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Tongue, by schoolmaster Alexander Hume and Henry B. Wheatley

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All material in parentheses () or square brackets [], including the (sic) notations, is from the 1865 original.

Unusual characters such as 3 are identified with mouse-hover popups, and greek words are transliterated in the same way.

Irregularities in chapter numbering are explained at the end of the editor's Notes.

Of the

Orthographie and Congruitie of the Britan Tongue;

A Treates, noe shorter then necessarie,
for the Schooles,

Be

Alexander Hume.

EDITED FROM THE ORIGINAL MS. IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM,
BY

HENRY B. WHEATLEY.

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PREFACE.

The following Tract is now printed for the first time from the original Manuscript in the old Royal Collection in the Library of the British Museum (Bibl. Reg. 17 A. xi). It is written on paper, and consists of forty-five leaves, the size of the pages being 5¾ in. by 3¾ in. The dedication, the titles, and the last two lines, are written with a different coloured ink from that employed in the body of the MS., and appear to be in a different handwriting. It is probable that the tract was copied for the author, but that he himself wrote the dedication to the King.

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The Manuscript is undated, and we have no means of ascertaining the exact time when it was written; but from a passage in the dedication to James I. of England, it is fair to infer that it was written shortly after the visit of that monarch to Scotland, subsequent to his accession to the throne of the southern kingdom, that is, in the year 1617. This would make it contemporaneous with Ben Jonson's researches on the English Grammar; for we find, in 1629, James Howell (Letters, Sec. V. 27) writing to Jonson that he had procured Davies' Welch Grammar for him, "to add to those many you have." The grammar that Jonson had prepared for the press was destroyed in the conflagration of his study; so that the posthumous work we now possess consists merely of materials, which were printed for the first time in 1640, three years after the author's death.

The Dedication of this Tract is merely signed *Alexander Hume*, and contains no other clue to the authorship. Curiously enough there were four Alexander Humes living about the same time, and three of them were educated at St. Mary's College, St. Andrew's; only two, however, became authors, the first of whom was Minister of Logie, and wrote *Hymnes or Sacred Songes*. There can be little doubt, however, that the present grammar was written by the Alexander Hume who was at one time Head Master of the High School, Edinburgh, and author of *Grammatica Nova*.

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From Dr. Steven's History of the High School, Edinburgh, and from M'Crie's Life of Melville, I have been enabled to extract and put together the following scanty particulars of our author's life:—The time and place both of his birth and of his death are alike unknown; but he himself, on the title of one of his works, tells us that he was distantly connected with the ancient and noble family of Home, in the county of Berwick. He was educated at the school of Dunbar, under the celebrated Andrew Simson, and in due time was enrolled a student in St. Mary's College, St. Andrew's, and then took the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1574. He came to England, and was incorporated at Oxford January 26, 1580-81, as "M. of A. of St. Andrew's, in Scotland."¹ He spent sixteen years in England, partly engaged in studying and partly in teaching. During the latter part of this term he was a schoolmaster at Bath, as appears from Dr. Hill's answer to him, published in 1592; and the fact of his residence in this city is corroborated at page 18 of the present treatise. He then returned to Scotland, having gained a reputation for the excellence of his learning and for the power he possessed of communicating it to others. On the dismissal of Hercules Rollock, Rector of the High School, Edinburgh, from his office, Hume was unanimously chosen to succeed him, and his appointment was dated 23rd April, 1596. During his incumbency

the High School underwent many changes, and received the form which it retains to the present day. In March, 1606, Hume resigned his office to become principal master in the grammar school founded a short time previously, at Prestonpans, by the munificent John Davidson, minister of the parish. The following document gives an account of Hume's admission to this school:—

"At hadintoun y^e 25 of Junij 1606. The q^{lk} day M^r Joⁿ ker minister of y^e panis productit y^e prēntat^{one} of M^r Alex^r hooome to be schoolm^r of y^e schoole of y^e panis foundit be M^r J^o Davedsone for instructioun of the youth in hebrew, greek and latine subscryvet be yais to quhome M^r Joⁿ davedsone gave power to noiāt y^e man q^{lk} prēntat^{one} y^e prēbrie allowit and ordenit y^e moderator & clerk to subscribe y^e samine in y^r names q^{lk} yay ded. As also ordeanit y^t y^e said kirk of y^e panis suld be visited upon y^e eight day of Julij next to come for admisione of y^e said M^r Alex^r to y^e said office. The visitors wer appoyntit M^r Ar^d oswald M^r Robert Wallace M^r George greir M^r andro blackhall & M^r andro Maghye to teach."——"At Saltprestown July 8, 1606. The hail parischoners being poisit how yay lyckit of y^e said M^r Alex^r w^t vniforme consent being particularly inqwyrir schew y^r guid lykking of him and y^r willingnes to accept and receiv him to y^e said office Q^rupon y^e said M^r Alex^r wes admittit to y^e said office & in token of y^e approba^{one} both of visitors & of y^e parischonēs p^{rnt} both y^e ane and y^e vother tuik y^e said M^r Alex^r be y^e hand & y^e haill magistratis gentlemen and remanēt parischoners p^{rnt} faithfullie p^rmisit to cōcurre for y^e furtherāce of y^e work y^t yit restis to be done to y^e said schoole as also to keipt y^e said M^r Alex^r and his scholleris skaithlis finallie for farther authorizing of y^e said (*sic*) it wes thought meitt y^t y^e haill visitors & parichonēs p^{rnt} suld enter y^e said M^r Alex^r into y^e said schoole & y^r heir him teache q^{lk} also wes doone." (Rec. of Presb. of Haddington).²

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The school rapidly rose to distinction under Hume, but in 1615 he relinquished his position, and accepted the Mastership of the Grammar School of Dunbar, then in high repute, and the very same school in which he had commenced his own education. When occupied at Dunbar, Hume had the honour of being the first who, in a set speech, welcomed James VI. back to his Scottish dominions, after an absence of fourteen years. The King stopped on his way northward from Berwick on the 13th of May, 1617, at Dunglass Castle the residence of the Earl of Home, and Hume, as the orator of the day, delivered a Latin address.

The date of Hume's death is not known; but he was witness to a deed on the 27th of November, 1627; and later still, in the records of the Privy Council of Scotland, 8th and 16th July, 1630, Mr. D. Laing tells me that there is a memorandum of the King's letter anent the Grammar of Mr. Alexander Hume, "schoolmaster at Dunbar." With regard to his private life, we know that he was married to Helen Rutherford, and had two sons and a daughter born to him in Edinburgh between the years 1601 and 1606. He was the father of three more children, also two sons and a daughter, between 1608 and 1610, in the county of East Lothian.

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Hume was a master in controversy, and wrote on subjects of polemical divinity; but his mind was principally drawn towards language and the rules of its construction. He especially gave much of his time to the study of Latin grammar, and feeling dissatisfied with the elementary books which were then in use, he drew up one himself, which he submitted to the correction of Andrew Melville and other learned friends, and published in 1612 under the title of *Grammatica Nova*. The object he proposed to himself was to exclude from the schools the grammar of the Priscian of the Netherlands, the celebrated John Van Pauteren, but his work did not give the satisfaction which he had expected. He succeeded, however, in his wishes after many reverses, by the help of Alexander Seton, Earl of Dunfermline, Chancellor of Scotland, and by authority both of Parliament and of the Privy Council his grammar was enjoined to be used in all the schools of the kingdom. But through the interest of the bishops, and the steady opposition of Ray, his successor at the High School, the injunction was rendered of no effect. He would not, however, be beaten, and we find that in 1623 he was again actively engaged in adopting measures to secure the introduction of his grammar into every school in North Britain where the Latin language was taught.

The following is a list of our author's works:—

A Reioynder to Doctor Hil concerning the Descense of Christ into Hell. By Alexander Hume Maister of Artes. 4^o.

No place of printing, printer's name, or date, but apparently printed at London in 1592 or 1593. Dedicated to Robert Earl of Essex. Although this is the first work that I can find attributed to Alexander Hume, yet there is no doubt that there must have been a former one of which we have no record, and the title and contents of Dr. Hill's book would lead us to this conclusion—"The Defence of the Article. Christ descended into Hell. With arguments objected against the truth of the same doctrine of one Alexander Humes." By Adam Hyll, D of Divinity. London 1592. 4^o. This little volume consists of two parts; 1st, the original sermon preached by Hill 28th February, 1589; 2nd, the reply to Hume. At p. 33, the end of the sermon, is this note, "This sermon ... was answered by one Alexander Huns, Schoolemaester of Bath, whose answere wholly foloweth, with a repleye of the author" ... At p. 33, "The reply of Adam Hill to the answere made by Alexander Humes to a sermon," etc.

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A Diduction of the true and Catholik meaning of our Sauieur his words, *this is my bodie*, in the institution of his laste Supper through the ages of the Church from Christ to our owne dayis. Whereunto is annexed a Reply to M. William Reynolds in defence of M. Robert Bruce his arguments on this subject: displaying M. John Hammilton's ignorance and contradictions: with sundry absurdities following upon the Romane interpretation of these words. Compiled by Alexander Hume, Maister of the high Schoole of Edinburgh. Edinburgh, Printed by Robert Waldegrave, Printer to the King's Maiestie, 1602. Cum Privilegio Regis. 8^o.

Prima Elementa Grammaticæ in usum juventutis Scoticæ digesta. Edinburgi, 1612. 8^o.

Grammatica Nova in usum juventutis Scoticæ ad methodum revocata. Edinburgi, 1612. 8^o.

Bellum Grammaticale, ad exemplar M^{ti} Alexandri Humii. Edinburgi, excud. Gideon Lithgo, Anno Dom. 1658 8^o. Several later editions.

This humorous Grammatical Tragi-Comedy was not written by Hume, but only revised by him.

King James's Progresses, collected and Published by John Adamson afterwards Principal of the University of Edinburgh, entitled—

TA TQN MOYΣQN EΙΣOΔΙΑ:

The Muses Welcome to the High and Mighty Prince James &^c. At his Majesties happie Returne to Scotland In Anno 1617. Edinburgh 1618, folio.

At page 1: "His Majestie came from Bervik to Dunglas the xij day of Maye, where was delivered this [latin] speach following by A. Hume."—At page 16, there is also a couple of Latin verses signed "Alexander Humius."

MS. in the British Museum. The present work.

MS. in the Advocates' Library:—

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Rerum Scoticarum Compendium, in usum Scholarum. Per Alexandrum Humium ex antiqua et nobili gente Humiorum in Scotia, a primâ stirpe quinta sobole oriundum. This work is dated October 1660, and is therefore merely a transcript. It is an epitome of Buchanan's History, and Chr. Irvine in Histor. Scot. Nomenclatura, calls it Clavis in Buchananum, and Bishop Nicholson (Scottish Hist. Lib.) praises its Latin style.

The following three works are inserted by Dr. Steven in his list of Hume's writings, and have been supposed to be his by M'Crie and others; but Mr. D. Laing believes "there can be no doubt, from internal evidence, that the true author was Alexander Hume, the poet, who became minister of Logie, near Stirling, in 1597, and who died in December, 1609." In Wood's Athenæ Oxonienses, by Bliss, i., 624, it is stated that all three of them "were printed in London in 1594, in October," but this must, I think, be a mistake.

Ane Treatise of Conscience, quhairin divers secreits concerning that subject are discovered. At Edinburgh, printed by Robert Walde-grave, Printer to the King's Maiestie 1594. 8^o.

