

# The Royal Visit to Oxford in 1636

*A Contemporary Narrative*

By A. J. TAYLOR

THE accompanying letter, describing the visit of King Charles and Queen Henrietta Maria to Oxford during the last week of August 1636, was written by George Garrard, chaplain to the Earl of Northumberland and subsequently Master of the Charterhouse. It is addressed to Edward, 2nd Viscount Conway and Killultagh, Lord General of the Horse and Deputy General of His Majesty's Army, afterwards Governor of Londonderry and Marshal of Ireland. The document, the original of which is among the Domestic State Papers, has already been calendared at some length;<sup>1</sup> but it has seemed fitting in the year which marks the tercentenary of the events of which Garrard writes to publish a full transcript of his narrative, thereby making it accessible for comparison with other and better-known accounts of the visit which have been printed elsewhere.<sup>2</sup>

It was a memorable occasion. For Laud the Court's stay at Oxford was at once the crowning mark of royal favour to the University and the climax of a Chancellorship of unprecedented activity. For St. John's the celebrations marked the completion of the new quadrangle provided by the munificence of the greatest of her sons, perhaps the most striking single achievement of a great period of Oxford building. The King, in accordance with custom, lodged at Christ Church, "where there are so many fair lodgings for the great men to be about him;"<sup>3</sup> but, as Garrard tells us, the chief day of entertainment was that on which he was received at St. John's. With Laud as Chancellor and Baylie as Vice-Chancellor the college was the centre of the official dignity of the University. Laud's new long gallery was therefore the proper setting for the royal

<sup>1</sup> *Calendar of State Papers, Domestic, 1636-7*, p. 113.

<sup>2</sup> Laud's own account is in the *History of his Chancellorship (Works, v, 144-155)*, and extracts from it have been printed in Dean Hutton's *History of St. John's College, Oxford, 129-139*. Another interesting contemporary account is in the *Diary of Thomas Crosfield, Fellow of the Queen's College*, recently edited by Dr. F. S. Boas for the Royal Society of Literature. Excerpts from Crosfield's MS. were printed as footnotes by James Bliss in his edition of Laud's *Works*. There is also an account in Wood, *Annals* (ed. Gutch), II, 407 ff. For transcripts of contemporary accounts of the entertainments given to Queen Elizabeth and James I at their visits in 1592 and 1605, see B. M. Harl. MS. 7044, 195-215.

<sup>3</sup> Laud to the Vice-Chancellor, *Works, v, 145*.

A. J. TAYLOR

banquet, and the college hall, for whose enlargement and decoration he had been responsible as President twenty years earlier, was rightly chosen for the presentation of a play, which incidentally exempted St. John's from sharing with the rest of the University in the cost of the productions at Christ Church.

While Garrard adds little to what we already know of these events from other sources, his account is valuable as an independent contemporary record. Laud, who had planned the ceremonies and borne much of their expense, naturally records them from a more personal standpoint. Part at least of Crosfield's account seems to be based on hearsay.<sup>1</sup> Garrard on the other hand described what he saw, filling in the picture with his own opinions and the gossip of the day, but at the same time giving what is for the most part a reliable record of fact.

The presence of the letter among the Public Records is probably to be traced to the transference to the State Paper Office in 1857 of the extensive collection of Conway papers presented to the government by the Rt. Hon. J. Wilson Croker, to whom they had been given by Richard Seymour-Conway, 7th Marquis of Hertford.<sup>2</sup> Other letters from Garrard to Lord Conway are to be found in the same collection, while twenty-one of Lord Conway's replies are printed in the appendix to the Historical Manuscripts Commission's report on the Duke of Portland's manuscripts at Welbeck Abbey.<sup>3</sup> A more extensive group of Garrard's writings has survived in the Strafford correspondence,<sup>4</sup> which includes some thirty of his long newsletters to the Lord Deputy. Besides much autobiographical detail these contain a wealth of information about people and events such as could only come from one in close touch with court life, and they are characterized by the same easy familiarity as the present letter.

