat astonied, and began to make Crosses in the ayre, after their fashion, whereat wee laughed." *Margin* "Papisticall blessing" (p. 101).

Fol. 137. dicit Reginam Scotiæ excludi à Regni titulo, quia inimica fuit religioni huic in Anglia receptæ.

54, f. 186b.

Fol. 151. non uideo neque legis aliquo prescripto, aut praxi horum temporum, diuersitatem religionis posse impedire iustos heredes quominus hereditates sibi debitas possideant in quocunque statu aut genere priuatorum hominum, multo minus in iure regni, quod semper præ ceteris magnum habet priuilegium.

Fol. 158. precedentis propositionis exempla profert Principes Germaniæ Lutheranos, Reginam Elizabetam, Principes Nauarreum et Condeum omnes hereticos.

Fol. 159. Regem Scotiæ laudat et admiratur propter exercitia sua Principe digna, et institutionem suam in uera religione, sub hominibus raris et uirtute ornatis in hunc finem, Joanne nimirum Knoxo et Georgio Bucchanano Archiheretico.

Fol. 160. Educationem, instructionem et conuersionem Regis scotiæ cum ijs qui ueram profitentur Religionem, edicta, actiones, regimen, et priuatos mores laudat, quæ omnia hæresim confirmarunt.

Fol. 161. Aliqui qui ad ministerium Scotiæ pertinent, sed indigni tam digna uocatione.

Fol. 182. multa arg<sup>ta</sup> affert pro toleratione in re religionis, idque a Rege Philippo in Belgia, Francia, Germania factum feliciter et necessario exemplis probat, quod hodie manibus pedibusque oppugnat.

Multa preterea ad corroborandum titulum Regis Scotiæ ad Regnum Angliæ affert, licet in libro titularum spe maioris commodi mutauerit sententiam.