Of the Felicitee of the world to come, unsavorie to the obstinate, alluring to such as are gone astray, and to the faithfull full of consolation. Edinb. 1594. 8^o.

Four Discourses, of Praises unto God, to wit, 1 in Praise of the Mercy and Goodness of God. 2 of his justice. 3 of his Power. 4 of his Providence. Edinb. 1594. 8^o.

In conclusion, my acknowledgments are due to David Laing, Esq., who has kindly suggested some corrections in the list of Hume's works, in addition to what is noted above.

LONDON, FEBRUARY, 1865.

1

*To the maest excellent
in all princelie wis-
dom, learning, and he-
roical artes, JAMES,
of Great Britan,
France, and
Ireland,
King,
Defender of the faeth,
grace, mercie, peace,
honoure here and
glorie hereafter.*

2

May it please your maest excellent *Majestie*, I, your grace's humble servant, seeing sik uncertentie in our men's wryting, as if a man wald indyte one letter to tuentie of our best wryteres, nae tuae of the tuentie, without conference, wald agree; and that they quhae might perhaps agree, met rather be custom then knowlege, set my selfe, about a yeer syne, to seek a remedie for that maladie. Quhen I had done, refyning it, I fand in Barret's Alvearie,³ quhilk is a dictionarie Anglico-latinum, that Sr. Thomas Smith,⁴ a man of nae less worth then learning, Secretarie to Queen Elizabeth, had left a learned and judicious monument on the same subject. Heer consydering my aun weaknes, and meannes of my person, began to fear quhat might betyed my sillie boat in the same seas quhaer sik a man's ship was sunck in the gulf of oblivion. For the printeres and wryteres of this age, caring for noe more arte then may win the pennie, wil not paen them selves to knau whither it be orthographie or skuiographie that doeth the turne: *and* schoolmasteres, quhae's sillie braine will reach no farther then the compas of their cap, content them selves with αὐτὸς ἔφη my master said it. Quhil I thus hovered between hope *and* despare, the same Barret, in the letter E, myndes me of a star *and* constellation to calm al the tydes of these seaes, if it wald please the supreme *Majestie* to command the universitie to censure and ratifie, and the schooles to teach the future age right and wrang, if the present will not rectius sapere. Heere my harte laggared on the hope of your *Majesties* judgement, quhom God hath indeued with light in a sorte supernatural, if the way might be found to draue your eie, set on

high materes of state, to take a glim of a thing of so mean contemplation, and yet necessarie. Quhiles I stack in this claye, it pleased God to bring your *Majestie* home to visit your aun Ida. Quher I hard that your *Grace*, in the disputes of al purposes quherwith, after the exemple of *the* wyse in former ages, you use to season your moat, ne quid tibi temporis sine fructu fluat, fel sundrie tymes on this subject reproving your courteoures, quha on a new conceat of finnes sum tymes spilt (as they cal it) the king's language. Quhilk thing it is reported that your *Majestie* not onlie refuted with impregnable reasones, but alsoe fel on Barret's opinion that you wald cause the universities mak an English *grammar* to repres the insolencies of sik green heades. This, quhen I hard it, soe secunded my hope, that in continent I maed moien hou to convoy this litle treatates to your *Majesties* sight, to further (if perhapes it may please your *Grace*) that gud motion. In school materes, the least are not the least, because to erre in them is maest absurd. If the fundation be not sure, the maer gorgiouse the edifice the grosser the falt. Neither is it the least parte of a prince's praise, curasse rem literariam, and be his auctoritie to mend the misses that ignorant custom hath bred. Julius Cæsar was noe less diligent to eternize his name be the pen then be the suord. Neither thought he it unworthie of his paines to wryte a *grammar* in the heat of the civil weer, quhilk was to them as the English *grammar* is to us; *and*, as it seemes noe less then necessarie, nor our's is now. Manie kinges since that tyme have advanced letteres be erecting schooles, and doting revennues to their *maintenance*; but few have had the knaulege them selves to mend, or be tuiched with, the defectes or faltres crept into the boueles of learning, among quhom JAMES the first, ane of your *Majesties* worthie progenitoures, houbet repressed be the iniquitie of the tyme, deserved noe smal praise; and your *Majesties* self noe less, *commanding*, at your first entrie to your Roial scepter, to reform the *grammar*, and to teach Aristotle in his aun tongue, quhilk hes maed the greek almaest as common in Scotland as the latine. In this alsoe, if it please your *Majestie* to put to your hand, you have al the windes of favour in your sail; account, that al doe follow; judgement, that al doe reverence; wisdom, that al admire; learning, that stupified our scholes hearing a king borne, from tuelfe yeeres ald alwayes occupied in materes of state, moderat in theological and philosophical disputationes, to the admiration of all that hard him, and speciallie them quha had spent al their dayes in those studies.

Accept, dred Soveragne, your pover servantes myte. If it can confer anie thing to the montan of your *Majesties* praise, and it wer but a clod, use it *and* the auctour as your's. Thus beseeeking your grace to accep my mint, and pardon my miss, commites your grace to the king of grace, to grace your grace with al graces spiritual *and* temporal.

Your *Majesties*

humble servant,

Alexander Hume.

*OF THE ORTHOGRAPHIE
OF THE BRITAN TONGUE;
A TREATES, NOE
SHORTER
THEN NECESSARIE, FOR
THE SCHOOLES.*

OF THE GROUNDES OF ORTHOGRAPHIE.

CAP. 1.

1. To wryte orthographically ther are to be considered the symbol, the thing symbolized, and their congruence. Geve me leave, gentle reader, in a new art, to borrow termes incident to the purpose, quhilk, being defyned, wil further understanding.
2. The symbol, then, I cal the written letter, quhilk representes to the eie the sound that the mouth sould utter.
3. The thing symbolized I cal the sound quhilk the mouth utteres quhen the eie sees the symbol.
4. The congruence between them I cal the instrument of the mouth, quhilk, when the eie sees the symbol, utteres the sound.
5. This is the ground of al orthographie, leading the wryter from the sound to the symbol, and the reader from the symbol to the sound. As, for exemple, if I wer to wryte God, the tuich of the middle of the tongue on the roofe of the mouth befoer the voual, and the top of the tongue on the teeth behind the voual, myndes me to wryte it g o d. The voual is judged be the sound, as shal be shaued hereafter. This is the hardest lesson in this treatates, and may be called the key of orthographie.

OF THE LATINE VOUALES.

CAP. 2.

1. We, as almost all Europe, borrow our symbols from the Romans. Wherefore, to rectify our own, first it behoves us to know theirs. They are in number 23: a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u, x, y, and z.
2. To omit the needless questions of their order and forms; of them, five be vowels, and a sort of aspiration, and all the rest consonants.
3. A vowel is the symbol of a sound made without the touches of the mouth.
4. They are distinguished the one from the other by dilating and contracting the mouth, and are a, e, i, o, u.
- 8 5. What was the right Roman sound of them is hard to judge, seeing now we hear not the Romans; and other nations sound them after their own idioms, and the Latins as they sound them.
6. But seeing our ear is with our own Britain, we purpose to omit curiosities, *et quæ nihil nostra intersunt*. Our own, however, be it dialects of one tongue, differing in the sound of them, differ also in pronouncing the Latin. Wherefore, to make a conformity both in Latin and English, we must begin with the Latin.
7. A, the first of them, the South sounds as *beath* they and we sound it in *bare*, *nudus*; and we, as *beath* they and we sound it in *bar*, *obex*.
8. But without partiality (for in this ear I have set my compass to the loadstar of reason), we pronounce it better. If I am here deceived, reason shall deceive me.
9. For we give it always one sound both before and behind the consonant: they hear one and there another. As in *amabant*, in the first two syllables they sound it as it sounds in *bare*, and in the last as it sounds in *bar*. Whereupon I ground this argument. That is the better sound, not one of this, but also of all other letters, *quhilk* is always one. But we sound it always one, and therefore better. Ad that their sound of it is not far unlike the sheepes' *bae*, *quhilk* the Greek symbolizes by η not α , $\beta\eta$ not $\beta\alpha$. See Eustat. in Homer.
10. Of this letter the Latins themselves had two other sounds differing the one from the other, and both from this, *quhilk* they symbolized by adding another vowel, *æ* and *au*. And these they called diphthongs.
11. The diphthong they define to be the sound of two vowels coalescing into one sound, *quhilk* definition in *au* is plain, in *æ* obscurer as now we pronounce it, for now we sound it generally like the vowel *e*, without sound of the *a*, *quhilk*, notwithstanding is the principal vowel in this diphthong sound. Questionless at the first it seems to have had some differing sound from *a*, such as we pronounce in *steane*, or the South in *stain*. But this corruption is carried with a stronger tide than reason can resist, and we will not strive with the stream.
- 9 14. *E* follows, *quhilk* in reason should have but one sound, for without doubt the first intent was to give every sound the own symbol, and every symbol the own sound. But as now we sound it in *quies* and *quiesco*, the judicious ear may discern two sounds. But because here we differ not, I will acquiesce. My purpose is not to deal with impossibilities, nor to mend all crookes, but to conform (if reason will conform us) the South and North both in Latin and in English.
15. As this vowel ryseth two diphthongs, *ei* and *eu*, *quhilk* both stand well with the definition, sect. 11.
16. Of the next, *i*, we differ farther, and the knot harder to loose, for neither side wants some reason. They in *mihi*, *tibi*, and such others, pronounce it as it sounds in *bide*, *manere*; we as it sounds in *bid*, *jubere*.
17. Among the ancients I find some grounds for their sound. Cicero's epist. fam. lib. 9, epis. 22, avoues that *bini*, in Latin, and $\beta\iota\nu\epsilon\iota$ in Greek, had one sound. And Varro, with sundry ancients, writes *domineis* and *serveis*, for *dominis* and *servis*, *quhilk* is more like the sound of *bide* than *bid*. If this argument reached as well to *i* short as *i* long, and if we were sure how $\epsilon\iota$ was pronounced in those days, this authority would overweigh our reason; but seeing *i*, in *mihi*, *etc.*, in the first is short, and in the last common, and the sound of *ei* uncertain, I stand at my reason, sect. 9, *quhilk* is as powerful here for *i* as there for *a*. They pronounce not *i* in *is* and *quis*, *id* and *quid*, in *and* *quin*, as they pronounce it in *mihi*, *tibi*, *sibi*, *ibi*, *etc.*, and therefore not right.
18. As for *o*, in Latin, we differ not; *u*, the South pronounces when the syllable begins or ends at it, as *eu*, *teu* for *tu*, and *eunum* *munus* for *unum* *munus*, *quhilk*, because it is a diphthong sound, and because they themselves, when a consonant follows it, pronounce it other ways, I hope I shall not need arguments to prove it wrong, and not be a pure vowel.

OF THE BRITAN VOWELS.

CAP. 3.

1. Of *a*, in our tongue we have four sounds, all so differing one from another, that they distinguish the very signification of words, as, a tall man, a good tall, a horse tall.
- 10 2. Wherefore in this case I would commend to our men the imitation of the Greek and Latin, *quho*, to mend this crook, devised diphthongs. Let the simplest of these four sounds, or that *quhilk* is now in use, stand with the vowel, and supply the rest with diphthongs; as, for example, I would write the king's hall with the vowel *a*; a shour of hael, with *æ*; hail marie, with *ai*; and a heal head, as we call it, *quhilk* the English calls a whole head, with *ea*. And so, besides the vowel, we

have of this thre diphthonges, tuæ with a befoer, æ and ai, and ane wth the e befoer, ea. Ad to them au, howbeit of a distinct sound; as, knaulege with us, in the south knowlege.

