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THE DIARY

OF

JOHN EVELYN, ESQ., F.R.S.

FROM 1641 TO 1705-6.

WITH MEMOIR.

EDITED BY

WILLIAM BRAY, ESQ.,

FELLOW AND TREASURER OF THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF LONDON

LONDON

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1895

greate supper; all the vessells, which were innumerable, were of Porcelan, she having the most ample and richest collection of that curiositie in England.

22. I went with my brother Evelyn to Wotton to give him what directions I was able about his garden, which he was now desirous to put into some forme; but for which he was to remove a mountaine overgrowne with huge trees and thicket, with a moate within 10 yards of the house. This my brother immediately attempted, and that without greate cost, for more than an hundred yards South, by digging downe the mountaine and flinging it into a rapid streame, it not onely carried away the sand, &c. but filled up the moate, and level'd that noble area, where now the garden and fountaine is. The first occasion of my brother making this alteration was my building the little retiring place betweene the greate wood Eastward next the meadow, where sometime after my father's death I made a triangular pond, or little stew, with an artificial rock after my coming out of Flanders.

29 Mar. I heard that excellent Prelate the Primate of Ireland (Jacob: Usher) preach in Lincoln's Inn, on 4 Hebrews, v. 16, encouraging of penitent sinners.

5 April. My brother Geo. brought to Says Court Cromwell's Act of Oblivion to all that would submit to the Government.

13. News was brought me that Lady Cotton, my brother George's wife, was deliver'd of a son.

I was moved by a letter out of France to publish the letter which sometime since I sent to Deane Cosin's proselyted son; but I did not conceive it convenient, for feare of displeasing her Majesty the Queene.

15. I wrote to the Deane touching my buying his library, which was one of the choicest collections of any private person in England.

The Count de Strade most generously and handsomely sent me the picture of my wife from Dynkirk in a large tin case, without any charge. It is of Mr. Bourdon, and is that which has the dog in it, and is to the knees, but unfortunately it has been something spoil'd by washing it ignorantly with soap-suds.

25. I went to visit Ald. Kendrick, a Fanatic Lord Mayor, who had married a relation of ours, where I met with a Captain who had been thirteen times to the East Indies.

29. Was that celebrated eclipse of the sun so much threatened by the astrologers, and which had so exceedingly alarm'd the whole Nation that hardly any one would worke, nor stir out of their houses. So ridiculously were they abus'd by knavish and ignorant star-gazers.

We went this afternoone to see the Queene's House at Greenwich, now given by the rebels to Bulstrode Whitlock, one of their unhappy counsellors, and keeper of pretended liberties.

10 May. Passing by Smithfield I saw a miserable creature burning who had murder'd her husband. I went to see some workmanship of

that admirable artist Reeves, famous for perspective and the turning of curiosities in ivorie.

29. I went to take order about a coach to be made against my wife's coming, being my first coach, the pattern whereof I had brought out of Paris.

30. I went to obtain of my Lord of Devonshire that my nephew George might be brought up with my young Lord his son, to whom I was recommending Mr. Wase. I also inspected the manner of chamberling silk and grograms at one Monsieur La Dorees in Morefields, and thence to Coll. Morley, one of their Councel of State, as then call'd, who had ben my scholefellow, to request a passe for my wife's safe landing, and the goods she was to bring with her out of France, which he courteously granted, and did me many other kindnesses, that was a greate matter in those daies.

30. In the afternoone at Charlton Church, where I heard a Rabini-cal sermon. Here is a faire monument in black marble of Sir Adam Newton, who built that faire house neere it for Prince Henry, and where my noble friend Sir Henry Newton succeeded him.

3 June. I receiv'd a letter from Collonel Morley to the Magistrates and Searchers at Rie, to assist my wife at her landing and to shew her all civility.

4. I set out to meet her now on her journey from Paris, after she had obtain'd leave to come out of that City, which had now ben besieged some time by the Prince of Condé's armie in the time of the rebellion, and after she had ben now neere twelve yeares from her owne country, that is since five yeares of age, at which time she went over. I went to Rie to meet her, where was an embargo on occasion of the late conflict with the Holland fleete, the two Nations being now in warr, and which made sailing very unsafe.

On Whitsunday I went to the Church (which is a very faire one), and heard one of their Canters, who dismiss'd the assembly rudely and without any blessing. Here I stay'd till the 10th with no small impatience, when I walk'd over to survey the ruines of Winchelsea, that ancient Cinq-port, which by the remaines and ruines of ancient streetes and public structures discovers it to have ben formerly a considerable and large City. There are to be seene vast caves and vaults, walls and towers, ruines of monasteries and of a sumptuous church, in which are some handsom monuments, especialy of the Templars, buried just in the manner of those in the Temple at London. This place being now all in rubbish, and a few despicable hovells and cottages onely standing, hath yet a Mayor. The sea which formerly render'd it a rich and commodious port has now forsaken it.

11. About 4 in the afternoone being at bowles on the Greene, we discover'd a vessell, which prov'd to be that in which my wife was, and which got into the harbour about 8 that evening to my no small joy. They