

Vicissitudo rerum. (1600)

John Norden.

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Vicissitudo rerum.

A N

Elegiacall Poeme,

of the interchangeable courses
and varietie of things in this
world.

the first Part.

*Omnia tempore producuntur, mutantur,
& consumuntur.*

[image]

*Imprinted at London by Simon Stafford, dwel-
ling on Adling hill neere Carter lane.*

1600

[The Epistle Dedicatory]

To the Right honorable Sir VWilliam Howard knight, the Lord Howard of *Effingham*, Sonne and heyre *apparent to the Right Honorable Earle of Nottingham*, Lord high Admirall of *England*.



Inerua fained goddesse of best *skill*,
Seem'd friendles to my sad & feeble *Muse*:
The *Sisters* nine bar'd me *Parnassus* hill,
Mount *Helicon*, where praised *Poets* vse:
Therefore (my Lord) my pen deserues no praise
But pardon. *Honor* pardons weake essayes.

The *Change of things*, in slender verse I sing,
A weighty subiect, common yet to all:
From lowest creature to the loftiest thing,
Nature her workes doth tosse like *Tennis ball*,
Now rayz'd by force, then downe again by *poyze*,
Rising ne falling, she showes not by *noyze*.

But when sterne *Time* eche thing created sees,
She fawnes a while, and tenters it on *Pride*,
And soone she frownes, and then forthwith decrees
To pull it downe, and lay that thing aside.
Yet as a *mother*, she againe doth beare
Some new: and that a while she doth vpreare.

Thus *Time* by *turnes*, turnes all things out of date,
And will preuaile till she her selfe haue end:
For sure *things changes*, proue *time* terminate:
And *times* exchanges doth her turne portend.
This *time* once gone, a timelesse *time* shall bee:

Till then in *things* a changing state wee see.

This mooues my *Muse*, erst silent, now to sing,
 Though slenderly, the swift exchange of *things*:
 And this to you (my Lord) I fearefull, bring,
 Wishing that time, that plants & puls downe Kings,
 Would daigne long time to *her* that *still is one*,
 By *whome* we here enioy true *Helicon*.

At your Honors command,

Io. Norden.

[The Preface]



Yth Time applaudes to see Varieties,
 And nought more alters, then Times *cha[n]ging* dayes:
 It fits the Time, to sing sad *Eligies*
 Of Things exchanges, flourish, and decayes.

And how Things past, rest now, as things forgot,
 And Things that are, exchange and come to end.
 How Time begins to solve the fatall Knot,
 VVhereon the World, and worldly things depend.

Yea, Things aloft of *th'mouing* Firmament,
 Are seene to alter by Times swaying hest,
 The Heauens Spheres, Bodies circumferent
 Are not as earst, but in their course opprest.

The Elements and elementall things
 Do change, and by silent degrees decay.
 The Sea and Land, Riuers and water-Springs
 Stay not at one, but oft exchange their way.

And Man himselfe stands as a wauing Twig
 Bent to and fro, or broken with the wind:
 In no state constant, be he base or big.

Ech thing comes diuers, in his proper kind.

As by this first part these are partly seene.

*The second shoves the alterations
That in the World by course of Time haue beene
In Men, in Cities, Kings, and Nations.*

Ouid. Metam. lib. 15.

_____ *Sic tempora verti*

*Cernimus, atque alias assumere robora gentes
Concidere bas.*

Mar. lib. 9. Quid non longa dies: quia non consumitis anni?

[image]

1.



Some sing the Regall actes of worthy *Kings*,
Some of fell *Warres*, some of a publique *State*,
Some praise haut *Beawty*, some praise baser things.
Wittes haue their change: *Will* sta[n]ds in highest rate.
 Will, yet, doth wauer, *Pennes* paint *Loue & Mate*.
 Therefore my pen shal publish change in all:
One onely *Essence* standing firme from fall.

2.

The *Heauens* in their peereles pryde may bost,
That they in their orbicular figure
Are farre the freest, and by change vntost,
Keeping by turne, their *Reuolutions* sure:
 Though still reuoluing yet alike endure.
 As *Orbes* and *Circles* figures perfectest,
 Held by all *Artistes* to excell the rest,

3.

The *Heauens* seeme of most admired might,
Fixed on nothing, yet stand firme and fast,
Providence Diuine them hath so set aright,
Worldes may not waue them, nor vnprop their bast
 Who then essayes to prooue they will not last,
 Syth from creating, they are as they were,

Not changed by chance, nor altere'd by their stere.

4.

These *Figures* then form'd of most perfect mold
Shaped by *Science* farre exceeding *Wit*
If they haue change, how may the *baser* hold,
That haue their *Vigors* b'influence of it?

A powre more potent boue this *Powre* doth sit,
That giues and guides, and swayes all as it list,
In whome the *Heauens* and the rest consist.

5.