3. These and al other diphthonges I wald counsel the teacheres not to name be the vouales quherof they are maed, but be the sound *quhilk* they maek, for learneres wil far maer easelie take the sound from the mouth of the teacher, then maek it them selves of the vouales ingredient.

4. Of e, we have tuæ soundes, *quhilk* it is hard to judge *quhilk* is simplest; as, an el, ulna; and an el, anguilla; hel, infernus; and an hel, calx pedis. Heer I wald commend to our men quhae confoundes these the imitation of the south, *quhilk* doth wel distinguish these soundes, wryting the el, ulna, with the voual e, and eel, anguilla, with the diphthong ee. I am not ignorant that sum symbolizes this sound wth a diphthong made of ie; eie, oculus; hiel, fiel, miel, *etc.* Here I am indifferent, and onelie wishes that the ane be used; let the advysed judge make choise of *quhilk*, for my awne paert I lyke the last best; 1. becaus eie, oculus, can not wel be symbolized ee; 2. because the greekes expresse η be εε, *quhilk*, as appeares be the Ioneanes and Doreanes, drawes neerar to α, than ε.

5. Of i, also, our idiom receaves tuæ soundes, as in a man's wil, and the wil of a fox. Heer, also, I wald have our men learne of the south, for these soundes they wel distinguish, wryting wil, fil, mil, stil, with i; and wyl, fyl, myl, styl, with y.

11 6. Heer I see be Barrat, in his Alvearie, that sum wald be at symbolizing these soundes, the ane with the greek diphthong ει, and the other with ι inverted; as, ραιδ, equitare; βαιδ, manere; ριδ, legere; ηιδ, cavere. In this opinion I se an eye of judgement, and therfoer wil not censure it, except I saw the auctour's whole drift. Onelie for my awn parte I will avoid al novelties, and content my self with the letteres *quhilk* we have in use. And seeing we have no other use of y distinguished from i, condiscend to the opinion of the south using i for ane, and y for the other.

7. O, we sound al alyk. But of it we have sundrie diphthonges: oa, as to roar, a boar, a boat, a coat; oi, as coin, join, foil, soil; oo, as food, good, blood; ou, as house, mouse, &c. Thus, we commonlie wryt mountan, fountan, *quhilk* it wer more etymological to wryt montan, fontan, according to the original.

8. In this diphthong we commit a grosse error, saving better judgement, spelling how, now, and siklyk with w, for if w be (as it sal appear, quhen we cum to the awn place of it) a consonant, it can noe wayes coalesse into a diphthong sound, sik as this out of controversie is.

9. U, the last of this rank, the south, as I have said in the latin sound of it, pronunzes eu, we ou, both, in my simple judgement, wrang, for these be diphthong soundes, and the sound of a voual sould be simple. If I sould judge, the frensh sound is neerest the voual sound as we pronounce it in mule and muse.

10. Of it we have a diphthong not yet, to my knowlege, observed of anie; and, for my awn parte, I am not wel resolved neither how to spel it, nor name it. Onelie I see it in this, to bou, a bow. I wait not quhither I sould spel the first buu, or the last boau. As, for exemple, if Roben Hud wer nou leving, he wer not able to buu his aun bou, or to bou his aun boau. And therfoer this with al the rest, hou be it in other I have more for me, I leave to the censure of better judgement.

OF CONSONANTES.

CAP. 4.

1. This for the vouales, and diphthonges made of them without the tuiches of the mouth. Now followe the consonantes.

2. A consonant is a letter symbolizing a sound articulat that is broaken with the tuiches of the mouth.

12 3. The instrumentes of the mouth, quherbe the vocal soundes be broaken, be in number seven. The nether lip, the upper lip, the outward teeth, the inward teeth, the top of the tongue, the midle tong, and roof of the mouth. Of these, thre be, as it were, hammeres stryking, and the rest stiddies, kepping the strakes of the hammeres.

4. The hammeres are the nether lip, the top of the tongue, and the midle tongue. The stiddies the overlip, the outward teeth, the inward teeth, and the roofe of the mouth.

5. The nether lip stryking on the overlip makes b, m, p, and on the teeth it makes f and v.

6. The top of the tongue stryking on the inward teeth formes d, l, n, r, s, t, and z.

7. The midle tongue stryking on the rouf of the mouth formes the rest, c, g, k, j, q, and x, and so we have 18 consonantes borrowed of the latines.

8. These they borrow al from the greekes, saving j and v, quhilk our age soundes other wayes then it seemes the romanes did; for Plutarch, more then 100 yeeres after Christ, expressing the sound *quhilk* they had in his tyme, symbolizes them neerar the sound of the vouales quherof they are maed then now we sound them in latin, for in Galba he symbolizes junius vindex, ἰουνιος οὐνδεξ, *quhilk*, if then it had sounded as now we sound it, he sould rather have written it with γ and β, γουνιος βινδεξ.

9. We have in our use the sam soundes *quhilk* it seemes these consonantes had in Plutarch's dayes, as in yallou, winter. Quhilk, seeing now they are worn out of the latin use, my counsel is that we leave the sound of them *quhilk* now is in the latin use to the latines, and take as our's the sound *quhilk* they have left, and geve to the sound, *quhilk* now we use in latin, the latin symbol;

as, jolie jhon; vertue is not vain; and to the soundes quhilk they have left the symboles *quhilk* we have usurped to that end; as, yallou, youk; water, wyne.

13

10. And heer, to put our men af their errour quho had wont to symboliz yallou with an *ʒ*, and to put noe difference between *v* and *w*, *ʒ* is a dental consonant, broaken between the top of the tongue and root of the teeth; *yal*, a guttural sound, made be a mynt of the tongue to the rooffe of the mouth, and therfoer the organes being so far distant, and the tuich so diverse, this symbol can be no reason serve that sound, nor nane of that kynd.

11. As for *v* and *w*, seeing we have in our idiom, besyd the latin sound, an other never hard in latin, as now it is pronunced, I can not but commend the wisdom of the south, *quhilk* gave the latin sound their awn symbol, and took to our sound a symbol quhilk they use not. Lyke was their wisdom in *j* and *y*; for as the latines usurped the voual *i* for a consonant in their use, *quhilk* the greekes had not, so they usurped *y*, a voual not mikle different from *i*, for the correspondent sound, not used in the latin as now it is pronunced.

12. Heerfoer, for distinctiones of both sound and symbol, I wald commend the symbol and name of *i* and *u* to the voual sound; as, indifferent, unthankful; the symbols of *j* and *v* to the latin consonantes, and their names to be *jod* and *vau*; as, vain jestes; and the symboles *y* and *w* to our English soundes, and their names to be *ye* and *we*, or *yod* and *wau*; as, yonder, wel, yallou, wool.

13. Now remaineth *h*, *quhilk* we have called a noat of aspiration, [cap. 2](#), sect. 2, and is, in deed, noe voual, because with a consonant it makes noe sound; as, *ch*; nor consonant, because it is pronunced without the tuich of the mouth; as, *ha*.

14. It may affect al vouales *and* diphthonges; as, *hand*, *hen*, *hind*, *hose*, *hurt*, *hail*, *hautie*, *health*, *heel*, *heifer*, *etc.* But behind the voual in our tong (so far as yet I can fynd) it hath no use. Of consonantes, it affecteth *g* beyond the voual; as, *laugh*; *p* befoer the voual; as, *phason*; *s* and *t* also befoer the voual; as, *think*, *shame*. With *c* we spil the aspiration, turning it into an Italian chirt; as, *charitie*, *cherrie*, of quhilk hereafter.

OF OUR ABUSING SUM CONSONANTES.

CAP. 5.

1. Now I am cum to a knot that I have noe wedg to cleave, and wald be glaed if I cold hoep for help. Ther sould be for everie sound that can occur one symbol, and of everie symbol but one onlie sound. This reason and nature craveth; and I can not but trow but that the worthie inventoures of this divyne facultie shot at this mark.

14

2. But, contrarie to this sure ground, I waet not be quhat corruption, we see, not onelie in our idiom, but in the latin alsoe, one symbol to have sundrie soundes, *ye*, and that in one word; as, *lego*, *legis*.

3. First, to begin with *c*, it appeeres be the greekes, quho ever had occasion to use anie latin word, quharein now we sound *c* as *s*, in their tymes it sounded *k*; for Cicero, thei wryt *Kikero*; for Cæsar, *Kaisar*; and Plut., in *Galba*, symbolizes *principia*, *πριγκιπια*.

4. This sound of it we, as the latines, also keepe befoer *a*, *o*, and *u*; as, *canker*, *conduit*, *cumber*. But, befoer *e* and *i*, sum tymes we sound it, with the latin, lyke an *s*; as, *cellar*, *certan*, *cease*, *citie*, *circle*, *etc.*

5. Behind the voual, if a consonant kep it, we sound it alwayes as a *k*; as, *occur*, *accuse*, *succumb*, *acquyre*. If it end the syllab, we ad *e*, and sound it as an *s*; as, *peace*, *vice*, *solace*, *temperance*; but nether for the idle *e*, nor the sound of the *s*, have we anie reason; nether daer I, with al the oares of reason, row against so strang a tyde. I hald it better to erre with al, then to stryve with al and mend none.

6. This consonant, evin quher in the original it hes the awne sound, we turn into the chirt we spak of, [cap. 4](#), sect. 14, quhilk, indeed, can be symbolized with none, neither greek nor latin letteres; as, from *cano*, *chant*; from *canon*, *chanon*; from *castus*, *chast*; from *κυριακή*, a church, of *quhilk* I hard doctour Laurence, the greek professour in Oxfoord, a man bothe of great learning and judgement, utter his opinion to this sense, and (excep my memorie fael me) in these wordes: *κυριακή* ut *βασιλική* suppresso substantivo *οικία* domus domini est. Unde nostrum derivatur, quod Scoti et Angli boreales recte, pronunciant a kyrk, nos corrupte a church.

7. Yet, notwithstanding that it is barbarouse, seing it is more usual in our tongue then can be mended befoer the voual, as *chance*, and behind the voual, as *such*, let it be symbolized, as it is symbolized with *ch*, hou beit nether the *c* nor the *h* hath anie affinitie with that sound; 1, because it hath bene lang soe used; and 2, because we have no other mean to symbolize it, except it wer with a new symbol, *quhilk* it will be hard to bring in use.

15

8. Now, quheras *ch* in nature is *c* asperat, as it soundes in *charus* and *chorus*; and seing we have that sound also in use, as *licht*, *micht*; if I had bene at the first counsel, my vote wald have bene to have geven *ch* the awn sound. But as now the case standes, ne quid novandum sit, quod non sit necesse, I not onlie consent, but also commend the wisdom of the south, quho, for distinction, wrytes *light*, *might*, with *gh* and referres *ch* to the other sound, how be it improperlie, and this distinction I commend to our men, quho yet hes not satis attente observed it.

9. Next cumes *g*, howbe it not so deformed as *c*; for, although we see it evin in latin, and that, in one word (as is said [cap. 5](#), sect. 2), distorted to tuo sonndes, yet both may stand with the nature of the symbol and differ not in the instrumentes of the mouth, but in the form of the tuich, as the

judicious ear may mark in ago, agis; agam, ages.

10. This consonant, in latin, never followes the vovul; befoer a, o, u, it keepes alwayes the awn sound, and befoer e and i breakes it.