Lord Conway appears to have looked forward to receiving Garrard's Oxford news and to have relied upon its being a lively account. 'I thanke you,' he writes, 'for the promise you make that my eares shall chew the cud upon what your mouth eates at Oxford, I shall expect the letter as a principall regalo.'<sup>5</sup> What follows must have well deserved his gratitude, expressed not only for himself but also, as he says, 'for all others that have seene it.'<sup>6</sup>

My Lord. I am much beholding to you for your letters, They are of soe excellent a Strayne, for Stile and singular Expressions, that I am much tempted to craue your

<sup>1</sup> *Diary*, ed. Boas, xxvi.

<sup>2</sup> *Nineteenth Report of the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records*, p. 17, and Laud's *Works*, vii, 356, note j.

<sup>3</sup> H.M.C., 14th Report, Appendix pt. 2, 34 ff.

<sup>4</sup> *The Earl of Strafforde's Letters and Dispatches*, ed. William Knowler, 1739.

<sup>5</sup> H.M.C., *op. cit.*, 39.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*

## ROYAL VISIT TO OXFORD

Pardon, for my serious purpose to Print them ;<sup>1</sup> Though I dare not goe to London, Yett the Presse is free at Oxford. But Ile consult farther on my Pillowe, My first thoughts may be foolish, but my Second shall saour of more wisdom ; Ile not displease you, if I did I shold more displease myselfe, who am your most fast frend and humble servant.

Our frend (for soe I will call him)<sup>2</sup> the Archbishop of Canterburie, came from Croyden in his Coach w<sup>th</sup> sixe horses, attended by 50 horse more, all his owne Servants, the first night to S<sup>r</sup> Tho : Roes house nere Hounslowe Heath ;<sup>3</sup> where S<sup>r</sup> Tho : Roe entertayned them all, horses and men ; The Next night he went to Cudsdon a house of the Bishops of Oxford D<sup>r</sup> Bancroft, w<sup>ch</sup> he hath lately new built, and meanes to leaue yt to the Successor of that Sea.<sup>4</sup> Thursday he comes to S<sup>r</sup> Johns Colledge ; I came in on friday ; soe had time to viewe all the alterations w<sup>ch</sup> haue bin this last eight yeares, for soe long haue I bin absent from the Vniuersitye. And since Camden is dead, Ile supply w<sup>t</sup> he wolde haue saide of this Place, though not soe well. The Churches or Chappells of all the Colledges are much beautified, extraordinary Cost bestowed on them ; scarce any Cathredall churches, not Windsor or Canterbury, nay not Pauls Quire exceedes them, Most of them newe glazed, richer Glasse for figures and Painting I haue not seen, w<sup>ch</sup> they had most from beiond the Seas ; Excellently paued theyre Quires w<sup>th</sup> blacke and whyte stone ; Where the East end admitts not Glasse, Excellent Pictures, large and Greate church worke of the best hands theye cold gett from the other side, of the birth, Passion, Resurrection & Ascension of our blessed Sauour, All theyre Communion Tables fayrely couered w<sup>th</sup> rich Carpetts, hung some of them w<sup>th</sup> speciall good hangings,<sup>5</sup> I am sure Merton Colledge is soe, and rayld about w<sup>th</sup> costly rayles ; But that Chappell of Lincolne Colledge, built by the Present Bishop of Lincolne, now under a Cloude,<sup>6</sup> deserues a Peticular Commendation, w<sup>ch</sup> is rased w<sup>th</sup> Cedar ; The Communion Table, Pulpitt, and an excellent fayre Skreene all of Cedar, w<sup>ch</sup> giues Such an Odoriferous Smell, that Holy water in the Romish Churches doth not exceede yt,

<sup>1</sup> The suggestion was not well received by Lord Conway, who replied, ' You are pleased to make your selfe merry with me in saying that you would print my letter. If you meane spitefully, you can doe me noe hurte . . . but if you would intend me a favour, doe it not. . . . My letters to you are privat assurances of my love and to you onely particular, not epistles generall. . . . ' (*Ibid.*)

<sup>2</sup> Garrard had for some time been cultivating Laud's friendship in the hope of persuading the Archbishop to influence the King to grant him the reversion of the Mastership of the Charterhouse (see *Strafforde's Letters*, I, 361, 412, and *Laud's Works*, VII, 132).

<sup>3</sup> Sir Thomas Roe, Chancellor of the Order of the Garter. For the proposal that Laud should stay with him at his house at Cranford, see the Archbishop's letter in *Cal. S.P. Dom.*, 1636-7, p. 86.