And all the *mouers*, and the voluing *sphere*
He first created, and disposed so,
As to haue progresse, and againe reuere,
To tell the *Times*, and *seasons* as they go:

Mouing in *Circles*, daily to and fro,
Ginning and ending, as their *Circles* bee,
Greater or lesser, distinct by degree.

6.

Ten *Spheres* in one, *Astronomers* do hold:
The tenth reuoluing in his fixed tide,
Twenty foure houres, and then his circle rold,
Againe reuolues, powers infinite her guide,
From East to West, still on the *dexter side*:
And by her course most swift and impetuous,
The rest she moueth, most miraculous.

7.

For in the selfe same time she moues the rest,
Although their mouings contrary to her,
Be on *sinister part* from West to East.
And that the *ninth Astrologers* auerre,
Hath forty nine thousand yeeres thus to erre.
Thirty thousand to the eighth assign'd,
Againe, seuen thousand as the learned find.

8.

The *Sphere of Saturne* in her thirty yeeres
 Returnes; and *Iupiter* in twelue, they sayne,
 Doth runne his race. Fell *Mars* in two appeares
 To end his course: reuoluing backe againe.

Sol, Venus, Mercury, haue one yeere to raigne.
 The *Moone* the lowest, soone her circle rounds,
 Twice foureteene daies, & then againe rebounds.

9.

This comely course, and order of this frame
 May challenge most, if ilke *Perfection* be,
 Or *State* not changing, but as still the same:
 The *Heauens* yet, a body as wee see,

In all her parts from *Change* cannot be free,
 Nor still perseuer, as they first were set,
 Though none haue power, but *Power* diuine to let.

10.

Let *Time* be *testie* in this cause of doubt,
 That did begin when *Heauens* and *Lights* were made:
 She was, and is, and shall remaine throughout,
 But not alike, shee flourish'd, gins to fade:

Dayes, Weekes, and Months, and Yeeres she makes by trade:
 All *these* doe change, none doth alike abide,
Summer, nor Winter, Autumne, or Spring-tide.

11.

The dayly moouing of this *Firmament*,
 Distinguyes frowning *Nights* from fawning *Dayes*,
 And either by such entercourses pent,
 As they ne passe due time, nor make delays:

None checks the *Sunne* to shade or send her rayes
 To banish *Darkenes*, and to fill with *Light*,
 What was eclipsed with the shade of *Night*.

12.

Yet neither *Day* nor *Night* continues one,
 But by reciprocall exchange imparts
 Each to the other *Time*, as *Time* is gone:
Time turnes the *Yeere* into his aptest parts,

And *Yeere* to *yeere* lends time likewise by arts,
 Rising, and falling, changing by degree,
 The present vnlike the preter yeere we see.

13.

The first and greatest *Mouer* of the rest,
 Imparts her moouing to the lesser *Spheres*,
 To men and beasts, and creatures as the *Test*,
 And tries the bodies that *Nature* vpreares,
 Prouing their temper, and their temper steres.
 Mong all the creatures that are earthly built,
 Best temper'd stand, distemper'd soonest spilt.

14.

Nay, *Mindes* inclines, and *manners* good and bad,
 Proceede (some say) by moouings and aspects
 Of *Heauens* Spheres, and *Plannets* wherewith clad,
 That giue and take, and worke the sole effects
 In *Men* and *Beasts*, and in all earthly *sects*:
 All which beginne and end by *influence*,
 That doth proceede by *Heauens* concurrence.

15.

Vertues and *vices*, *health* and *sickness* too,
 Long and short *life*, *force*, *febleness*, and *wit*,
 Yea, *well* and *ill* the *Heauens* egge to doo:
 All earthly bodies subiect vnto it.
 Humane *affayres* prayse-wothie and vnfit,
 Depend on these, that of themselues are not,
 But stand created, to their proper lot,

16.

Though some *prerogatiue* aboue the rest
 They haue. An *instrumentall meane* onely,
 And not the *cause efficient* confest,
 A fatall *Law*, or of necessitie,
 None holds it so that hath *fidelitie*.
 Let sacred *Wisedome* be our *studies* guide,
 To stay on him that is, and will abide.

17.

The pleasing *Sunne*, with sweete resplending rayes,
 Doth rise and set, and yeeldes such *influence*,
 As earthly creatures glorie in the *dayes*,
 Not in *sad nights*, that come by consequence,
 The sunnie beames that comfort passed hence.
Men, birds, and beasts, trees, and the hearbes in field,
 Bemone the lacke of what the *day* did yeeld.

18.

Whereby wee see the *Sunne* is held a ghest,
 That with his rayes filles all the *fields* with glee:
 The *plants*, the hearbs, the blossoms, and the rest,
 Vnfolde in token of *gratuitie*,
 Preaching to *men*, the *Sunnes benignitie*.
 That ayne reuiues their *members*, late neere dead
 All creature ioy to see her beames espred.