11. But with us it may both begin and end the syllab; as, gang; it may, both behind and befoer, have either sound; as, get, gist, gin, giant.

12. These the south hath providentlie minted to distinguish tuo wayes, but hes in deed distinguished noe way, for the first sum hath used tuo gg; as, egg, legg, bigg, bagg; for the other dg; as, hedge, edge, bridge; but these ar not κατά πάντος. Gyles, nomen viri, can not be written dgiles; nor giles doli, ggiles; nether behind the vovul ar they general; age, rage, suage, are never wrytten with dg. Quherfoer I conclud that, seeing nether the sound nor the symbol hath anie reason to be sundrie, without greater auctoritie, nor the reach of a privat wit, this falt is incorrigible.

13. Here I am not ignorant quhat a doe the learned make about the symboles of c, g, k and q, that they be al symboles, but of one sound; but I wil not medle in that question, being besyde my purpose, *quhilk* is not to correct the latin symboles, but to fynd the best use of them in our idiom.

14. T, the last of these misused souldiours, keepes alwayes it's aun nature, excep it be befoer tio; as, oration, declamation, narration; for we pronounce not tia and tiu as it is in latin. Onelie let it be heer observed that if an s preceed tio, the t keepes the awn nature, as in question, suggestion, *etc.*

16 15. Thus have I breeflie handled the letteres and their soundes, quhilk, to end this parte, I wald wish the printeres, in their a, b, c, to expresse thus:—a, ae, ai, au, ea, b, c, d, e, ee, ei, eu, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, oa, oo, ou, p, q, r, s, t, u, ui, v, w, x, y, z, and the masteres teaching their puples to sound the diphthonges, not be the vovales quharof they be made, but be the sound quhilk they mak in speaking; lykwayes I wald have them name w, not duble u nor v, singl u, as now they doe; but the last, vau or ve, and the first, wau or we; and j, for difference of the vovul i, written with a long tail, I wald wish to to be called jod or je.

OF THE SYLLAB.

CAP. 6.

1. Now followes the syllab, quhilk is a ful sound symbolized with convenient letteres, and consistes of ane or moe.

2. A syllab of ane letter is symbolized with a vovul onelie; as, a in able, e in ever, i in idle, o in over, u in unitie, for a consonant can make no syllab alane.

3. A syllab of moe letteres is made of vovales onelie, or els of vovales and consonantes. Of onlie vovales the syllab is called a diphthong, of quhilk we have spoaken in the vovales quherof they ar composed.

4. A syllab of vovales and consonantes either beginnes at the vovul, as al, il, el; or at one consonant, as tal man; or at tuo consonantes, as stand, sleep; or els at thre at the maest, as strand, stryp. It endes either at a vovul, as fa, fo; or at one consonant, as ar, er; or at tuo, as best, dart; or at thre at the maest, as durst, worst.

5. Heer is to be noated, that in divyding syllabes, the consonantes, one or moe, that may begin a syllab anie way in the middes of a word belong to the vovul following, as in que-stion, qua-rel, fi-shar, sa-fron, ba-stard, de-scrib, re-scue.

17 6. It is alsoe heer to be observed in printing and wryting, that quhen a word fales to be divyded at the end of a lyne, that the partition must be made at the end of a syllab, soe that the one lyne end at the end of the whol syllab, and the other begin the next lyne. As, for exemple, if this word magistrat fel to be divided at the first syllab, it behoved to be ma-gistrat; if at the second, it behoved to be magi-strat; but no wayes to parte the m from the a, nor the g from the i, nor the s from t, nor the t from r.

OF THE RULES TO SYMBOLIZE.

CAP. 7.

1. To symboliz right, the sound of the vovul is first to be observed, quhither it be a simple vovul or a compound, and quhilk of them is to be chosen, for quhilk no rule can be geven but the judgement of the ear.

2. Next the consonantes are to be marked; and first, quhither they break the vovul befoer or behind; then quhither they be one or moe; and lastlie, wth quhat organes of the mouth they be broaken.

3. For be the organes of the mouth, quherwith the syllab is broaken, the consonantes are discerned be quhilk the syllab must be symbolized, quhilk we have said, cap 1, sect. 5.

4. The consonantes may differ in hammar (as we called it, [cap. 4](#), sect 3) and stiddie, as b and d. Or they may agre in hammar and differ in stiddie, as b and v. Or they may agre in both and differ in the tuich, as f and v, m and p, t and g.

5. The tuich befoer the vovul is be lifting the hammar of the stiddie; as da, la, pa; and behind, be

stryking the hammer on the stiddie; as ad, al, ap. And quhen the hammer and the stiddie are ane, the difference is in the hardnes and softnes of the tuich; as may be seen in ca and ga, ta and da. But w and y maekes sae soft a mynt that it is hard to perceave, and therfoer did the latines symboliz them with the symbol of the vouales. They are never used but befoer the voual; as we, ye, wil, you; behynd the voual thei mak noe consonant sound, nor sould be written, and therefore now and vow, with sik otheres, are not [to] be written wth w, as is said befoer.

6. Of this *quhilk* now is said may be gathered that general, *quhilk* I called the keie of orthographie, [cap. 1](#) sect. 5, that is the congruence of the symbol and sound symbolized; that is, that bathe must belang to the same organes and be tuiched after the same form.

18 7. And, be the contrarie, here it is clere that soundes pronunzed with this organ can not be written with symboles of that; as, for exemple, a labiel symbol can not serve a dental nor a guttural sound; nor a guttural symbol a dental nor a labiel sound.

8. To clere this point, and alsoe to reform an errour bred in the south, and now usurped be our ignorant printeres, I wil tel quhat befel my self quhen I was in the south with a special gud frende of myne. Ther rease, upon sum accident, quhither quho, quhen, quhat, *etc.*, sould be symbolized with q or w, a hoat disputation betuene him and me. After manie conflictes (for we ofte encountered), we met be chance, in the citie of Baeth, wth a Doctour of divinitie of both our acquantance. He invited us to denner. At table my antagonist, to bring the question on foot amangs his awn condisciples, began that I was becum an heretik, and the doctour spering how, answered that I denyed quho to be spelled with a w, but with qu. Be quhat reason? quod the Doctour. Here, I beginning to lay my grundes of labial, dental, and guttural soundes and symboles, he snapped me on this hand and he on that, that the doctour had mikle a doe to win me room for a syllogisme. Then (said I) a labial letter can not symboliz a guttural syllab. But w is a labial letter, quho a guttural sound. And therfoer w can not symboliz quho, nor noe syllab of that nature. Here the doctour staying them again (for al barked at ones), the proposition, said he, I understand; the assumption is Scottish, and the conclusion false. Quherat al laughed, as if I had bene dryven from al replie, and I fretted to see a frivolouse jest goe for a solid ansuer. My proposition is grounded on the 7 sectio of this same cap., *quhilk* noe man, I trow, can denye that ever suked the paepes of reason. And soe the question must rest on the assumption quhither w be a labial letter and quho a guttural syllab. As for w, let the exemples of wil, wel, wyne, juge quhilk are sounded befoer the voual with a mint of the lippes, as is said the same cap., sect. 5. As for quho, besydes that it differres from quo onelie be aspiration, and that w, being noe perfect consonant, can not be aspirated, I appele to al judicious eares, to *quhilk* Cicero attributed mikle, quhither the aspiration in quho be not ex imo gutture, and therfoer not labial.

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OF RULES FROM THE LATIN.

CAP. 7. (*sic.*)

1. Heer, seeing we borrow mikle from the latin, it is reason that we either follow them in symbolizing their's, or deduce from them the groundes of our orthographie.

2. Imprimis, then, quhatever we derive from them written with c we sould alsoe wryte with c, howbeit it sound as an s to the ignorant; as conceave, receave, perceave, from concipio, recipio, percipio; concern, discern, from concerno, discerno; accesse, successe, recesse, from accedo, succedo, recedo, wth manie moe, *quhilk* I commend to the attention of the wryter.

3. Also quhat they wryte wth s we sould alsoe wryte with s; as servant, from servus; sense, from sensus; session from sessio; passion, from passio.

4. Neither is the c joined wth s here to be omitted; as science and conscience, from scientia, conscientia; ascend and descend, from ascendo, descendo; rescind and abscind, from rescindo and abscindo.

4 (*sic*). This difference of c and s is the more attentivelie to be marked for that wordes of one sound and diverse signification are many tymes distinguished be these symboles; as, the kinges secrete council, and the faithful counsil of a frende; concent in musik, and consent of myndes; to duel in a cel, and to sel a horse; a decent weed, and descent of a noble house. These tuo last differres alsoe in accent.

5. Lykwayes, that we derive from latin verbales in tio, sould also be wrytten with t; as oration, visitation, education, vocation, proclamation, admonition, *etc.*

6. Wordes deryved from the latin in tia and tium we wryte with ce; as justice, from justitia; intelligence, from intelligentia; vice, from vitium; service, from servitium. In al *quhilk*, houbeit the e behind the c be idle, yet use hes made it tollerable to noat the breaking of the c, for al tongues bear with sum slippes that can not abyde the tuich stone of true orthographie.

20 7. C is alsoe written in our wordes deryved from x in latin; as peace, from pax; fornace, from fornax; matrice, from matrix; nurice, from nutrix, *quhilk* the south calles nurse, not without a falt both in sound and symbol; be this we wryte felicitie, audacitie, tenacitie, *etc.*

8. Lykwayes we sould keep the vouales of the original, quherin the north warres the south; from retineo, the north retine, the south retain; from foras, the north foran, the south forain; from regnum, the north regne, the south raigne; from cor, the north corage, the south courage; from devoro, the north devore, the south devour; from vox, the north voce, the south voice; from devoveo, the north devote, the south devoute; from guerrum, the north were, the south war; from gigas, gigantis, the north gyant, the south giant; from mons, montis, the north mont, the south

mount. Of this I cold reckon armies, but wil not presume to judge farther then the compasse of my awn cap, for howbeit we keep nearar the original, yet al tongues have their idiom in borrowing from the latin, or other foran tongues.

OF SUM IDIOMES IN OUR ORTHOGRAPHIE.

CAP. 8.

1. In our tongue we have some particles *quhilk* can not be symbolized with roman symboles, nor rightlie pronounced but be our awn, for we in manye places soe absorb l and n behynd a consonant, quher they can not move without a voual intervening, that the ear can hardlie judge quhither their intervenes a voual or noe.

2. In this case sum, to avoid the pronunziation of the voual befoer the l and n, wrytes it behind; as litle, mikle, muttne, eatne. Quhilk houbeit it incurres in an other inconvenience of pronunzing the voual behind the l or n, yet I dar not presume to reprove, because it passeth my wit how to avoid both inconveniences, and therfoer this I leave to the wil of the wryter.

3. Sum of our men hes taken up sum unusual formes of symbolizing, *quhilk* I wald wish to be reformed, yet if I bring not reason, let no man change for my phantasie.

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4. First, for peple they wryte people, I trow because it cumes from *populus*; but if that be a reason, I wald understand a reason quhy they speak not soe alsoe. Or gif they speak not soe, I wald understand quhy they wryte not as they speak. I knawe they have the exemple of France to speak ane way and wryte an other; but that exemple is as gud to absorb the s in the end of everie word. Al exemples are not imitable.