<sup>4</sup> The palace was built by John Bancroft (Master of University College 1609-32, Bishop of Oxford 1632-41) between 1632 and 1634. Laud visited it 2nd September 1635: ' . . . thence to Cudsdon, to see the house which Dr. John Bancroft, then L.Bp. of Oxford, had there built, to be a house for the Bps. of that See for ever. He having built that house at my persuasion.' (*Laud's Diary, Works*, III, 224). In 1644 the governor of Oxford had the palace burned to the ground to prevent its being garrisoned by the parliamentary forces. The present house was built on the site by Bishop Fell (1675-86), the exterior being completed by 1679 (*Wood, Athenae*, II, 893 f.)

<sup>5</sup> Cf. Peter Heylyn, writing of Laud's alterations at Lambeth: ' According unto which example of their Lord, and Chancellor, the principal Colledges in *Oxon.* beautified their Chappells, transposed their Tables, fenced them with Rails, and furnished them with Hangings, Palls, Plate, and all other necessaries.' For another almost contemporary account, see *The Travels of Peter Mundy* (Hakluyt Society), IV, 26-7.

<sup>6</sup> John Williams, bishop of Lincoln since 1621, who was standing his trial in the court of Star-chamber for subornation of perjury (see notice by S. R. Gardiner in *D.N.B.*).

## A. J. TAYLOR

Let them use what art they Can to perfume yt. These I ran ouer betimes on Saturday morning, and was at St Johns by x of the Clocke to haue wayted on hys Grace, but being Gon to Woodstocke, whence he returned untill Sunday night, I went to viewe his new Quadrangle, built wholly by himselfe, a noble building, for soe Sr Toby Mathewe, and M<sup>r</sup> Gage<sup>1</sup> wold stile yt, w<sup>ch</sup> is carryed up w<sup>th</sup> Pillars of a fine Marble on two Sides, a Grayish culler interlaced w<sup>th</sup> vaynes of blewe, found out nere Woodstocke, by the L<sup>d</sup> Treasurer when he hunted in those Parts;<sup>2</sup> In the two Gate houses whereof Stands one against the other, The figures of the King and Queene in Brasse, w<sup>ch</sup> cost his Grace 400<sup>l</sup>.<sup>3</sup> There I mett w<sup>th</sup> Petworth Acquaintance, Sr John Leedes, the Recorder of Chichester<sup>4</sup> & Parson Pay;<sup>5</sup> Niche Pay his brother had the sole ordering of the Dyett, w<sup>ch</sup> I tooke the Paynes to viewe, though against my will, for though I loue meate well enough, yett I hate a feast, there I found Simpson my L<sup>d</sup> of Northumberland's cooke; and sawe much preparation; w<sup>ch</sup> you shall here of anon; I haue much to say, before I come to that; Growing toward 12 I retir'd to the Warden of Merton Colledge Sr Nathanaell Brent,<sup>6</sup> where I lodgd; & where also lodgd my L<sup>ds</sup> of Hartford<sup>7</sup> and Essex;<sup>8</sup> but they came not untill munday night. In the After noone I put myselfe againe into the towne, and quickly lighted on my Lord Cottington;<sup>9</sup> whom I left not untill nere x at night, wandring up and downe w<sup>th</sup> him. Sunday I heard a man preach, that they say, had binne madde, at St Maryes, whence wee brought to Merton Colledge good store of Company to dinner; The afternoone Sermon I went not too, but was told, he rayld much against Henry the 8<sup>th</sup>, w<sup>ch</sup> I beleaue my L<sup>d</sup> Herbert will not take well at his hands<sup>10</sup> and against John Selden for his historye of Tithes, for w<sup>ch</sup> if my L<sup>d</sup> of Canterbury

<sup>1</sup> For George Gage (*fl.* 1614–40) and his friend Sir Toby Matthew the younger, see *D.N.B.*

<sup>2</sup> William Juxon, President of St. John's 1621–33, Bishop of London 1633, appointed Lord Treasurer in succession to Weston 6th March 1635–6. For his activities in the hunting field, see Bulstrode Whitelock's *Memorials* (ed. 1732), 24: 'He was much delighted with hunting, and kept a pack of good hounds, and had them so well ordered, and hunted, and chiefly by his own Skill and Direction, that they exceeded all other Hounds in England, for the Pleasure and orderly Hunting of them.'

