



# To the Right Honorable Sir Hen- rie Sidney, Knight of the noble order of the

garter, Lotde President of her Maiesties Councill in the Mar-  
ches of Wales and the principality thereof, and one of  
her Maiesties most honorable privie Council: *And to*

the Right Worshipfull Sir Phillip Sidney Knight, Iohn

*Stell wiseth long life, and happy daies, with  
increase of honour.*



It is a wife, and not so wise as true a  
saying of a trauelled writer (Right  
Honorable and Noble) vttered vp-  
pon his owne experience, that hee  
was alwaies of opinion and minde,  
that the perfect prayle of wisedome  
and learning, is not to be sought for  
in booke, but to be gotten by verie  
use and practise. They therefore that  
by continuall studie, and incessant

*The studious  
are not only  
wise: but esse  
As experience  
of Trauelles,*

reading do vsurpe & challenge to themselves the title of know-  
ledge, are not alone to be iudged wise; but they rather much  
more are to be esteemed such, who setting apart al other their  
private busineses and affaires (though to them very advanta-  
geable) are conversant in this worlde as in a Theater of mans  
life, and by due triall are taught the diuersities of countries, the  
differences of peoples manners, the examples of life, and mani-  
fold things besides, which Trauellers doe comprehend with  
their eie, and compass by their wit. For what is more discom-  
mendable, what more vnbecoming a man that is studious, spe-  
cially being nobly borne, than alwaies to abide at home like a  
snail in the shel, to waxe olde in vayne pleasure without praise,  
and

## The Epistle

and vnecessary leysure, without profit, and not to meditate & thinke that at one time or other it is meete to hoover with the wings, to leaue the nest, and to flie abroad, that they may aspire to the knowledge, and attaine to the sight of great matters, wherewith they shal neuer be acquainted, otherwise than by the booke or the map, which differ as much in mouing the imagination and other faculties of the mind, as the representation of a thing in a glasse or a paynted table, doth vary from the thing represented? To vnder take traouling, the vtilitie (which is not small) springing from thence, shoulde inuente all liberall mindes and free natures. And in truth, none are so muche adorned and benefited by peregrination as Noble and Great men; though doubtlesse it is not deniable, that common men, (I meane not triobular mates) men I say, of base descent and lineage, haue thereby not only bin commended to the Honorable; but also their owne experience and triall of occurrences in traouling, doth procure thus much more than ordinary vnto them, that they are among men vntrauelled as Hercules among the smaller flarres. For when wee eyther heare or reade of fruitefull countries, of well gouerned commonwealthes, of true religion and diuine worship, of learned men, of trayning vp youth, of manners and behauiours &c: is it not sweete in euery ones eare, is it not woorth the vnderstanding, doth it not deserue diligent marking and remembering? But yet much more pleasaunt, and profitable is it to view the very things them selues, to behold them, and to see them with satietie, as the Poet very aptly saith:

*That which we heare with ourwarde eare,*

*moves not the minde so much,*

*As that which beames of rowling eyes,  
attene vnto and touch.*

A certaine Traueller, but (as maybe bee suspected by the course of his writing) superstitious, according to his time, speaking of a voyage of his owne, saith thus: Shoulde it grieue or repent me of my peregrination to Rome, specially in the yeare of Iubile? No in truth, For such things as were doubtfull to