19.

The *Sunnes* ascent, and her descent renewes
 The *yeere* with change, as she comes farre or neere,
 Her *course* oblique, depriues, againe endewes,
 The earthly bodies, and their powers arere
 The *Solstices* and *Equinoxes* bere:
 As on the wings of th'*Zodiackes* twelue signes,
 The yeeres foure parts diuided by their lines.

20.

The *Winter* with his siluer hayres beginnes,
 When *Capricorne* receiues declining *Sunne*,
 As she returnes from *Autumne*, where she lins:
 And with his cold and moysture now begunne,
 Depriues the bodyes of their pride late wonne:
 And all the creatures that of yore grew gay,
 By like degrees doe wither and decay.

21.

The louely *Spring*, which liuely lends her skill,
 To re'install these creatures in their pride,

Enters the *Ram*, and equalize she will
 The *Nights* and *Dayes*. A moyst and hotter tyde,
 Restoring greene what *Winter* had vndi'de,
 And yeelds them vigor that were erst decayde:
 All sects reioyce to bee thus re'arrayde.

22.

Then comes the *Summer* with her gloomie rayes,
 Imbracing *Cancer*, parching hote and drie,
 Making short nights, and the longest dayes.
 The Summer *Solstice* heaues the Sunne so hie,
 That forthwith she falles and alters by and by
 The surface of the *Earth*, and all earthly things.
 Thus *Time* turnes the worlds glasse with silent wings.

23.

Friendlesse *Autumne* vnclouthes againe apace,
 All that the *Spring* had clad so fayre before:
 The *Sunne* in *Libra* with beclouded face,
 Affords sad nights, longer then of yore,
 Depriuing sap, and withers by her lore
 All vegetables, and transformes the rest:
 A necessarie, but vnwelcome ghest.

24.

The *Yeere* thus parted in her qualities,
 Yeeldes great effects vnto the *Earths* creatures,
 Compounded, termed *Elementaries*,
 As of elementall temperatures:
 Grosse soone decay, the purest best endures:
 Exceeding in one qualitie it dies:
 Nought hath true meane that is below the skies.

25.

The *Moone* hath secrets in her times effects,
 She swayes the *humors* ouer which she raignes,
 Increasing, decreasing, full, in aspects,
 Still she disposeth *Bodyes* and their *Vaines*.
 In her some mysterie, no doubt, remaines,
 That worketh wonders by the meane of her,

Which some affirme so farre: in it they erre.

26.

For shee a creature, can yeeld no *Euent*,
 Compact, as other elementall things,
 (Her vertue in *Decrease* and *Increment*)
 But purer, and pure qualities she brings,
 Soring her circuite by diuiner wings:
 And through the force of her high qualities,
 She works in *Bodies* sundrie faculties.

27.

As in the *Ebbes* and flowing of the *Deepe*,
 By course, and by reciprocall retreat,
 Moou'd by the *Moone*, as she her course doth keepe:
 The *Ebbe* makes emptie, *Floud* againe replete:
 The *Moone* in *Forme*, the *Sea* vnlike in *Seate*,
 Their like concurrence and like changes shew,
 The *Moone* and *Sea* alike to wane and grow.

28.

The *Starres* that wander, and that fix'd remaine,
 Do cause in ayre great changes, *Cold* and *Heate*,
Windes, *Thunder*, *Tempests*, and great gusts of *Raine*,
 And their *Aspects* and *Oppositions* met,
 Some strange presages of *Euent*s beget,
 Of *Warre*, of *Death*, of *Famine*, *Drought* and *Pest*,
 Yet nought befall'es, but by supernall hest.

29.

Though some affirme that these *mutations*
 Of changes, and of strange and rare euent's,
 Proceede of such like *innouations*,
 As heauenly bodies and their concurrents
 Worke in the like compouended *Elements*,
 And giue them *moouing*, *issue*, and *successe*,
 As if *effects* proceeded of the *lesse*.

30.

The *lesse*, yet *great*, *lesse* in respect of *one*,
 Who *moues* the *Moouer* of these *Moouers* all:
 He, he, the swayer of euent's alone:
 And *sinne* the cause that moues these to our thrall,
 That moue and change, and cause *men* rise or fall:
 Not as these will, but as the *Powers aboue*
 Make them the meanes to checke for change of *loue*.

31.

The greatest changes and most rare euent's,
 In *States*, in *Kingdomes*, and in greatest *sects*,
 Are sayd to issue of the *Spheres* dissents
 The eight and ninth, not by their ioynt aspects,
 Their awkward mouings breede rarest effects,
 Not by their *natures* inclination,
 But by their motiue *trepidation*.

32.