<sup>3</sup> These were the work of Le Sueur, who covenanted with Laud to '... make and cast in brass the statue of our soueraigne Lord King Charles six foote high and the Statue of the Queenes Ma<sup>tie</sup> that nowe is in brasse likewise as bigg as the life. In consideration whereof ... the said William Lord Bishop of London ... will cause to be paid to the said Hubert Le Sueur ... the somme of fower hundred poundes of lawful money of England. ...' Agreement dated 2nd May 1633 (P.R.O., S.P. 16/238, 16). Le Sueur's receipts for payment and Richard Baylie's bill for charges incurred for carriage of the statues from London to Oxford are also among the State Papers.

<sup>4</sup> Sir John Leeds, whom Garrard had met at the Earl of Northumberland's house at Petworth, sat for Bramber borough in the Addled Parliament (1614), for Shoreham borough in the parliament of 1621, and for Steyning borough in the Short Parliament (1640).

<sup>5</sup> Laurence Pay, M.A., of Christ Church, cr. D.D. 31 Aug. 1636, rector of East Angmering and Archdeacon of Chichester. See Foster, *Alumni Oxonienses*.

<sup>6</sup> Laud's vicar-general on Metropolitanical Visitations, and afterwards one of the Archbishop's bitter opponents. See Foster, *op. cit.*, and *D.N.B.*

<sup>7</sup> William Seymour (1588–1660): succeeded his grandfather Sir Edward Seymour as 2nd Earl of Hertford, 1621; cr. Marquis of Hertford 1640, and Duke of Somerset 1660. See *D.N.B.*

<sup>8</sup> Robert Devereux (1591–1646): succeeded as 3rd Earl of Essex 1604; general of the parliamentary army. See *D.N.B.*

<sup>9</sup> Francis, 1st Baron Cottington of Hanworth (1578 ?–1652): Master of the Court of Wards and Chancellor of the Exchequer. See *D.N.B.*

<sup>10</sup> Sir Edward Herbert (1583–1648): cr. Baron Herbert of Chisbury 1629. The reference is to his projected *Life and Reign of Henry VIII*, published in 1649. See *D.N.B.*

## ROYAL VISIT TO OXFORD

heare of yt, I hope he shall receaue some repriment. Munday Morning all repard to St Johns to attend the Archbishop; Earles, My L<sup>d</sup> Newcastle,<sup>1</sup> Barons, Bishops, heads of houses, D<sup>s</sup>, I among the rest, who had Sixe Buckes to present him, at least to tell him of, from my Lord of Salisbury;<sup>2</sup> He was vnder the Barbers hands when I Came; But at length he came forth, Courteous he was to all, but walked most and entertaind longest my L<sup>d</sup> Cottington; Shewing him his new building, the Roomes where he ment to Entertayne the King, and the Hall where the Play was to bee; Thence my L<sup>d</sup> Cottington went to see the L<sup>d</sup> Treasurer at Waddam Colledge; So to Merton Colledge where my frend S<sup>r</sup> Nath: Brent, dined him and all his Company, w<sup>ch</sup> were a dozen at Least, and Excellent Cheere; At One of the Clocke the Vniuersitye bell rung out to call all the Students of Qualitye in theyre degrees to wayte on his Grace theyre Chancellor to meete hys Matye nere two miles out of towne, on horsebacke all riding on footclothes,<sup>3</sup> This Sight or Entry I wente to see, Afterwards I liued as I use to doe att London, when Feasts, Masques, and Playes are there, heare of them, but neuer see them. Since the King was come to a Citye, as well, as to an Vniuersitye; The Maior and townes men had some part in the Shewe at the Entry,<sup>4</sup> Three score townes men rode first in blacke satten doblets and Cloth hose, w<sup>th</sup> blacke Coates garded w<sup>th</sup> Veluett, and theyre towne Clercke in a Veluett Coate w<sup>th</sup> a chaine of Gold about his Necke, then about 20 Aldermen in scarlett, by the Eldest of them rode there Recorder, M<sup>r</sup> Whistler whom I remember well in Parliament,<sup>5</sup> when that vile bill of Vsury pass'd to bring money to 8<sup>ll</sup> in the 100<sup>ll</sup>. He sayd, he was not a Vsurer neyther Actiue nor Passively, and voted w<sup>th</sup> the bill; Then came many Senior Masters, Peter Turner<sup>6</sup> upon a veluet footcloth, w<sup>ch</sup> he borrowed of S<sup>r</sup> Abraham Dawes,<sup>7</sup> next Batchilors of Deuinitye, then D<sup>s</sup> in all Sciences, Three Bishops, Winchester, Oxford, and Norw<sup>ch</sup>,<sup>8</sup> The L<sup>d</sup> Treasurer single, the Kings two mace bearers goeing before him, a troope of his owne Gentlemen walking by his horse side; Then the Maior of Oxford carying the Mace; Last of all the Sixe beadles of the Vniuersitye carying theyre staues before the Vicechancellor,<sup>9</sup> His Grace next to the Kings Coach, brauely mounted on his horse and footcloth, attended w<sup>th</sup> store of his Gentlemen who walked by him on foote; The King once enterd Bocardoe, the Streetes were lind w<sup>th</sup> Masters and Batchelors and other students, Commoners and Schollers of houses, untill he enterd Christchurch Gates, where he lodgd; When the Vniuersitye first mett him, the Vicechancellor made the Speech, here at Christchurch the Vniuersitye