5. They use alsoe to wryte logicque, musicque, rhetoricque, and other of that sorte, with cque. If this be doon to make the c in *logica, etc.*, subsist, quhy wer it not better to supply a k in the place of it, then to hedge it in with a whol idle syllab; it wer both more orthographical and easier for the learner, for c and k are sa sib, *that* the ane is a greek and the other a latin symbol of one sound. In this art it is alyke absurd to wryte that thou reades not, as to read that thou wrytes not.

6. We use alsoe, almost at the end of everie word, to wryte an idle e. This sum defend not to be idle, because it affectes the voual before the consonant, the sound quherof many tymes alteres the signification; as, *hop* is *altero tantum pede saltare*, *hope* is *sperare*; *fir*, *abies*, *fyre*, *ignis*; a *fin*, *pinna*, *fine*, *probatas*; *bid*, *jubere*, *bide*, *manere*; with many moe. It is true that the sound of the voual befoer the consonant many tymes doth change the signification; but it is as untrue that the voual e behind the consonant doth change the sound of the voual before it. A voual devyded from a voual be a consonant can be noe possible means return thorough the consonant into the former voual. Consonantes betuene vouales are lyke partition walles betuen roomes. Nothing can change the sound of a voual but an other voual coalescing with it into one sound, of *quhilk* we have spoaken sufficientlie, [cap. 3](#), to illustrat this be the same exemples, *saltare* is to *hop*; *sperare* to *hoep*; *abies* is *fir*; *ignis*, *fyr*, or, if you wil, *fier*; *jubere* is *bid*; *manere*, *byd* or *bied*.

7. Yet in sum case we are forced to tolerat this idle e; 1. in wordes ending in c, to break the sound of it; as *peace*, *face*, *lace*, *justice, etc.*; 2. behind s, in wordes wryten with this s; as *false*, *ise*, *case*, *muse*, *use, etc.*; 3. behind a broaken g; as *knowlege*, *savage*, *suage*, *ald age*. Ther may be moe, and these I yeld because I ken noe other waye to help this necessitie, rather then that I can think anye idle symbol tolerable in just orthographie.

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OF THE ACCENTES OF OUR TONGUE.

CAP. 9.

1. Seing that we fynd not onelie the south and north to differ more in accent then symbol, but alsoe one word with a sundrie accent to have a diverse signification, I commend this to him quho hes auctoritie, to command al printeres and wryteres to noat the accented syllab in everie word with noe lesse diligence then we see the grecianes to noat their's.

2. Cicero, in his buik de *Oratore ad Brutum*, makes it a natural harmonie that everie word pronounced be the mouth of man have one acute syllab, and that never farther from the end then the third syllab, quhilk the grammareanes cales to the same end the antepenult. Quhilk observation of so noble a wit is most true in tongues *quhilk* he understud, the greek and latin. But if Cicero had understud our tongue, he sould have hard the accent in the fourth syllab from the end; as in *matrimonie*, *pátrimonie*, *vadimonie*, *intóllerable*, *intélligences*, and whole garrisones of lyke liverie. This anie eare may if he accent the antepenult *matrimonie*, or the penult *matrimónie*, or the last as *matrimónie*.

3. Then to the purpose we have the same accentes *quhilk* the latin and the greek hath, acute, circumflex, and grave.

4. The acute raiseth the syllab quheron it sittes; as *profésse*, *prófit*, *ímpudent*.

5. It may possesse the last syllab: as *supprést*, *preténce*, *sincere*; the penult: as *súbject*, *cándle*, *cráftie*; the antepenult: as *difficultie*, *mínister*, *finallie*; and the fourth also from the end, as is said sect. 2; as *spéciallie*, *insátiable*, *diligentlie*. In al *quhilk*, if a man change the accent, he sall spill the sound of the word.

6. The grave accent is never noated, but onelie understood in al syllabes quherin the acute and circumflex is not. Onlie, for difference, sum wordes ar marked with it, thus ` , leaning contrarie to

the acute.

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7. The circumflex accent both liftes and felles the syllab that it possesseth, and combynes the markes of other tuae, thus $\hat{\text{e}}$. Of this we, as the latines, hes almost no use. But the south hath great use of it, and in that their dialect differes more from our's then in other soundes or symboles.

8. The use of the accent wil be of good importance for the right pronunziation of our tongue, quhilk now we doe forte, non arte, and conforming of the dialectes, *quhilk*, as I have said, differes most in this.

OF THE APOSTROPHUS AND HYPHEN.

CAP. 10.

1. The learned printeres uses to symboliz apostrophus and hyphen as wel as a, b, c.
2. Apostrophus is the ejecting of a letter or a syllab out of one word or out betuene tuae, and is alwayes marked above the lyne, as it wer a *comma*, thus ' .
3. Out of one word the apostrophus is most usual in poesie; as Ps. 73, v. 3, for quhen I sau such foolish men, I grug'd, and did disdain; and v. 19, They are destroy'd, dispatch'd, consum'd.
4. Betuene tuae wordes we abate either from the end of the former or the beginning of the later.
5. We abate from the end of the former quhen it endes in a voual and the next beginnes at a voual; as, th' ingrate; th' one parte; I s' it, for I see it.
6. In abating from the word following, we, in the north, use a mervelouse libertie; as, he's a wyse man, for he is a wyse man; I'l meet with him, for I wil meet with him; a ship 'l of fooles, for a ship ful of fooles; and this we use in our common language. And *quhilk* is stranger, we manie tymes cut of the end of the word; as, he's tel the, for he sal tel the.
7. This for apostrophus. Hyphen is, as it wer, a band uniting whol wordes joined in composition; as, a hand-maed, a heard-man, tongue-tyed, out-rage, foer-warned, mis-reported, fals-deemed.

OF THE CONGRUITIE OF OUR BRITAN TONGUE.

LIB. 2.

27

OF THE PERSON.

CAP. 1.

1. Al wordes *quhilk* we use to expresse our mynde are personal or impersonal.
2. A personal word is *quhilk* admittes diversitie of person.
3. Person is the face of a word, quhilk in diverse formes of speach it diverselie putes on; as, I, Peter, say that thou art the son of God. Thou, Peter, sayes that I am the son of God. Peter said that I am the son of God.
4. Quherupon person is first, second, and third.
5. The first person is of him that speakes; as, I wryte.
6. The second person is of him that is spoaken to; as, thou wrytes.
7. The third person is of him that is spoaken of; as, Peter wrytes.

OF NUMBER.

CAP. 2.

1. Number is distinction of person be one and moe; and soe is singular and plural.
2. The singular speakes of one; as, a hand, a tree, a sheep, a horse, a man.
3. The plural speakes of moe then one; as, handes, trees, sheep, horses, men, tuo, three, foure, or moe, or how manie soever.
4. This difference is commonlie noted with es at the end of the word singular; as, a house, houses; a windoe, windoes; a doore, tuo doores.
5. Sum tymes it is noated be changing a letter; as, a man, men; a woman, wemen; a goose, geese.
6. Sum tyme be changing noe thing; as, a sheep, a thousand sheep; a horse, an hundred horse; a noute, ten noute.

OF THE DETERMINATION OF THE PERSON.

CAP. 3.

28

1. A personal word is a noun or a verb. A noun is a word of one person wth gender and case; as, I is onelie of the first person; thou is onelie of the second; and al other nouns are onelie the third person; as, thou, Thomas, head, hand, stone, blok, except they be joined with I or thou.
2. The person of a noun singular is determined or undetermined.
3. The determined person is noated with the, and it is determined either be an other substantive; as, the king of Britan; or be an adjective; as, the best king in Europ; or be a relative; as, God preserve the king quhom he hath geven us.
4. The undetermined noun is noated with an befoer a voual; as, an ald man sould be wyse; and with a befoer a consonant; as, a father sould command his son.

OF THE GENDER OF A NOUN.

CAP. 4.

1. Gender is the affection of a noun for distinction of sex.
2. Sex is a distinction of a noun be male and female, and these are distinguished the one from the other, or both from thinges without sex.
3. The one is distinguished from the other be he and she.
4. He is the noat of the male; as, he is a gud judge; he is a wyse man; he is a speedie horse; he is a crouse cock; he is a fat wether.
5. She is the noate of the femal sex; as, she is a chast matron; she is a stud meer; she is a fat hen; she is a milk cowe.
6. Nounes that want sex are noated with it; as, it is a tale tree; it is a sueet aple; it is a hard flint; it is a faer day; it is a foul way.
7. In the plural number they are not distinguished; as, they are honest men; they are vertueouse ladies; they are highe montanes.

OF THE CASE OF THE NOUN.

CAP. 5.

29

1. Case is an affection of a noun for distinction of person; as, the corner stone fel on me; stone is the nominative case. The corner of a stone hurt me; stone is the genitive case. Quhat can you doe to a stone; stone is the dative case. He brak the stones; it is the accusative case. Quhy standes thou stone; it is the vocative. And he hurt me with a stone; it is the ablative case.
2. This difference we declyne, not as doth the latines and greekes, be terminationes, but with noates, after the maner of the hebrues, quhilk they cal particles.
3. The nominative hath no other noat but the particle of determination; as, the peple is a beast with manie heades; a horse serves man to manie uses; men in auctoritie sould be lanternes of light.
4. Our genitive is always joyned with an other noun, and is noated with of, or s.
5. With of, it follows the noun quhar wth it is joined; as, the house of a good man is wel governed.
6. With s it preceedes the word quherof it is governed, and s is devyded from it with an apostrophus; as, a gud man's house is wel governed.
7. This s sum haldes to be a segment of his, and therfoer now almost al wrytes his for it, as if it wer a corruption. But it is not a segment of his; 1. because his is the masculin gender, and this may be foeminin; as, a mother's love is tender; 2. because his is onelie singular, and this may be plural; as, al men's vertues are not knawen.
8. The dative is noated wth to, and for; as, geve libertie evin to the best youth and it wil luxuriat. Al men doeth for them selves; few for a frende.
9. The accusative hath noe other noat then the nominative; as, the head governes the bodie.
10. The vocative is the person to quhom the speach is directed; as, quhence cumes thou Æneas.
11. The ablative is noated wth prepositiones in, with, be, and sik lyke; as, be god al thinges wer made; God wth his word his warkes began; in my father's house are manie mansiones.

OF THE DEGREES OF COMPARISON.

CAP. 6.

30

1. Al nouns that wil join with a substantive ar called adjectives; as, gud, high, hard, sueet, sour.
2. These, and al that wil admit mare and mast, are compared be degrees; as, sueet, more sueet, most sueet.

3. Of comparison ther be thre degrees: the positive, comparative, and superlative, if the first may be called a degre.
4. The positive is the first position of the noun; as, soft, hard; quhyte, blak; hoat, cald.
5. The comparative excedes the positive be more, and is formed of the positive be adding er; as, softer, harder; quhiter, blaker; hoater, calder.
6. The superlative excedes the positive be most, and is formed of the positive be adding est; as, softest, hardest; quhytest, blakest; hoatest, caldest.

OF THE VERB'S PERSON AND NUMBER.

CAP. 7.

1. This for the noun. The verb is a word of al persones declyned with mood and tyme; as, I wryte, thou wrytes, he wrytes.
2. We declyne not the persones and numberes of the verb, as doth the latine, but noat them be the person of the noun.
3. They are noated with I, thou, and he in the singular number; we, ye, and they in the plural.
4. The number is noated with I and we; thou and ye; he and they.

OF THE MOOD OF THE VERB.

CAP. 8.