Besides coniunction of *triplicities*,
 Of *Saturne*, *Iupiter*, and *Mars* aspecting,
 Are held most powerfull *principalities*,
 Greatest *alterations* effecting,
 Their triplicities duely respecting:
 Fierie, or ayrie, watrie, or earthly,
 Th'euent correponds the triplicity.

33.

Of such, some count seu'n since the world begunne,
 (Fiue thousand, fiue hundred, sixtie two yeeres,)
 The *eight* shall be when foure yeeres more are come,
 By *testie* of the best *Astrologers*.
 Presaged thus, it may well summon *teares*,
 That he that rules may moderate his ire,
 Lest *World* consume with fearefull gusts of *fire*.

34.

Seneca reports, *Belus* to foresee
 The vniuersall *deluge* e're it came:
 And when the conflagration should be,
 To burne the *masse*, as water drown'd the same,

When of the *Starres* such *opposition* came,
 As one right line might pierce their *circles* all
 In *Cancer* signe: this last effect should fall.

35.

The antique *Poets* in their Poems tel'd
 Vnder their fondest *Fables, mysteries*:
 By *Phaeton*, how heauens *powers* rebel'd
 In *fires* force, and by the histories
 Of *Pirrha* and *Deucalion* there lies,
 The like of waters impetuitie,
 In part concurring with diuinitie,

36.

Which hath reueyl'd the *Worlds* destruction
 By *water* past, her future fall by *fire*:
 But holds the cause *sinne*, not coniunction
 Of *fire* or *waters* selfe-reuenging ire:
 The *Powers* diuine commoue them to conspire,
 To make the earth and earthly *bodies* nought,
 That doe defile, what he so pure hath wrought.

37.

The *Priests* of *Egypt* gazing on the starres,
 Are sayd to see the *Worlds* sad ruines past,
 That had beted by *fire* and *waters* iarres:
 And how the *World* inconstant and vnchast,
 Assaylde by these, cannot alike stand fast.
Earthquakes and *warres*, famine, hate, and pest,
 Bring perils to the *earth*, and *mans* vnrest.

38.

We at the present see *Times* changing state,
 And *Natures* fearefull alterations,
 As if *Time* now did preach the *Heauens* debate,
 And *starres* to band in dismall factions.
 Strange *signes* are seene, diuine probations,
 That some *effect* will follow of *admire*,
 Too late, when come, to say it will retire.

39.

The *Sunne* and *Moone* eclipsed ne're so much,
Comets and strange *impressions* in the *ayre*:
The *tydes* and swelling *flouds* were neuer such:
The *earth* doth tremble, *Nature* doth impayre,
Hid'ous *monsters* now possesse the chayre,
Where erst dame *Natures* true begotten seede
Sate truely graced in her proper weede.

40.

Such changes neuer haue beene seene of yore,
In *Countries* and in *Kingdomes*, as of late,
Manners, and *Lawes*, and *Religions* lore,
Neuer were prized at so meane a rate:
Such are the changes of this *earthes* estate,
It may bee sayd, *Times* wings beginne to frie,
Now couching low, that erst did soare so hie.

41.

Yea, now is prou'd the progresse of the *Sunne*
To differ farre from pristine gredience:
The *Solstices* and *Equinoxes* run,
As in pretended disobedience.
The *Sunne* obserued by *Artes* diligence,
Is found in foureteene hundred yeeres to fall,
Neere twelue *Degrees* towards the Center ball.

42.

The *Zodiack* and all her partes and signes
Alter the course, that first they were assigned,
And all the orbe of *Heauen* so combines,
As she vnto her *Period* inclin'd.
Time past, farre greater then that is behind,
Doth prooue the *Heauens* in their greatest *Pride*,
Subject to changes and to waue aside.

43.

Some eke affirme the earthly *Sphere* to erre:
First set the *Center* of the concaue *Spheres*

Now start aside, (supposed not to sterre.)
 If so, the *Power* that *Earth* and *Heauen* steres,
 By it foreshowes the purpose that he beares,
 That all the *Creatures* that he made so fast,
 Shall by *Degrees* alter, weare and wast:

44.

Yet all the *Changes* that succeed below,
 Proceed of *Mouing*: *Mouing* double is:
 The first and chiefe, moues, yet not moued so:
 The other mouers mooue by force of this,
 But to moue rightly, or to moue amis.
 Without the first high *Prouidence* diuine,
 They are vnable of their owne incline.

45.

Guyded they yeeld such *influence* of force,
 As notwithstanding *alteration*,
 They seeme to shew by fatall course, remorce
 To creatures in their *generation*:
 And by successiue *propagation*,
 Corrupted things renew, grow, and decay
 Vncessantly, by natures fatall way.

46.

The changes which successiue accrew
 Vnto the creatures of this lower part,
 And bodies which the *Elements* endew
 With habite, and which cunning *Natures* art
 Contriues with ornaments, that in her mar[t]
 Are had, proceede of contraries,
 That in them breede such strange varieties.