<sup>1</sup> Sir William Cavendish (1592-1676): cr. Earl of Newcastle 1628; see *D.N.B.*

<sup>2</sup> William Cecil (1591-1668): succeeded his father Robert Cecil as 2nd Earl of Salisbury in 1612.

<sup>3</sup> The arrangements for the reception of the King and Queen by the University were drawn up by specially appointed delegates, a copy of whose decrees is summarised in *Cal. S.P. Dom.*, 1636-7, 91-2.

<sup>4</sup> The City's arrangements have been printed in *Oxford Council Acts, 1626-1665* (O.H.S.), pp. 67 and 356, from which it is clear that Garrard is incorrect in his statement, 'about 20 Aldermen.' I have to thank Dr. Salter for bringing this account to my notice.

<sup>5</sup> John Whistler, one of the two members for Oxford City, for which he was returned in January 1623-4, April 1625, January 1625-6, March 1627-8 and October 1640.

<sup>6</sup> Peter Turner (1586-1652): of Christ Church; fellow of Merton; Gresham professor of geometry, 1620-31; Savilian professor, 1631-48. See *D.N.B.*

<sup>7</sup> Citizen and Skinner of London; one of the farmers of His Majesty's Customs.

<sup>8</sup> Walter Curle, John Bancroft and Matthew Wren.

<sup>9</sup> Richard Baylie, dean of Salisbury; President of St. John's 1633-48 and 1660-67. See Foster, *Al. Oxon.*, and *D.N.B.*

A. J. TAYLOR

Orator Mr Stroade, who is of that house ; As sone as the King had sett downe the Queene at her Lodgings, he went to the Church in that Colledge, attended by the Archbishop and other bishops and heard Eauening Prayer. The King being returned to his lodgings, the Archbishop tooke his horse and rode to St Johns his Vicechancellor and beadles attending him. That Night a Play was in Christchurche hall presented to his Matye, Fitter for schollers then a Court,<sup>1</sup> My L<sup>d</sup> Canaruan<sup>2</sup> flew out against yt, Sayd it was the worst, that euer he sawe, but One that he sawe at Cambridge ; Tuesday the cheife day of Entertainment<sup>3</sup> is Come ; According to my Custome I repaire to Court, to heare the Sermon ; w<sup>ch</sup> begun at 8 of the Clocke, my L<sup>d</sup> of Essex caryed the Sword, One Mr Browne<sup>4</sup> the Senior Proctor of that house, Sonne of the Sexton of St Dunstones in fleetestreete, who liued w<sup>th</sup> Tom Cary<sup>5</sup> during his life, preached, a man of Good Parts and learned ; The Sermon Ended, A Convocation being calld of all Doctors, Masters Regentes & non Regentes, to begin at 9 of the Clocke, Theather came the Chancellor, the Prince Elector, his brother,<sup>6</sup> All the Earles and L<sup>ds</sup> in towne, My L<sup>ds</sup> of Hartford, Essex, Newcastle, Barshire,<sup>7</sup> Elgen,<sup>8</sup> Digbye,<sup>9</sup> Crauen<sup>10</sup> and others, the Archbishop tooke his Place, the ViceCh : under him setting in a Chayre, the Proctors on eyther hand, Two Pues made apart for the Prince Elector, and his brother ; The Chancellor made a short speeche in Latine, with much approbation of the whole Vniuersitye to tell them the Occasion of the Calling of that Convocation ; to doe honor to the Prince Elector, who because he Cold giue degrees in his owne Vniuersitye at Hidlebergh, It was to lowe for his hignes to be admitted Mr of Art,<sup>11</sup> (w<sup>ch</sup> giue mee leaue to tell your L<sup>d</sup>ship, was all the honor they did him at Cambridge) It was proposed, that whomsoeuer he wold commend to be D<sup>r</sup>,<sup>12</sup> shold presently be invested into that Degree, w<sup>ch</sup> the whole Convocation yeilded vnto, and before I left the Vniuersitye, I heard of 13 that were to be