me,

## Dedicatorie.

me, before vncertaine, & as a shadow, are now, by the infallible testimonie of mine eyes assured vnto me: with singular credite, and haue raised vp in me an exceeding delectation & astonishment. They therefore at no hand deserue the hearing, which being induced by an argument drawn from the greatnesse of the labors, & the dangerouines of circumstances incident vnto traouling, suppose that the same is to be laide a sleepe, to be omitted, & not medled with at all. But what (think we) may be objected against those shelsnailes? This truly, that people are borne to paynes taking, as birds to flying. Aristotle in his Ethicks requiring a capable hearer of his morall preceptes, reiecteth infantes and olde men as insufficient: which two degrees of age do seeme (in some mens thinking) vnfit for traouling: because the one, by reason of their multiplied yeeres, are to be releasd from the tediousnesse thereof; the other also, in respect of want in iudgement, vnderstanding and strength, are wholly to be sequestred from it. But I do much mislike their opinion, and the reasons likewise thereto annexed. For though infantes are vnfit for peregrination, yet to exclude olde men, as vnapt, is (in my poore conceipt) palpable erroneous. For in a matter nothing doubtfull to vse needlesse proofes, as Tullie neatly saith we haue an example of Iacob, an old man, & full of yeeres, who notwithstanding trauelled out of his owne countrey into Aegypt, partly by constraint of famine, and partly also for hys sonne Iosephs sake, whom naturally he loued. Agayne, if olde men are condemned as vnfit for peregrination, then truly (by the same comparison) women much more whom the same Aristotle tearemeth vnperfect creatures. But the Queene of the South, hearing of Solomons wisdom, glory, and mightinesse left the territories of her owne dominions, to see him with her eyes, whose incomparable renowne had amazed her hearte. So then by these instaunces the former reason seemeth too halte, and the Authour thereof to haue saide somewhat, but yet with little aduisement and to small purpose. I might adde to these Hagiographycall examples, other testimonies deduced and brought out of prophane Chronologies, both

# Dedicatorie.

wifedomes wil esteeme of it, as the commendable labours of an  
 1. aduenturous and skilfull trauelled Gentleman, doth requyre:  
 which is the vttermost, and in-deede all in all, that I can wish;  
 sauing health, and happye dayes to your Honors, with the ful-  
 nesse of all vertue, and perfect noblenesse.

## Your Honors most hum- ble to be commanded,

John Stell.

# The Epistle

both auncient and moderne; were it not that I feare the cen-  
 sure of some politike Hanniball, and incurre deserued blame  
 for talking fondly of a thing wherein I haue no practise, as som-  
 times did foolifed Phormio. Onely this I say, that the greatest  
 commendation and praise of a traueler is, not onely to talke  
 1. by knowledge roundly of such famous Cities, Countries, peo-  
 ple, and other straunge obiectes as he hath seene; but also to  
 2. speake their language redily, to learne their manners desirouf-  
 ly, to know their religion perfectly, their pollicie throughly,  
 3. their government absolutely, and all things els, that hee may  
 4. employ himselfe about profitably; as it is recorded of Vlisses,  
 whom Ascham out of Homer commendeth in these words:

*All trauelers doe gladly report great praise of Vlisses,  
 For that he knew many manners, and saw many cities.*

And as histories beare witness of Mithridates the King of  
 Pontus, whose peregrinations and expeditions into forreyne  
 landes was so beneficiall, that (besides a number of vnnamed  
 commodities) he had the exquisite vse of two and twenty sun-  
 dry tongues. But nowe (Right honorable and Noble) to stop  
 this flowing streame of wordes, I leaue to the leuell of your ex-  
 act considerations the manifold vtilities of peregrination, be-  
 cause you are completely furnished with knowledge and expe-  
 rience in that behalfe, not seuered, but vnited. Befeeching you  
 to accept at my handes, with no lesse fauour and well liking,  
 than is presented with hearty goodwill and honest meaning, a  
 work extant in French, published in Dutich, & now printed in  
 English at my costes & charges for the general profite & plea-  
 sure of the studious, and al such as delight in nouelties. Wherein  
 things no lesse straunge and true are remembered, than eyther  
 1. Christophorus Colonus noteth in his voyage to the Indies, or  
 2. Petrus Martyr de Angleria mentioneth of the West Ocean y-  
 landes, or Gonzalus Ferdinandus Quiuedus specififieth of the oc-  
 3. cidentall Indies, or Ludouicus Wertomannus rehearseth of A-  
 4. rabia, Aegypt, Persia, Syria, Aethiopia, &c. or Maximilian Tran-  
 5. siluan recordeth of the wonderfull navigation of the Spaniards  
 rounde about the worlde, &c. Hoping that your Honorable  
 wife

most of 5 giveth  
 people of it himselfe

Hexameter.

Mithridates  
 had six 10 of  
 22, tongue of  
 by tradeth.

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Embassy minister  
 of foreign affairs  
 of the empire