47.

For things compounded of the *Elements*,
 Partake the like compounded faculties
 Themselues vnlike, in *vertue* and *contents*
 Make all their *subiects* contraries,
 And mut'all discord in their offices,
 producing *fruits*, and in them enmitie,

Whereby they change by fatall destinie.

48.

The *water* thicked, doth resemble *stone*
 Or earthie matter: vaporating, *ayre*:
 The *ayre* enlightened, and her vertue gone,
 Resembles *fire*: the *fire* extinct, comes *ayre*:
 Ayre thicked, and by grosse *impayre*,
 Gets *cloudes* and mistie *vaporation*.
 All haue alternate variation.

49.

So these that wee call *Elements*, are not,
 But onely like, and not indeede the same:
 As each one partaketh of the others *lot*,
 Hath not selfe *nature*, but the fayned *name*,
 Yet is it seene from whence each of them came,
 Like to the thing that each resembles most.
 From these *corrupt* comes al the earthly host.

50.

Yet so prepared, as the *Power* aboue
 Doth first decree to shape the lowest things,
 Discrepant and divers, as it list, approue
 Voyde of all *forme*. Hence formall bodie springs
 In couert order, with concealed wings:
 Nature her selfe flies to and fro vnseene:
 Till things haue life, none sees where she hath beene.

51.

Then viuall each thing wrayes his *faculties*,
 And what in it hath chiefe *Predominance*,
Hot, cold drie, or moyst, meerely *contraries*,
 All in one *body* haue like *penetrance*,
 But farre vnlike in supreme gouernance:
 The *chiefe* in force subdue the feeble sort,
 And foyle in fine the *body* they support.

52.

The *Elements* repugnant each to each,
 Yet seeme they all each other to imbrace:
 But each on other makes alternate *breach*,
 As one growes potent, th'other in disgrace:
 Their *Powers* vnequall, not their *natures* base
 Doth winne or lose, and gaines *contempt* or *prayse*.
 None seemes a coward, weakest giues essayes.

53.

As when a *Sparke* that most partakes of *Fire*,
 Contendes a while, as farre as *Power* permits,
 To dry a *Floud*, *Force* fayleth, not *Desire*:
 Likewise a *Drop* contendeth where it hittes,
 To quench a *Flame*, that quenchles is by *Wittes*:
 Such *Feede* they foster, not of equall *Force*:
 That which preuayleth, yeedeth no *Remorce*.

54.

The *Earth* a massie Lumpe, is lowest set:
 The *Water* it surrounds, and lies diffuz'd
 Through and about this *Orbe* as friendly met:
 Yet do they striue as if eche were abuz'd,
 Ballanced they pend, mut'ally confuz'd.
 The *Fire* and *Ayre*, light, are surmounted hie:
 Yet ech polluted with his *Neighbour* by.

55.

The *Fire*, though *highest and in purest place*,
 Betweene the *Heauens* and the ayrie *Sphere*,
 Seemes not, yet hath, more then the *Ayres* disgrace:
 For when she volueth, and reuolues arere,
 She comes deformed by her often stere:
 And forced downward to the ayrie cell,
 Fals to the *Earth*, and so her *Forces* quell.

56.

The *Ayre* that swayes the region next to *Fire*,
 Is in the vpper part most absolute,
 Most thin and pure, most like her first inspire:
 Her lowest grosse, the middle meane acute:

She thus vnequall in her tryple sute,
 Stands most corrupted here with vs beneath,
 Corrupting bodies that by her do breath.

57.

And most inconstant of the rest she fares,
 Most variable in her best estate,
 Turn'd as the *Place*, whereon she lights prepares,
 And as the *Starres* aspect and haue their *Gate*:
 So she comes pure or of a grosser rate,
 With *Exhallations* and with *Vapors* thicke,
 That rise and fall, and in her *Lymit* sticke:

58.

Whence grow the *Clowdes*, the *Thunder*, & the *Windes*,
Hayles, *Frost* and *Snowe*, and *Changes* manifold,
 Which do afflict the *Earth*, and earthly kinds,
 With *Natures* striuings, oft tweene *Hot* and *Cold*.
Descent oft forced, and *Ascent* controld,
 Mooues *Warres* aboue in ayrie firmament,
 Tweene water-clouds and others discontent.

59.

Then fals the *Rayne* erst raysed by the *Sunne*,
 Of watry vapors, flying from below,
 Forc'd downe againe, like twist arere vnspun:
 And thus the *Clowdes* by course do come and goe.
 The *Ayre* now calme, forthwith fell winds do blow.
 What more inconstant then the *Ayre* can be,
 Whereby all Bodies breathe, and change we see?

60.