1. The mood is an affection of the verb serving the varietie of utterance.
2. We utter the being of thinges or our awn wil.
3. The being of thinges is uttered be inquiring or avouing.
4. We inqyre of that we wald know; as, made God man without synne; and in this the supposit of the verb followes the verb.
5. We avoue that *quhilk* we know; as, God made man without sinne; and in this the supposit preceedes the verb.
- 31 6. We utter our wil be verbes signifying the form of our wil, or postposing the supposit.
7. We wish be wald god, god grant, and god nor; as, wald god I knew the secretes of nature.
8. We permit the will of otheres be letting; as, let God aryse; let everie man have his awn wyfe.
9. We bid our inferioures, and pray our superioures, be postponing the supposit to the verb; as, goe ye and teach al nationes; here me, my God.

OF THE TYME OF THE VERB.

CAP. 9.

1. Tyme is an affection of the verb noating the differences of tyme, and is either present, past, or to cum.
2. Tyme present is that *quhilk* now is; as, I wryte, or am wryting.
3. Tyme past is that *quhilk* was, and it is passing befoer, past els, or past befoer.
4. Tyme passing befoer, *quhilk* we cal imperfectlie past, is of a thing that was doeing but not done; as, at four hoeres I was wryting; Quhen you spak to me I was wryting, or did wryte, as Lillie expoundes it.
5. Tyme past els is of a thing now past, *quhilk* we cal perfectlie past; as, I have written.
6. Tyme past befoer is of a thing befoer done and ended; as, at four hoeres, or quhen you spak to me, I had written.
7. Tyme to cum is of that *quhilk* is not yet begun; as, at four hoeres I wil wryte.

OF THE POWER OF THE VERB.

CAP. 10.

1. A verb signifies being or doeing. Of being ther is onelie one, I am, and is thus varied.
2. In the present tyme, I am, thou art, he is; we are, ye are, they are.
- 32 3. In tyme passing befoer, I was, thou was, he was; we wer, ye wer, they wer.
4. In tyme past els, I have bene, thou hes bene, he hes bene; we have bene, ye have bene, they have bene.
5. In tyme past befoer, I had bene, thou had bene, he had bene; we had bene, ye had bene, they had bene.
6. In tyme to cum, I wil be, thou wilt be, he wil be; we wil be, ye wil be, they wil be.

7. Verbes of doing are actives or passives.
8. The active verb adheres to the person of the agent; as, Christ hath conquered hel and death.
9. The passive verb adheres to the person of the patient; as, hel and death are conquered be Christ.
10. These our idiom conjugates onelie in tuo tymes, the tyme present and tym past; as, I wryte, I wrote; I speak, I spak; I here, I hard; I se, I saw; I fele, I felt.
11. The other differences of tyme ar expressed be the notes of the verb of being, or be the verb of being it self, and a participle; as, I was wryting; I have written; I had written; I wil wryte.

OF THE ADVERB.

CAP. 11.

33

1. A word impersonal is *quhilk* in al formes of speach keepes one face, and this is adverb or conjunction.
2. An adverb is a word adhering mast commonlie with a verb with one face in al moodes, tymes, numbes and persones; as, I leve hardlie, thou leves hardlie; I did leve hardlie; I have leved hardlie; I had leved hardlie; I wil leave hardlie; leve he hardlie; God forbid he leve hardlie.
3. Our men confoundes adverbos of place, *quhilk* the south distinguishes as wel as the latin, and therfoer let us not shame to learne.
4. They use quher, heer, ther, for the place in *quhilk*; quence, hence, thence, for the place from quhilk; quither, hither, thither, for the place to *quhilk*; as, quher dwel you? quence cum you? quither goe you?
5. They also distinguish wel in, into, and unto: in, they use with the place quher; into, with the thing quither; and unto, for how far; as, our father, *quhilk* art in heavin, admit us into heavin, and lift us from the earth unto heavin.
6. Heer, becaus sum nounes incurre into adverbos, let us alsoe noat their differences.
7. First no and not. Noe is a noun, nullus in latin, and in our tongue alwayes precedes the substantive quhilk it nulleth; as, noe man, noe angle, noe god.
8. Not is an adverb, non in latin, and in our tong follows the verb that it nulleth; as, heer not, grant not; I heer not, I grant not; I wil not heer, I wil not grant.
9. Ane, in our idiom, and an. Ane is a noun of number, in latin unus; an a particule of determination preceding a voual, as we have said [cap. 3](#), sect. 4.
10. Thee and the. Thee is the accusative of thou; as, thou loves God, and God loves thee. The is the determined not of a noun, of *quhilk* we spak [cap. 3](#), sect. 3.

OF THE CONJUNCTION.

CAP. 12.

34

1. Conjunction is a word impersonal serving to cople diverse senses. And of it ther be tueo sortes, the one enunciative, and the other ratiocinative.
2. The conjunction enunciative copies the partes of a period, and are copulative, as and; connexive, as if; disjunctive, as or; or discretive, as howbe it.
3. The ratiocinative coples the partes of a ratiocination, and it either inferres the conclusion or the reason.
4. Therfoer inferres the conclusion; as, noe man can keep the law in thought, word, and deed: and therfoer noe man befor the judg of the hart, word, and deed, can be justified be the law.
5. Because inferres the reason; as, I wil spew the out, because thou art nether hoat nor cald.

OF DISTINCTIONES.

CAP. 13.

1. A distinction is quherbe sentences are distinguished in wryting and reading. And this is perfect or imperfect.
2. A perfect distinction closes a perfect sense, and is marked with a round punct, thus . or a tailed punct, thus ?
3. The round punct concludes an assertion; as, if Abraham was justified be workes, he had quherof to glorie.
4. The tailed punct concludes an interrogation; as, sal we, quha are dead to syn, leve to it?
5. The imperfect distinction divydes the partes of a period, and is marked with tueo punctes, the one under the other, thus : and is red with half the pause of a perfect punct; as, al have synned, and fallen from the glorie of god: but are justified frelie be his grace.
6. The *comma* divydes the least partes of the period, and is pronounced in reading with a

short sob.

7. The parenthesis divydes in the period a sentence interlaced on sum occurrences *quhilk* coheres be noe syntax wth that *quhilk* preceedes and followes; as, for exemple of beath, and to conclud this treatesse:

Bless, guyd, advance, preserve, prolong Lord (if thy pleasur be)
Our King *and* Queen, and keep their seed thy name to magnifie.

35

NOTES.

The foregoing Tract is one of great interest, not only on account of its intrinsic merit, but also for the racy style of writing adopted by its author. We find him continually garnishing his language with such idiomatic and colloquial expressions as the following:—"Quhae's sillie braine will reache no farther then the compas of their cap" (page 2); and again, "but will not presume to judge farther then the compasse of my awn cap" (p. 20). He observes of the printers and writers of his age that they care "for noe more arte then may win the pennie" (p. 2), and on the same page he says, "quhiles I stack in this claye," which appears to be equivalent to our term "stuck in the mud." At p. 3 he says, "and it wer but a clod;" at p. 14, "neither daer I, with al the oares of reason, row against so strang a tyde;" and again, on p. 18, we find reason under another aspect, thus, "noe man I trow can denye that ever suked the paepes of reason."

It seems that the expression, *Queen's English*, is by no means of modern date, as we have it as the *king's language* at p. 2.

Hume laments, in his Dedication, the uncertainty of the orthography prevailing at the time he writes, and yet we find him spelling words several different ways, even within the compass of a single sentence, without being able to lay the blame upon the printers; thus we find him writing judgement on p. 11, judge p. 8, and judg p. 33, but juge p. 18; and there are numberless other instances that it would be tedious to enumerate. Again, the author uses a mixture of Scotch and English, so we have sometimes ane and sometimes one; nae on page 1 and noe on p. 2; mare and mast, and more and most, even in the same sentence (p. 30); and two is spelt in three different ways, tuae, tuo, and tuoe.

36

Our author's stay in England appears to have drawn his attention to the differences between the two languages of Scotland and England, which he distinguishes as North and South. He certainly shows, in some instances, the greater correctness of the Scotch with regard to the spelling of words derived from the Latin; as, retine instead of retain, corage instead of courage, etc. (p. 20), in which words the redundant letters that we Southerners have introduced are thrown out. He is, however, by no means partial, and gives us praise when he thinks we deserve it.

Page 9. The arguments in favour of the sound given by the English Universities to the Latin *i* are curious: it is stated to have its value in the Greek εἰ; but the author seems to have been in error as to the English sounding mihi and tibi alike, or our pronunciation must have changed since his time.

P. 10. The author speaks of the letter *y* as being used by the South for the sound now symbolized by *i* with a final *e* following the succeeding consonant, as *will* with an *i*, and *wile* with a *y* in place of the *i* and final *e*; thus in the same way he spells write, *wryt*.

P. 11 (7). He gives food, good, blood, as examples of the same sound, thus inferring that the English pronounced the two latter so as to rhyme with food.

P. 11 (8). He objects to the use of *w* for *u* in the diphthongal sound of *ou*, and therefore spells *how*, *now*, etc., *hou*, *nou*.

P. 11 (10). It is difficult here to see what the pronunciation of *buu* would be, which the author gives as the sound of bow (to bow). Probably the sound he meant would be better represented by *boo*.

P. 13 (12). The author here recommends the distinction both of sound and symbol of *j* and *v* as consonants, and *i* and *u* as vowels, and proposes that we should call *j* *jod* or *je*, and *v* *vau* or *ve*, and not single *u*, "as now they doe" (p. 16), and *w* he would call *wau* or *we*, and moreover he places them in his alphabet on the same page. If this proposal was originally his own, it is curious that the name *ve* should have been adopted, though not the *we* for *w*. Ben Jonson points out the double power of *i* and *v* as both consonant and vowel, but he does not attempt to make them into separate letters as Hume does.

P. 15 (12). He gives as an anomaly of the South that while the *d* is inserted before *g* in hedge, bridge, etc., it is omitted in age, suage, etc. He does not see that the short vowel requires a double consonant to prevent it from being pronounced long.

P. 21 (6). He disputes the possibility of a final *e*, separated from a preceding vowel by a consonant, having any effect whatever in altering the sound of the preceding vowel, and recommends the use of a diphthong to express the sound required; as, hoep for hope, fier for fire, bied for bide, befoer for before, maed for made, etc. He uniformly throughout follows this rule.

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P. 22 (5). Hume here accents difficultie on the antepenultimate instead of the first syllable.

P. [23](#) (7). He puts down outrage as an instance of two distinct words joined by a hyphen, which is the derivation given by Ash in his dictionary, in strange obliviousness of the French word *outrage*.

P. [27](#) (1, 6). *T* is omitted after *s* in the second person singular of the verb, and so no distinction is made between the second and the third persons; thus, thou wrytes, and at p. [32](#) thou was, and thou hes.

P. [29](#) (7). The supposition that the apostrophe 's as a mark of the possessive case is a segment of his, a question which has been lately revived, is here denied.

P. [34](#). In this last chapter on Punctuation, which the author styles "of Distinctiones," no mention whatever is made of the "semicolon," though it occurs frequently in the MS., as, for instance, p. [30](#), cap. 6. This stop, according to Herbert, was first used by Richard Grafton in *The Byble* printed in 1537: it occurs in the Dedication. Henry Denham, an English printer who flourished towards the close of the sixteenth century, was the first to use it with propriety.

P. [34](#) (6). The explanation of the mode of pronouncing the comma "with a short *sob*" is odd.⁵ The author continually uses a singular verb to a plural noun; for instance, "of this we, as the latines, hes almost no use" (p. [22](#)), though on p. [20](#) he writes, "in our tongue we have some particles."