<sup>1</sup> See Crosfield's *Diary*, ed. Boas, 91, and Laud's *Works*, v, 149 : Laud says the play ' was very well penned, but yet did not take the court so well.' See also *D.N.B. s.n.* William Stroade (1602-45), and Wood, *Annals*, II, 409.

<sup>2</sup> Robert Dormer, of Wing, Bucks. : cr. Viscount Ascot and Earl of Carnarvon 1628. See *D.N.B.*

<sup>3</sup> 30th August.

<sup>4</sup> Thomas Browne (1605-73) : M.A. of Christ Church ; domestic chaplain to Archbishop Laud ; afterwards rector of St. Mary Aldermary, London, canon of Windsor and chaplain to the King. See Foster, *Al. Oxon.*, and *D.N.B.*

<sup>5</sup> Thomas Carey, one of the Grooms of the Bed Chamber to Charles I. Garrard, in a letter dated 1st May 1634 (*Strafford Letters*, I, 242), speaks of his death as having taken place recently.

<sup>6</sup> Prince Charles Louis and Prince Rupert, sons of Frederick, Elector Palatine of the Rhine and King of Bohemia, and Elizabeth, daughter of James I of England.

<sup>7</sup> The Hon. Thomas Howard, 2nd son of Thomas 1st Earl of Suffolk by his 2nd wife Catherine Knyvett : at this time Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire.

<sup>8</sup> Thomas Bruce, 1st Earl of Elgin in the peerage of Scotland ; cr. Baron Bruce of Whorlton, co. Wilts, 1641 ; d. 1643.

<sup>9</sup> George Digby (1612-77) : 2nd Baron Digby of Sherborne ; succeeded his father John Digby as 2nd Earl of Bristol 1652-3. See *D.N.B.*

<sup>10</sup> William Craven (1606-97) : son of Sir William Craven, Lord Mayor of London ; cr. Baron Craven of Hampsted Marshall, co. Berks, 1626-7 ; Earl of Craven 1664. See *D.N.B.*

<sup>11</sup> This appears to substantiate Wood's contention (*Pasti*, I, 496) that it was incorrect for Laud to record in his *Diary* (*Works*, III, 227) that Prince Charles, as well as his brother, received a Master's degree.

<sup>12</sup> Crosfield says Brent presented the Doctors ' ad nutum Comitum Palatini quibus ad Gradum admissus.' (*Diary*, 92).