And if *Astrologers* aucthority
 May passe for prooffe of th'issue of the winds,
 The *Sunne* doth rayse the winds cal'd *Easterly*:
 And *Iupiter* the *Northern* in their kinds.
 The *Southern Mars*, the *Moone* the *Wester* bindes.
 Some hold the *Zodiacks triplicities*,
 To cause in th'windes such strange diuersities.

61.

From East three signes of nature *hot*, and *drie*,
 That are subiected to *Equator* line:
 Then from the *Pole Antartick* as they lie,
 Three other [si]gnes the Southerne assigne,
 The hot and moyst, three other then combine
 In *Occident*, and in *Septentrion*,
 The *cold* and *moyst* sway as the rest alone.

62.

These foure are *windes* accounted *principall*,
 That haue alternate chiefe *preeminence*.
 These haue againe foure *windes collaterall*.
 All eight intire, sway with high diligence,
 Eight other halfe *Windes* of lesse effiencie:
 Betweene them each an equidistant part:
 All *thirtie two*, which manage *Nauticke* art.

63.

These yet inconstant, full of change do blow,
 Their *natures* differ, and their *properties*,
 And alter as the part from whence they grow,
 And place whereon they light, hath qualities:
 And moouing thus, breede strange diuersities
 In earth, and earthie bodies, and the seas:
 Which mou'd, no wit nor weapons them appease.

64.

The *water* next, and most contiguous
 Vnto the *ayre*, hath like varieties;
 Now *calme* and *quiet*, now more impetuouus,
 Wherein the *ships* and mightie *Argosies*
 Flote vnder sayle, making the voyages,
 That feede one countrey with anothers fruit.
 Perill makes not the greedie *gainer* mute.

65.

Yet in his *trafficke* is alternate state.
 Now golden *gaine* is guide vnto his *ioy*:

His *ioy* now alters, *sorrow* in like rate.
 The *seas* are sullen, and the *winds* beene coy,
 Their often *combates* coyners of annoy:
 The *windes*, and *seas*, and *element* of ayre
 Combining, bring stout hearts vnto despayre.

66.

The *waters* that the highest Powers haue set
 In secret *celles*, and *vallies* of the *deepe*,
 Surround the *earth*, as if they had no let.
 High powers their rage in *limits* fast doth keepe,
 Taming the *bellowes* that do mount so steepe,
 And suffers not the proudest *wa[u]es* to passe,
 Nor to breede perill to the earthie *masse*.

67.

The *seas*, a vniuersall powerfull band,
 Linckt in the *earth* with *veynes* and concaue *springs*,
 That serue as *barres* to enter-locke the *land*,
 And which throughout, a needfull *moysture* brings,
 Wherewith refresh'd all vegitable things
 Do yeeld their branches, buds, and bloome, and fruit,
 Selfe *earth* to drie, to decke them so in sute.

68.

Meere *reason* may admire to see the *seas*,
 Raging with waues, as if infirnall *fire*
 Them boyl'd, or *furies* reft the *earth* of *ease*,
 And by and by the *tempest* to retire
 Of selfe *accord*, without ilke humane *hyre*,
 And rest appeased, calme, in quiet case,
 And as in *loue*, the *earth* againe imbrace.

69.

Earth yeelds the *seas*, a seat to rest them on,
 And *waters* all by nature ponderous:
 Though misty *Fogges*, through *exhalation*
 Ascend, they fall againe more humidous,
 In *droppes* or *mystes*, sometimes contagious,
 And fill the brookes and riuers of the land

Who hasten soone vnto the marine strand.

70.

So as the *Waters* in *earths* bowels spred,
 And *Riuers* that do runne as ornaments,
 Vpon th'*earths* surface, are not in her bred,
 But friendly lent, the *Oceans* excrements,
 Rising and falling by swayde accidents
 Salt from the *Seas*, by th'*ayre* refresh'd againe,
 To shew what changes, *earth* and *seas* sustaine.

71.

The *earth* the *waters* doth support and beare,
 The *Ocean* hath tryple motions,
 From East to West, from North to South arere.
 Thirdly the *ebbings*, and the *fluctions*,
 Sixe houres rising, sixe howers digressions:
 So eke the sea term'd *Mediterrany*,
 And other waters of that faculty.

72.

The motiue causes who so seekes to know,
 The *first* that moueth from the East to West,
 The *firmament* is sayd to moue it so:
 And that the *spheres* are moued and adrest,
 To volue and reuolue by the higher hest.
 Whereby the *Waters* their orders gate,
 Not of selfe *nature*, but so destinate.

73.

The fall from North to South is sayd to bee,
 For that the *waters* in *Septentrion*,
 Are full and farre the highest in degree,
 Engendred most in that cold Region:
 In South the *sunnes* hot exhalation,
 Abates those *Seas*, to which the greater fall
 By changing courses, yet perpetuall.

74.