With regard to the Manuscript, there are two corrections in it worth noting. At p. [10](#) (6), in the phrase, "the auctours *whole* drift," the word had been originally written *hael*, but is marked through, and *whole* substituted for it in the same handwriting. At p. [21](#) (4), the word *frensh* has been inserted before *exemples*, but has been afterwards struck through.

The numbering is wrong in three places, but it has not been corrected. At p. [8](#) there are no sections 12 and 13, at pp. [17](#), [19](#), there are two cap. 7, and at p. [19](#) there are two sections 4.

GLOSSARIAL INDEX.

[The words in the present Tract that really required to be glossed are but few; I have, however, inserted in the following list most of the variations from ordinary modern usage, in order that it may serve as an Index.]

Af = of, p. [9](#).

Af = off, p. [12](#)

Ald = old, pp. [3](#), [21](#), [28](#)

Amangs = amongst, p. [18](#)

Ane = a, one

Angle = angel, p. [33](#)

Auctoritie = authority, pp. [22](#), [29](#)

Aun = own, pp. [2](#), [3](#), [7](#), [8](#), [11](#), [15](#)

Awn = own, pp. [11](#), [18](#), [20](#), [30](#), [31](#)

Awn = proper, pp. [9](#), [11](#), [13](#), [15](#)

Awne = proper, p. [14](#)

Awne = own, p. [10](#)

Baeth = both, pp. [8](#), [34](#)

Bathe = both, p. [17](#)

Be = by

Britan = British

Cald = cold, pp. [30](#), [33](#);

caldest, p. [30](#)

Cales = calls, pp. [10](#), [22](#)

Chirt = a squirt, or a squeeze through the teeth, pp.

[13](#), [14](#). See Ruddiman's Glossary to G. Douglas

(*chirtand*)

Cold = could, p. [20](#)

Coples = couples, p. [33](#)

Corage = courage, p. [20](#)

Crouse = brisk, p. [28](#)

Cum = come, pp. [11](#), [31](#);

cumes = comes, p. [29](#)

Devore = devour, p. [20](#)

Devote = devout, p. [20](#)

Distinctiones = punctuation, p. [34](#)

Doon = done, p. [21](#)

Doting = giving, p. [3](#)

Earand = errand, p. [8](#)

Evin = even, p. [29](#)

Faer = fair, p. [28](#)

Falt = fault, pp. [15](#), [20](#)

Fand = found, p. [1](#)

Fele = feel, p. [32](#)

Felles = lowers, p. [22](#)

Finnes = fineness, p. [2](#)

Of = off, p. [23](#)

Ones, at ones = at once, p. [18](#)

Paen = trouble, p. [2](#)

Paert = part, p. [10](#)

Peple = people, pp. [20](#), [29](#)

Phason = pheasant (?), p. [13](#)

Pover = poor, p. [3](#)

Punct = stop, p. [34](#)

Qu.

At p. [18](#) the author gives his reasons for making use of the guttural *qu* in the place of the labial *w*.

The following are the words in which it is thus used:—

Quha = who, pp. [2](#), [3](#), [34](#)

Quhae = who, pp. [1](#), [10](#);

quhae's = whose, p. [2](#)

Quhaer = where, p. [2](#)

Quhar = where, p. [29](#)

Quharein = wherein, p. [14](#)

Quharof = whereof, p. [16](#)

Quhat = what, pp. [2](#), [8](#), [15](#), [17](#), [18](#), [28](#)

Quhatever = whatever, p. [19](#)

Quhen = when, pp. [2](#), [9](#), [11](#), [23](#), [31](#)

Quhence = whence, pp. [29](#), [32](#)

Quher = where, pp. [2](#), [14](#), [20](#), [32](#)

Quheras = whereas, p. [14](#)

Quherat = whereat, p. [18](#)

Quherbe = whereby, pp. [11](#), [34](#)

Quherfoer, quherforr = wherefore, pp. [7](#), [8](#), [10](#), [15](#)

Quherin = wherein, pp. [20](#), [22](#).

Quherof = whereof, pp. [29](#), [34](#)

Quheron = whereon, p. [22](#)

Quherupon = whereupon, pp. [8](#), [27](#)

Quherwith = wherewith, p. [2](#)

Quhil, quhiles = while, p. [2](#)

Quhilk = which

Quhither = whether, pp. [11](#), [17](#), [18](#), [20](#), [32](#)

Quho = who, pp. [12](#), [14](#), [15](#), [18](#), [22](#)

Quhom = whom

Quhy = why, pp. [20](#), [21](#), [29](#)

Quhyte = white, p. [30](#);

quhiter, p. [30](#);

quhytest, p. [30](#)

Fontan = fountain, p. [11](#)
 Foran = foreign, p. [20](#)
 Frelie = freely, p. [34](#)

Geve = give, pp. [7](#), [8](#), [9](#), [12](#), [28](#), [29](#)
 Gif = if, p. [21](#)
 Glim = glimpse, p. [2](#)
 Gud = good, pp. [2](#), [18](#), [21](#), [28](#), [29](#)

Hael = hail, p. [10](#)
 Hald = hold, p. [14](#);
 haldes, p. [29](#)
 Hame = home, p. [2](#)
 Hard = heard, pp. [2](#), [3](#), [13](#), [14](#), [22](#), [32](#)
 Hart = heart, p. [33](#)
 Heal = whole, p. [10](#)
 Heer = hear, p. [33](#)
 Here = hear, pp. [31](#), [32](#)
 Hes = has, pp. [3](#), [14](#), [15](#), [19](#), [22](#), [32](#)
 Hes = hast, p. [32](#)
 Hes = have, pp. [20](#), [22](#)
 Hoat = hot, pp. [18](#), [30](#), [33](#);
 hoater, p. [30](#)
 Hoore = hours, p. [31](#)

Ida, Scotland or Edinburgh, p. [2](#)
 Incurre, v. = to run into. Lat. *incurro*, pp. [20](#), [33](#)

Ken = know, p. [21](#)
 Kep, v. = to intercept, p. [14](#)
 Kepping = receiving in the act of falling, p. [12](#).
Jamieson.
 Knau = know, p. [2](#)
 Knaulege = knowledge, pp. [3](#), [10](#);
 knowlege, pp. [11](#), [21](#)
 Knaw = know, pp. [7](#), [30](#);
 knawe, p. [21](#);
 knawen = known, p. [29](#)

Laggared = loitered or rested, p. [2](#)
 Lang = long, pp. [9](#), [14](#)
 Leave = live, p. [32](#)
 Leve = live, pp. [32](#), [34](#)
 Leving = living, p. [11](#)
 Louse = loose, p. [9](#)
 Lykwayes = likewise, p. [19](#)

Maer = more, pp. [2](#), [10](#)
 Maest = most, pp. [1](#), [2](#), [16](#)
 Man = must, p. [8](#)
 Mare = more, p. [30](#)
 Mast = most, pp. [30](#), [32](#)
 Meer = mare, p. [28](#)
 Middes = middle, p. [16](#)
 Mikle = much, pp. [13](#), [18](#), [19](#), [20](#)
 Mint = aim, pressure, p. [18](#)
 Minted = attempted, p. [15](#)
 Moat, probably *moot*, discussion, chat, etc., p. [2](#). A.S.
mót
 Moe = more, pp. [16](#), [19](#), [21](#), [27](#)
 Moien = means for attaining an end, p. [2](#). *Jamieson.*
 Fr. *moyen*
 Mont = mount, p. [20](#)
 Montan = mountain, pp. [3](#), [11](#), [28](#)
 Mynt = aim, pp. [12](#), [17](#)

Nae = no, pp. [1](#), [8](#)
 Nane = none, p. [13](#)
 Noat, v. = note, pp. [19](#), [22](#), [27](#), [28](#), [29](#), [30](#), [31](#), [33](#)
 Noat = note, pp. [7](#), [13](#), [28](#), [29](#);
 noate, p. [28](#);
 noates = notes, p. [29](#)

Nor = than, p. [3](#)
 Nor, God nor, p. [31](#).
 This most probably means God comfort or nourish us, connected with *norice*, a nurse, and *norie*, a foster-child. There is also a substantive *nore* in Chaucer, meaning comfort. *Norne* is to entreat, ask (see *Alliterative Poems* Glossary), and may have something to do with this expression, but it is hardly so probable as the above

Noute = black cattle, p. [27](#);
 connected with *neat*, as in neat-cattle, neat-herd

Nulleth = negatives, p. [33](#)
 Nurice = nurse, p. [19](#)

Quod = quoth, p. [18](#)

Rease = rose, p. [18](#)
 Red = read, p. [34](#)
 Regne = reign, p. [20](#)
 Retine = retain, p. [20](#)
 Ryseth = ariseth, p. [9](#)

Sa = so, p. [21](#);
 sae = so, p. [17](#)
 Sal = shall, pp. [9](#), [11](#), [23](#), [34](#)
 Sall = shall, pp. [8](#), [22](#)
 Shaued = showed, p. [7](#)
 Shour = shower, p. [10](#)
 Sib = related, p. [21](#)
 Sik = such, pp. [1](#), [2](#), [8](#), [9](#), [11](#), [17](#), [29](#)
 Sillie = wretched, poor, p. [2](#)
 Skuiographie,
 probably an invented word, the intention of the author being to oppose skew or askew to *ορθος*, straight. It has been suggested that it may be intended for sciagraphy, *σκιαγραφία*, also spelt sciography; but this is improbable, as the meaning of that word, viz., the art of shadows, including dialling, is so inappropriate in this passage, p. [2](#)
 Sould = should, pp. [7](#), [8](#), [11](#), [12](#), [13](#), [17](#), [18](#), [19](#), [22](#), [28](#), [29](#)
 Spering = inquiring, p. [18](#)
 Spil = destroy, spoil(?), p. [13](#);
 spill, p. [22](#)
 Spilt = corrupted, spoilt(?), p. [2](#)
 Stack = stuck, p. [2](#)
 Stean = stone, p. [8](#)
 Stiddie = anvil, pp. [12](#), [17](#)
 "And my imaginations are as foul
 As Vulcan's stithy."
 Hamlet, Act iii., sc. 2
 Strang = strong, p. [14](#)
 Sum = some, pp. [8](#), [9](#), [10](#), [21](#), [34](#)
 Supposit = subject, pp. [30](#), [31](#)
 Syllab = syllable, pp. [14](#), [15](#), [16](#), [18](#), [21](#), [22](#);
 syllabes, p. [8](#).
 Ben Jonson spells this word *syllabe* in his English Grammar
 Syne = since, p. [1](#)

Tal = tale, p. [9](#)
 Tal = tail, p. [9](#)
 Tale = tall, p. [28](#)
 Trow = believe, pp. [13](#), [18](#)
 Tuae = two, pp. [1](#), [8](#), [9](#), [10](#), [22](#), [23](#)
 Tuelfe = twelve, p. [3](#)
 Tuich = touch, pp. [7](#), [13](#), [15](#), [17](#);
 tuiches, p. [11](#)
 Tuiched = touched, pp. [3](#), [17](#)
 Tuich stone = touchstone, p. [19](#)
 Tyme passing befoer = imperfect tense, pp. [31](#), [32](#)
 Tyme past befoer = pluperfect tense, pp. [31](#), [32](#)
 Tyme past els = perfect tense, pp. [31](#), [32](#)

Vadimonie = recognisance, p. [22](#). Lat. *Vadimonium*.
 Voce = voice, p. [20](#)

Waet = know, p. [14](#)
 Wait = know, p. [11](#)
 Wald = would, pp. [1](#), [2](#), [9](#), [10](#), [13](#), [14](#), [16](#), [20](#), [21](#), [30](#), [31](#)
 Warkes = works, p. [29](#)
 Weer = war, p. [3](#)
 Were = war, p. [20](#)
 Whither = whether, p. [2](#).
 The author in this place uses the letter *w* instead of *qu*, although at p. [18](#) he is so strenuous against its use
 Wrang = wrong, pp. [2](#), [9](#), [11](#)

Ye = yea, p. [14](#)
 Yeld = yield, p. [21](#)

.1.