## ROYAL VISIT TO OXFORD

made Doctors of Deuinitie, by his recommendation ; In the Next Place was Sr Nath : Brent to make a Speech to Prince Robert to doe the Vniuersitye the honor to accept of the Degree of M<sup>r</sup> of Art,<sup>1</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> he embracing most willingly, he put on a Scarlett gowne, and Sr Nath : Brent presented him. then he presented all the Lords masters of Art ; The bishop of Oxford also incorporated the Bishops of Winchester and Norw<sup>ch</sup>, beeing both of Cambridge, Doctors of that Vniuersitye. Then the Vicechancellor made a Speech, and dissolved the Convocation. His Grace, this done, repayres to the King to wayte on his Matye to the Library, where at his Entry Will Herbert<sup>2</sup> made a fine Oration in Latine to y<sup>e</sup> King and deliuerd yt as finely, w<sup>ch</sup> did not a little please my Lord Chamberlayne ; There the King spent more then an houre, and was loth to leaue the Place, But dinner call him away to St Johns ; where also his Matye stayd long before the Queene came ; but the new building and other entertainments gaue his Matye much Content ; A mightye feast, equall to any that I haue heard of, eyther of that of L<sup>d</sup> Newcastle or my L<sup>d</sup> Spencers ;<sup>3</sup> I doe wonder where there cold be found mouthes to Eate it ; for w<sup>th</sup>out consideration of presents, his Grace had provided at his owne Charge, Suffitient to feede, nay feast all from the highest rancke of men, euen to the Guard and footemen of both Courts ; His Presents were immense, My frend and I take yt, Your kinsman<sup>4</sup> sent him a fatt Oxe of 30<sup>ll</sup>, 20 fatt sheepe, a brace of Stags, and a brace of Buckes, The Earle of Bristowe<sup>5</sup> 20 fatt sheepe, 20 brace of Fesants, My L<sup>d</sup> Tom Sommersett<sup>6</sup> a huge fatt Oxe, besides foule and extraordinary fishe, D<sup>r</sup> Stewart Clercke of the closett and Deane of Chichester,<sup>7</sup> 20 dozen of Partridges, Sr Tho : Mowson<sup>8</sup> such a Present off foule as Pay the clercke of the Kitchen told mee, he neuer sawe presented to a Prince by any Subiect, But the bishop of Winchester exceeded all, for Venison, fish and foule, 18 dozen of fatt capons, he liues in a good Place for provisions, nere Will Vvedales,<sup>9</sup> besides innumerable little presents from his Priuate frendes ; Dinner done, and all y<sup>e</sup> meate consumed ; They went to the Play,<sup>10</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> was not done on till after sixe ; how it was liked, Ile tell you God willing when I meet you at Sion ; The Dialogue is too long, w<sup>ch</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Cf. *Fasti*, I, 490, where Prince Rupert's name heads the list of M.A.'s ; Crosfield, however, says ' the younguer brother tooke the degree of Doctor ' (*loc. cit.*).

<sup>2</sup> William Herbert : of Exeter College, cr. M.A. 31st August 1636 ; a younger son of Philip Herbert, 4th Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery, Lord Chamberlain of the Household and High Steward of the University. For other details see Crosfield, *loc. cit.*

<sup>3</sup> William Spencer, who succeeded his father as 2nd Baron Spencer of Wormleighton in 1627 ; d. 19th December 1636.

<sup>4</sup> Garrard adds in the margin ' Sr Tho : Lucy, ' i.e. Sir Thomas Lucy (1586-1640) of Charlecote, Warwickshire, for whom see *D.N.B.*

<sup>5</sup> John Digby (1580-1653), cr. Earl of Bristol 1622. See *D.N.B.*

<sup>6</sup> Sir Thomas Somerset, K.B., 3rd son of Edward 4th Earl of Worcester ; cr. Viscount Somerset of Cashel in the peerage of Ireland 1626.

<sup>7</sup> Richard Stewart (1593?-1651) : Fellow of All Souls ; chaplain in ordinary and clerk of the closet to Charles I 1633 ; dean of Chichester 1634 ; afterwards provost of Eton and dean-designate of Westminster and St. Paul's. See Foster, *Al. Oxon.* ; and *D.N.B. s.n.* Stewart.

<sup>8</sup> Sir Thomas Monson (1564-1641) of South Carlton, Lincs. ; master of the armoury at the Tower under James I. See *D.N.B.*

<sup>9</sup> Sir William Uvedale : Constable of Porchester Castle, Deputy Lieutenant and Justice of the Peace for Hampshire ; Treasurer of the Chamber and one of the Clerks of the Council of the Star Chamber ; afterwards Treasurer at Wars.