The third that maketh *ebbes* and flowing *tydes*,
 Hath beene, and is the *Moones* volution,
 Most changing, in one state she neuer bides,
 Full, halfe full, and of bicorned fashion,
White, pale, & red, then cleere, then spotted on:
 Sometimes apparent, sometime hidden so,
 As none perceiueth where the *Moone* doth go.

75.

Sometime shee shineth in the merkish night:
 Sometime she riseth in the brightest day:
 Sometimes eclipsed, cleane depriu'd of light:
 Sometimes below, sometime in higher way:
 Neuer at one, but euer in estray:
 East, South, and West, her course vncertaine seene:
Artists best know, how all her courses beene.

76.

The *Moone* thus changing, in her mouings make
 Like changes in the vniuersall *seas*,
 Whose *ebbes* and *flouds* like changes by her take,
 And neither seemeth to haue constant ease:
 No *art* or *force* their mouings may appease:
 But as the *Powers* diuine of yore them set,
 So they keepe course, vntill that power do let.

77.

Till then the *Moone* moues with the *Heauens* Sphere:
 Twentie foure howres she takes her turne to runne:
 Two *ebbes*, two *flowes*, in *seas* she makes appeare:
 Sixe houres she *flowes*, in sixe her *ebbe* is done:
 In sixe doth each performe her taske begunne.
 Increast and decreast, assignd and kept aright,
 Approoue the powers that guide them, of great might.

78.

Yet still vnlike, shee doth increase and fall
 Alternately, as time and place assigne:
 Seu'n dayes th'increasing to her highest wall,
 Seu'n dayes likewise, shee doth againe decline.

Sea-men the first, *Spring-tydes* aptly define:
 The latter or decreasing streames they call
Nepe-tides, when seas grow to the low of all.

79.

These tydes againe are of vnequall state:
That swelling high, *this* lower ayn by farre:
 The next more higher, or of lower rate.
 All other *tydes* haue like alternate Iarre,
 Always afflicted with intestine warre,
 That makes the *Mariners* to sigh or sing,
 Hur'd downe, or heau'd aloft by *Neptunes* wing.

80.

The *Moone* North-east, doth make the sea at full:
 South-east, low water. Thus the *Moone* doth guide
 Not onely humours, making sharpe or dull.
Wittes, sences, bodyes (as some verifide)
 But *sea* and *land*, as things vnto her tide.
 And as she wauers, and oft changeth state,
 So do the things by her thus destinate.

81.

Oft doe some *Riuers*, and some *fountaines* drie:
 Oft doth the *earth* yeeld forth new water-springs:
 Oft doth reuiue, *what* seemed erst to die:
 Oft doubtfull ginning, sweetest *issue* brings:
 Oft greatest comfort growes by grieuous things,
 Nothing the same, and as the same abides,
 But *God* the guide, nought standeth firme besides.

82.

Hee is that *essence* that beganne of nought:
 Hee is that *Moouer* of the moouing skies:
 Hee is the *concord* that true *vnion* wrought:
 Hee is the meane by whom all *destinies*
 Turne to the ends, that hee did first deuise.
 Yet are the *Heauens* and the *Earth* maintain'd
 By *discord* excellent, that hee ordain'd.

83.

Can *discord* then (so much dispraysed) bee
 The meane to keepe things by their *contraries*?
 Can *enmitie* haue such equall degree,
 As may make *vnion* in *qualities*?
 Hath sad *contention* such sweete faculties,
 As may support in true tranquillitie,
 The *bodies* wherein is *disvnitie*.

84.

Then did *Heraclitus* conceiue it right,
 Who did affirme the *parents* of all things
 To be good *concord* in a *discord* pight.
 And *Homer* said, Who blameth contendings,
 Reprooueth *Nature* in distributings.
 Empedocles did call that *amitie*,
 That had and held concording *enmitie*.

85.

Yet thus, this *disagreement* must bee set,
 As in the *discord* bee no power to wrong:
 For why? supremest haue no fatall let,
 But will preuaile, as they become too strong.
 Therefore such *meane* must them be set among,
 As though things bee compact of *contraryes*,
 They must by *ballance*, haue like quantities.

86.

Or else sadde *ruine* will surprize the thing,
 Wherein the *Elements* are at a iarre,
 Where eke the *principles* diuided, bring
 into the body, such internall *warre*,
 As striues for *victorie*, to make or marre.
 And sodainly the *body* pines or dies,
 For that the strongest works most *maladies*.

87.

The *Heauens* haue their *moouings* contrarie,
 But equally disposed, vphold the rest:

Where, if they mou'd one way, their harmonie
 All of one straine, of *discord* dispossess,
 They soone would runne to ruine al opprest:
 Like to a *clocke*, whose wheeles runne all one way,
 Rash, of no vse, without a *counterstay*.

88.

The *Planets* also in their faculties,
 Are set by *Prouidence*, that did foresee,
 That if they were without their contraries,
 Among themselues some sodain change would be.