Early English Text Society.

Report of the Committee, January, 1865.

The close of the first year of the Society's operations affords the Committee the welcome opportunity of congratulating the members on the Society's success. Instead of two Texts, which the first Circular to the Society suggested might perhaps be issued, the Committee have been enabled to publish four, and these four such as will bear comparison, as to rareness and intrinsic value, with the publications of any of the longest established societies of the kingdom. The *Arthur* was edited for the first time from a unique MS., wholly unknown to even the latest writers on the subject, and exhibits our national hero's life in a simpler form than even Geoffrey of Monmouth, or Layamon. The *Early English Alliterative Poems*, though noticed long ago by Dr. Guest and Sir F. Madden, for their great philological and poetical value, had been inaccessible to all but students of the difficult and faded MS. in the British Museum: they have been now made public by the Society's edition, with their large additions to our vocabulary, and their interesting dialectal formations. The *Sir Gawayne*, from the same MS., could only have been had before in Sir Frederick Madden's rare and costly edition, printed by the Bannatyne Club. And the *Lauder* has restored, as it were, to Scotland, a Poet whose name had found no place in the standard History of Scottish Poetry, and the Biographical Dictionaries.

.2.

Though the Society started late in the past year, these four Texts were published within a fortnight of its close; and before that time the first Text for the second year was in the printer's hands. The Committee pledge themselves to continue their exertions to render the Texts issued worthy of the Society, and to complete the issue of each set within the year assigned to it. They rely with confidence on the Subscribers to use their best endeavours to increase the list of Members, in order that funds may not be wanting to print the material that editors place at their service. The aim of the Committee is, on the one hand, to print all that is most valuable of the yet unprinted MSS. in English, and, on the other, to re-edit and reprint all that is most valuable in printed English books, which from their scarcity or price are not within the reach of the student of moderate means.⁶ Those relating to KING ARTHUR will be the Committee's first care; those relating to our Language and its Dialects the second; while in due proportion with these, will be mixed others of general interest, though with no one special common design. The Committee hope that no year will pass without the issue of one Text in the Northern dialect, as well in acknowledgment of the support that the Society has received in Scotland, as to obviate the hitherto limited circulation of the works of the early Scotch writers among students south of the Humber.

.3.

The publications for 1864 are:—

- 1. Early English Alliterative Poems in the West Midland Dialect of the fourteenth century (ab. 1320-30 A.D.). Edited for the first time from a unique MS. in the British Museum, with Notes and Glossarial Index, by Richard Morris, Esq. 16s.
- 2. Arthur. Edited for the first time from the Marquis of Bath's MS. (ab. 1440 A.D.), by F. J. Furnivall, Esq., M.A. 4s.
- 3. Ane compendious and breve Tractate, concernyng ye office and dewtie of Kyngis, Spirituall Pastoris, and temporall Jugis; laittlie compylit be William Lauder. Reprinted from the edition of 1556, and edited by Prof. Fitz-Edward Hall, D.C.L. 4s.
- 4. Sir Gawayne and the Green Knight. Edited by R. Morris, Esq., from the Cottonian MS., Nero, A x. (ab. 1320-30 A.D.) 10s.

The publications for the present year (1865) will comprise Texts from at least four unique MSS., two of which will be edited for the first time.

- 5. Of the Orthographie and Congruitie of the Britan Tongue, a treatise noe shorter then necessarie, be Alexander Hume. Edited for the first time from the MS. in the British Museum (ab. 1617 A.D.), by Henry B. Wheatley, Esq. 4s.
- 6. Syr Lancelot du Lak. Edited from the MS. in the Cambridge University Library (15th century), by the Rev. Walter W. Skeat, M.A. [In the Press.]
- 7. Morte Arthure: the Alliterative Version. Edited from Robert Thorntone's MS. (ab. 1440 A.D.) at Lincoln, by the Rev. F. C. Massingberd, M.A.
- 8. Various Poems relating to Sir Gawayne. Edited from the MSS. by Richard Morris, Esq.
- 9. Merlin, or the Early History of Arthur. Edited for the first time from the MS. in the Cambridge University Library (ab. 1450 A.D.), by F. J. Furnivall, Esq. Part I.

.4.

Also, the following, if the amount of subscriptions will justify the Committee in issuing them:—

Animadversions upon the Annotations and Corrections of some imperfections of Impressions of Chaucer's Workes reprinted in 1598, by Francis Thynne. Edited from the MS. in the Bridgewater Library, by Henry B. Wheatley, Esq.

The Story of Genesis and Exodus in English verse of about 1300 A.D. To be edited for the first time from the unique MS. in the Library of Corpus Christi Coll., Cambridge, by F. J. Furnivall and R. Morris,

Esqrs.

The Harrowing of Hell. To be edited from the MS. in the Bodleian Library, by R. F. Weymouth, Esq.

The following is a list of Texts, which it is proposed to print (among others) in future years:—

The Romance of Arthour and Merlin. To be edited from the Auchinleck MS. (ab. 1320-30 A.D.)

Mirk's Duties of a Parish Priest. To be edited for the first time from the MSS. in the British Museum and Bodleian Libraries (ab. 1420 A.D.), by E. Peacock, Esq.

The Romance of William and the Werwolf. To be edited from the unique MS. in the Library of King's Coll., Cambridge.

The Gospel of Nicodemus in the Northumbrian Dialect. To be edited for the first time from Harl. MS. 4196, &c., Cotton-Galba E ix., by R. Morris, Esq.

.5. The Romance of Melusine. To be edited for the first time from the unique MS. in the Library of Trinity College, Cambridge.

Syr Thomas Maleor's Mort d'Arthur. To be edited from Caxton's edition (1485 A.D.) with a new Preface, Notes, and a Glossary.

The Arthur Ballads.

The Romance of Sir Tristrem. To be edited from the Auchinleck MS.

The English Charlemagne Romances. To be edited from the Auchinleck MS.

The Early English Version of the Gesta Romanorum. To be edited from the MSS. in the British Museum and other Libraries.

The two different Versions of Piers Plowman, in parallel columns.

Gawain Douglas's Æneis. To be edited from the Cambridge MS. by Professor Fitz-Edward Hall, D.C.L.

The Romance of Kyng Horn. To be edited from the MS. in the Library of the University of Cambridge.

Robert of Brunne's Handlyng Synne, a treatise on the sins, and sketches of the manners, of English men and women in A.D. 1303. To be re-edited from the MSS. in the British Museum and Bodleian Libraries by F. J. Furnivall, Esq., M.A.

Cursor Mundi, the best dialectal version. To be edited from the MS. by Richard Morris, Esq.

The History of the Saint Graal or Sank Ryal. By Henry Lonelich, Skynner (ab. 1440 A.D.). To be re-edited from the unique MS. in the Library of Corpus Christi Coll., Cambridge, by F. J. Furnivall, Esq., M.A.

Dan Michel's Ayenbite of Inwyt, the most valuable specimen of the Kentish dialect, 1340 A.D. To be edited from the MS. in the British Museum by Richard Morris, Esq.

.6. Froissart's Chronicles translated out of Frenche into our maternall Englyshe Tonge, by Johan Bouchier Knight, Lord Berners. To be edited by Henry B. Wheatley, Esq.

Skelton's Translation of Diodorus Siculus, oute of freshe Latin, that is of Poggius Florentinus, containing six books. To be edited for the first time from the unique MS. in the Library of Corpus Christi Coll., Cambridge.

Sir David Lyndesay's Monarche. Edited by Prof. Fitz-Edward Hall, D.C.L., from the first edition by Jhone Skott.

Some of the earliest English Dictionaries, as—Abecedarium Anglico-latinum, by Richard Huloet (1552); and Baret's Alvearie or Quadruple Dictionarie, to be edited from the editions of 1573 and 1580 by Henry B. Wheatley, Esq.

The Subscription is £1 1s. a year, due in advance on the 1st of January, and should be paid either to the Society's Account at the Union Bank of London, 14, Argyll Place, W., or by Post Office Order to the Hon. Secretary, 53, Berners Street, London, W.; to whom Subscribers' names and addresses should be sent.

The Committee wish to draw the attention of the Subscribers to the fact that the Society's Account has been transferred from the London and Birmingham Bank to the Regent Street Branch of the Union Bank of London.

The Committee invite offers of voluntary assistance from those who may be willing to edit or copy Texts, or to lend them books for reprinting or for re-reading with the original MSS.

The Honorary Secretary's Cash Account is annexed.

.7. *Abstract of the Income and Expenditure of the EARLY ENGLISH TEXT SOCIETY for the Year ending December 31st, 1864.*

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WILSON, Edward J., Esq., 6, Whitefriars Gate, Hull.

WRIGHT, W. Aldis, Esq., Trinity College, Cambridge.

YOUNG, Alexander, Esq., 38, Elm Bank Crescent, Glasgow.

STEPHEN AUSTIN, PRINTER, HERTFORD.

FOOTNOTES

1. Wood's *Fasti Oxonienses*, by Bliss, I., 217.

2. M'Crie's *Life of Melville*, vol. ii., p. 509.

3. "An Alvearie or Quadruple Dictionarie, containing four sundrie tongues, namelie, English, Latine, Greeke and French ... by Jo. Baret. *London*, 1580." Folio. An edition was published in 1573, with three languages only, the Greek not being included.

4. "De recta et emendata Linguæ Anglicæ Scriptione Dialogus. *Lutetiæ*, 1568." 4to.

5. It will be here as well to mention that as the punctuation in the MS. is extremely unsystematic, it has been dispensed with whenever the meaning was confused by it.

6. "A vast mass of our early literature is still unprinted, and much that has been printed has, as the late Herbert Coleridge remarked, 'been brought out by Printing Clubs of exclusive constitution, or for private circulation only, and might, for all that the public in general is the better for them, just as well have remained in manuscript, being, of course, utterly unprocurable, except in great libraries, and not always there.' It is well known that the Hon. G. P. Marsh, the author of 'The Origin and History of the English Language,' could not

procure for use in his work a copy of 'Havelok' for love or money; and the usual catalogue-price of 'William and the Werwolf,' or 'The Early English Gesta Romanorum,' etc., etc., is six guineas, when the book should be obtainable for less than a pound. Notwithstanding the efforts of the Percy, Camden, and other Societies and Printing Clubs, more than half our early printed literature—including the Romances relating to our national hero, Arthur—is still inaccessible to the student of moderate means; and it is a scandal that this state of things should be allowed to continue.... Those who would raise any objection to these re-editions—as a few have raised them—are asked to consider the absurdity and injustice of debarring a large number of readers from the enjoyment of an old author, because a living editor has once printed his works, when the feeling of the editor himself is well expressed in the words of one of the class, 'You are heartily welcome to all I have ever done. I should rejoice to see my books in the hands of a hundred, where they are now on the shelves of one.'"—*Extract from the first Prospectus.*

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