

**M0013076: Pages from The erection of an Academy in London for the Education of Her Majesties Wardes and others the youth of Nobility and Gentlemen, 1573**

**Publication/Creation**

July 1953

**Persistent URL**

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And whereas in the Universities men study onely Scholelearnings in this Academy they  
shall onely study matters of Armes meet for present practice both of peace and warre  
And if they will not dispose themselves to letters yet they may learne languages  
or martiall activities for the service of their Countrey. If neither they are nor they  
other then may they exercise themselves in qualities meet for a gentleman And  
also the other kindes shall then better suffice to relieve the poore scholars  
where now the youth of nobility and gentlemen taking by their fellows expenses  
shall be forced to discontinue them of their livinges and advancement

Also all those gentlemen of the Inner of court whoe shall not apply themselves  
to the study of the lawes may then exercise themselves in this Academy in other  
qualities meet for a gentleman The Courtiers and other gentlemen about  
London may likewise do the same. All which do now for the moste parte  
lose their times

Further whereas by wardship the moste parte of noble men and gentlemen within this  
Realme have bene brought up ignorantely and void of good education. Now may  
from this time forth all the children of gentlemen by the fathers of the said  
may by order appointe them to be brought up during their minorities in this Academy  
whosoever have the wardship of his body. If it shall please by statute that he  
may yearly dispend 13 6 8 p<sup>er</sup> ann<sup>o</sup> to the said Academy and Licentius with  
other great Philosophers having bene of opinion that the education of children  
should not altogether be under the puissance of their fathers but under the publique  
power and authority because the publique have therein more interest  
then their parents whereby the best sort are most like to exerce in vertue  
which in times past knew nothing but to follow a fowle or live a hawke  
which thing will much assuage the present griefe that good and godly parentes  
endure by that bondage of wardship. For as yt is yt not onely hurteth the body  
but also as yt were darkeneth the eyes of reason with ignorance. And  
when the best shall ordinarily be men of pure rare vertue then the prince  
and Realme shall not so much from time to time be charged as they have bene  
in rewarding the well deserved. For honoure is a sufficient payment for him  
that hath merited. Whereas in times past the poorest sorte were best able to  
deserve at the prince handes which without great charge to the prince could  
not be maintained. So that when these things shall be performed ordinarie vertue  
can beare no price. And then younger brothers may enter grasse yf they cannot attain  
to excellency will bring a blessed emulation to England. It being also no small  
commodity that the nobility of England shall thereby in their youths brought up in  
unity and acquaintance. And above all other this chiefly is to be attempted of that  
by the best manner all the best sorte shall be trained up in the knowledge of Gods word (which  
is the only foundation of true obedience to the prince) who otherwise growinge will be  
much corrupted with papistry

**T**he noble prince that god shall blasse so farre as to be the onely meane of bringing  
this steele frozen Island into such everlasting honours that all the nations of the world  
shall knowe and say when the fute of an English gentleman appeareth that he is  
either a Soldier a philosopher or a gallant Courtier whereby in glorye ye maye make  
ye selfe stande to no printe living. For as Seneca sayeth Cato by banishing pite in  
Rome did deserve more honours then Scipio did by conquering the Carthagians.

And whereas the fame of the noblest Conquerors that ever were is onely renewed by history  
which is knowne but to a few Historiographers ye maye shall not onely have ye selfe typified  
but also for evermore unto every 5. or 6. yeares at the most full the eyes of the world witness and  
change of matter whereby all sortes of Students shall be directed put in minde of Queene  
Elizabethes Academy. And in the meane tyme the pressing of the deede and expectation for  
the newe shall onerously continually encrease wylle with Queene Elizabethes fame  
so that ye maye beinge deade shall make ye selfe stande for ever in the memorye of the livinge  
wherby also ye highnes maye shewe of ye predecessors as Zenobia that famous Queene did  
to Nerva the Emperor of Rome whereby to this effecte The Court sayeth he is  
replenished with favour and many virtues whereas my Court is full fringed  
with vertue. And what furtore By ye highnes the Court of England shall  
become for ever an Academy of Philosophie and Chivalrie. Amonge the  
Academicians learninge bare fute printe that the flatterer which gave no learninge  
to his scholler in his youth did lose the favour and service which was due to him in  
his olde age. The Kinges of this Realme supplyinge over their wardes the academes  
of their deceased parentes have the use of their livinges duringe their minorityes  
principally for to traine them up in vertue, which for consistent sake ought not to  
them to be forgotten.

To conclude by erecting this Academy there shall hereafter in offit no  
gentleman within this Realme but good for somewhat whereas now the most parte  
of them are good for nothinge. And yet thereby the Court shall not onely be greatly  
enriched with gallant gentlemen but also with men of vertue whereby ye maye and  
Successors courtiers shall be for ever in steade of a Nursery of Talents become a most noble  
Academy of Chivalrie pollicie and philosophie to ye great fame. And  
better yt is to have Renowne amonge the good sort then to be laide over the noble  
world (that beinge no fute raised under heaven) as to be well thought of. And also shall ye maye  
make ye selfe to live amonge men for ever <sup>wherby all flesh eateth but small continuance</sup> and therewithall bringe your selfe into goddes  
favour so farre as the benefite of good workes maye prevaille.