<sup>10</sup> *Love's Hospital*, a comedy by George Wilde, fellow of St. John's. This and two other of Wilde's plays survive in manuscript (B.M. Add. MS. 14047). For Wilde, afterwards Bishop of Derry, see Foster, *Al. Oxon.*, and *D.N.B.*

A. J. TAYLOR

happed that night at my L<sup>d</sup> Cottingtons at Supper, to relate in this Letter upon the Censure of this Play, be you sure to call for yt, Ile then tell it your L<sup>d</sup>ship. The Play done theyre Matyes returned to Christchurch to Supper, there had another Play, the Persian Slaue, excellently written by a yong M<sup>r</sup> of Art one Cartwright, sumptuously sett out, and acted to admiration, Generally liked by all y<sup>e</sup> Court, and Vniuersitye, but my L<sup>d</sup> Chamberlayne soe transported w<sup>th</sup> yt, that he swore merriely, he neuer saw such a Play w<sup>th</sup> all his Propertyes before; Nay the next morning when theyre Judgments had cooled upon yt, They were of the same Opinion.<sup>1</sup> Both courts went away about 9 in y<sup>e</sup> morning, The Archbishop feasts the Heads of houses and Doctors at S<sup>t</sup> Johns on Wensday, a hope there was, that S<sup>t</sup> Johns Play shold haue bin playd againe, to the Vniuersitye, but the Vnrulines of the Multitude of Schollers prevented yt, Then all repayed to Christchurch, assuring themselues to haue theyre last Play acted againe, but there was no Candles to be gott, The Commons wold not be at that charge, though the Actors were willinge. This S<sup>t</sup> Will: Beecher<sup>2</sup> told mee at Hatfield who came thence two dayes after mee. His Grace went thence on Thursday after dinner; and is retorned to Croyden, Haying left behind of all his honorable Actions and deportsments, a very worthy fame.<sup>3</sup> How Glad was I when I saw M<sup>r</sup> Herne, that soe what I haue written w<sup>th</sup> some diligence since I came from Oxford to my L<sup>d</sup> Generall<sup>4</sup> and to your L<sup>d</sup>ship might come speedily to your hands. Yf you continue at the Downes,<sup>5</sup> the Entercourse of letters will be quicke and free; In that or any thinge in my Power, I shall be ready to serue your L<sup>d</sup>ship, who am euer

My L<sup>d</sup>

Your most humble servant

G. Garrard.

Hatfield.<sup>6</sup>

Sep: 4th  
1636.

<sup>1</sup> The proper title of the play was *The Royal Slave*, the actors appearing in Persian costume. An account of its presentation and of Cartwright's other works is given in *D.N.B.*, s.n. William Cartwright (1611-43)

<sup>2</sup> Sir William Beecher, Clerk of the Council.

<sup>3</sup> He left his steward, Adam Torless, to settle the accounts of the entertainment. The total charges amounted to £2,666 1s. 7d. This figure included the Archbishop's expenses on his journeys to and from Oxford, payments for provisions and decorations, wages, payments to servants of friends who had sent gifts, the cost of the play at St. John's, hire of plate, etc. The detailed account, recording gifts as well as purchases of provisions, is of great interest (*P.R.O.*, *S.P.* 16/348, 85).

<sup>4</sup> Algernon Percy, 10th Earl of Northumberland, Lord General and Lord Admiral of the Fleet. See *D.N.B.*

<sup>5</sup> Lord Conway was serving with the Earl of Northumberland on board his flagship, the *Triumph*, then riding at anchor in the Downs.

<sup>6</sup> After his ordination at Petworth at Michaelmas 1635 (*Cal. S.P. Dom.*, 1635, p. 384, and *Stratford Letters*, 1, 467 f.) Garrard became chaplain to the Earl of Northumberland, to whose household he seems to have already been attached. It is clear from his correspondence, however, that he was a frequent guest at Hatfield of the Earl of Salisbury, whose daughter Lady Anne Cecil the Earl of Northumberland had married in 1629. In July 1636 Garrard had written to Lord Conway of the 'difficulty of carrying on his correspondence whilst staying with the Earl of Salisbury at Hatfield' (*Cal. S.P. Dom.*, 1636-7, p. 75), and from this letter he appears to have returned there after the celebrations at Oxford. Later he seems to have had a residence of his own at Hatfield: in October 1640 he writes, 'As soon as the dog-days began I left London and retired to one of my mansion-houses, Hatfield. . . .' (*Cal. S.P. Dom.*, 1640-41, p. 145).