

**M0012828: Dedication to Queen Elizabeth from Thomas Geminus:  
Compendiosa...anatomiae delineatio (1545)**

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the maruelous poure of the creator, what then ought we to thinke of the heauenly bodies? We maye also en in man, beholde a certen reasonable mynde, when we well conſyder Plato, Ariſtotell, Hipparchus, Archimedes, and ſuche other. If then in ſuche a ſynke of ſyl the (for by what other name ſhulde I caule this maſſe compacte of fleſhe, bludde, ſeume, and bothe kyndes of choler) if in this (I ſaye) there is engendered ſo high and excellent a mynde, howe farre moze excellent ſhal we thinke the ſame to bee in the Sonne, the Moone, and other planettes. To me verily, when I diligently weye theſe thinges, there ſeemeth a certen diuine mynde to bee extended euen thzowgh out the aer that compaſſeth vs aboute. For ſyth it doothe participate the light of the Sonne, it can not bee otherwiſe but that it muſt therewith alſo participate the poure, vertue, and ſprite of the ſame. All which thinges, who ſo erquiſitely conſydereth with hym ſelfe, ſhall vnderſtonde bothe the wyſdome of the artiſicer, and the prerogatiue of the mynde of man. And wheras perhappes beſore, he dyd contemne this oure woork of the vſe of the partes of the bodie as a ſmalke thinge, he ſhall nowe eſtyme the ſame as the principle of moſt perfecke diuinitie, farre excellinge the knowlege of phiſike: And therfore greatly profitable not only to a phiſition, but alſo to a philoſopher that deſyeth to obteyne the knowlege of vniuerſall nature, and in the ſearchinge therof, to ſpende the hole courſe of his lyfe. Peether in man only, is ſeene the perfecke arte of nature: but in the Anotomie or Section of any other beaſt, ſhall you fynde the like wyſdome and induſtrie of the woorker maſter. And the leſſe the beaſt ſhalbe, it ſhall cauſe in the the greater admiration. Whiche thing, owoze artiſicers declare, whē in little bodies, they graue any greate thinge: As dyd he that of late, in a little ringe, graued the chariot of Iſhaeton drawne with foure hoxes: A woork doubteſſe maruelous to beholde, albeit nothinge therin dyd paſſe the woorkemaſhippe of nature in makinge the legge of a ſle. Wheras therfore ſo greate an arte of the artiſicer dothe ſhyn in ſuche abiecte beaſtes, howe greate ſhall we thinke his poure and wyſdome to bee in natures moze excellent? Two greate commodities therfore maye we obteyne by this woork of the vſe of the partes. Wherof the firſte & chiefe is, that not only as phiſitions, but alſo as philoſophers ſtudiouſ of nature, we may knowe the poure and wyſdome of the Creator of all. The ſecorde commoditie, is to knowe the diſpoſition of the partes that lye farre hyd in the bodie. wherunto, the knowlege of there actions, is greatly neceſſarie. And to conclude, if there be thre hundzeth ſcopes or endes of the vſe of the partes of the bodie, wherof euerie one is diuided into tenne, I verily beleue that the ſame can not be ſo appoynted without a moſte wiſe & mightie creator. But who or what he is, I dare not pronounce. But this am I ſure of, that in all his woorkes, I ſe moſt perfecke poure and wyſdome. Thus hetherto (moſt gracious Princes) haue I gathered to gyther as into one farthell the learned ſentences and aſſertions of that moſt excellent phiſition and diuine philoſopher Galen: Writen doubteſſe by hym, no leſſe to the honoure and prayſe of God in his woorkes, then in commendation of Anotomie, the woorktheſt knowlege that apperteyneth to the profeſſion of phiſike, ſoasmuche as it chiefly entreateth of the bodie of mā, the woorktheſt ſubiecte of that ſcience. The whiche ſcience of Anotomie, howe muche it was eſteemed of

anciēt wyſe men beſore tyme, maye appere by that he hathe writen in his ſeconde booke *De Anatomicis adminiſtrationibus* in this eſſecte. In that the anciēt autours beſore owoze tyme, haue writen nothinge of thadmiſtration of Anotomie, it was not to be counted a ſaute in them, ſoasmuche as they had daylye ſuche praſtiſe and exerciſe therof, that in there childeſ age they learned the ſame at home in there parentes houſes. But after that ſo goodlye an exerciſe was omitted, it was needfull for vs to haue commentaries therof, which might reſerue that diſcipline moſt neceſſarie for the chirurgicall parte of phiſike. The whiche, for that it hathe not hetherto byn ſufficiētly talught by any other, I haue writte theſe Commentaries to accompliſh the ſame. For the ignorance of ſuche thinges as are founde by therade knowlege of Anotomie, maketh men aſwel ſcarefull where is no cauſe of feare, as raſhe & ſolyſh hardie in daungerous attemptes. Thus as in maner rauſhed with the beuotie of this contemplation haue I by the teſtimonie of moſt graue and ſaythfull autours, entreated hereof moze largely then I intended: aſwell that this ſcience commended vnto your highneſſe by thauthoritie of ſuche diuine and ſamous learned men to whome it was knowne rather then by me, might by the iudgement of all men, be eſteemed & accepted accordinglye, as I no wayes doubt it ſhalbe moſt thankfull vnto your maieſtie, who haue euer euen ſrome your infancie moſt religiously with trewe religion, godlye zeale, and puritie of life, ſought the honoure of almighty God. Whose bountifull grace & goodneſſe, as it is moſt manifeſtly and chiefly declared vnto vs by holpe ſcripture (in readinge wherof, I knowe your maieſtie hath euer byn well exerciſed) Euen ſo ſecundarily as in a ſenſible glaſſe, maye we beholde the ſame his goodneſſe, wyſdome, and prouidence, in the framinge of the bodie of man with the vſe of the partes therof, as it were in a ſecrete ſhoppe and forge of his maruelous woorkmanſhippe. And if it were not that with to muche proliſtic I might be tedious vnto your highneſſe, I coulde here bringe forth manye hiſtozies to proue that many noble, valiant, learned, and vertuous Princes, haue applyed them ſelues to the knowlege of this parte of philoſophie, only for the zeale they had to knowe God and nature. And as touchinge my trauaile herein moſt gracious Princeſſe (ſuche as it is) as a woork now once agen newly bozne in moze ample maner then beſore enlarged, amplified, and ſo corrected & diligently peruled, that it maye in maner ſeeme a newe woork, and rather an other then it was beſore, I moſt humbly dedicate and conſecrate the ſame vnto your maieſtie: with hope and confidence, that as I haue with like zeale and good affection, dedicated this newly augmented woork vnto your highneſſe, as I dyd the former impreſſions firſt vnto your father of ſamous memorie & then vnto your brother (bothe whiche impreſſions are nowe waſted, and the ſame agen earnestly required at my hādes) It may pleaſe your maieſtie with like thankfulneſſe and ſauour to accepte this, as there dyd the other. For vnto whome ſhulde I your maieſties moſt humble and bounden ſervant, yelde the fruittes of my ſudies, trauailes, and exerciſes, but vnto ſo noble, ſo vertuous, and ſo godly a Princeſſe, by whose moſt gracious boūtie, I haue my lyuinge and beinge here in your realme of Englande vnder your graces protection. Wherfore myndinge to render vnto this contreye, as muche fruite as my poore induſtrie and continuall trauaile maye poſſible be able to yelde, I