A *meane* therefore to keepe the *Heauens* free
 From sodaine ruine, *Power diuine* hath set
 (As *moderator*) *termes*, that none may let.

89.

Milde *Venus* as a meane, is placed neere
 Vnto fell *Mars*, to counterchecke his ire,
 And helping *Iupiter*, next to the Sphere
 Of malignant *Saturne*, lest they conspire,
 And wrecke the Iurie of their fell desire
 Vpon the rest: if they were not control'd,
 Their wrath would worke the worlds ill manifold.

90.

The *world* inferior, composed stands,
 Of *elements* which are by nature foes:
 And each with other, in his *nature* bands,
 And each his force and *malice* doth disclose.
 Yet are all *bodies* wholly fram'd of those:
 And their due *order* and *proportion*
 Conserueth long, discording *vnion*.

91.

None must exceede in his extreme degree:
 For all by *nature*, reft of *mixtion*,
 Are so vnequall, nothing can bee
 Formed of one, without destruction.
 But of the foure, equall *proportion*
 Is found the *fountaine*, whence doth flow the *seed*,

Whereof all *creatures* in the *earth* do breede.

92.

For in this worldes great *masse* are found to lie,
Earth, Water, Ayre, and Fire, Sunne, Moone, and Starres,
Matter and forme, substance, and quantitie,
Simple, compound, actiue, and passi[u]e warres.

These of themselues haue such diurnall *iarres,*
 As trie the *body,* yet preserue it so,
 As *discord* seemes a friend, and not a foe.

93.

In humane *bodies* is a *discord* set,
Choler and bloud, fleame and melancholie,
 These foure the foure *complections* beget:
 Among them *Nature* hath sent enmitie.

Yet stands the *bodie* of this contrarie,
 Which could not liue, if one alone did raigne:
 One too too strong, the other three complaine.

94.

All other *bodies* are compos'd as this,
 Not of a like, but of vnlike in kind.
 As prayesd body *Oeconomick* is,
 Of *husband, wife, and children* them assign'd,
Lord and slaue, master and seruant wee find
 To liue vnlike, yet in good harmonie,
 If true concording *discord* beautifie.

95.

A body *politicke,* or publike *state,*
 Hath like dissents, which yet assenting stands:
 The *King, the subiect,* and the magistrate,
Noble and base, rich, poore, peace, and warlike bands,
Law, religion, idle, working handes,
Old, yong, weake, strong, good men and euill bee
 Dislike in parts, yet in *consort* agree.

96.

All Arts haue *discord*, yet in vnitie
 Concorde, as in *musicke*, *high* and *low*,
Long and *short*, these compose the *harmonie*.
 The *paynter* doth by contraries forth show
 By liuely hand, what *Nature* doth bestow,
 By colours, *white*, *blacke*, *red*, and *greene* and *blew*:
 These *contraries* depaynt right *Natures* hew.

97.

Nothing appeares, or can be sayd the thing,
 Without the contrarie: *darke* from the *light*,
sickness from *health*, cold *winter* from the *spring*,
 True *peace* from *warre*, sweete *loue* from foule *despight*,
Iust from *vniust*, *truth* from the thing *vnright*,
 None can distinguish, but by *qualities*,
 That are discouer'd by their *contraries*.

98.

Who can discourse of *griefe*, that neuer grieu'd?
 Who speakes of *colours*, that could neuer see?
 Who preacheth *ioyes*, that is of *ioy* bereau'd?
 Who thinkes of *freedome*, that was neuer free?
 Some *contraries* accord, some disagree.
 Yet perfit is Dame *Natures* art in things:
 For by dissent, she true *assenting* brings.

99.

Yet hath not *Nature* made that earthly thing,
 But made to it some thing the contrarie:
 And each to each extends a fatall sting:
Birdes, *beasts* and *plants*, haue all *antipathy*:
 Tweene *God* and good *men*, onely *sympathie*,
 Whose sacred sprit by his sweete inspire,
 Seasons our soules with sacred sweete *desire*.

100.

Yet man is not free from his fatall foe,
 That first supplanted *Adam*, antique sire,
 And works to wrecke on *Adams* line, like woe:
 Beleeuers onely make this foe retire.

Sacred *Messiah* payde that deathfull hire,
 Whereby wee liue, and haue *eternitie*,
 Though here beclouded with the contrary.

101.

What passionate *inconstancie* haue *men*,
 Which shew *affections* so contrarie?
 No *creature* to a *creature* worse hath ben,
 Then man to man, who in hot enmitie,
 Hath wrought each other deadly destinie.
 Yea, some that deerely lou'd before, comes foes,
 And foes come friends: some work themselues their woes.

102.

Nay, man within himselfe hath selfe *debate*,
 His *soule* and *body* are at deadly feede,
 Yet *man* himselfe is as a publike *state*,
 And *reason* Prince seemes so to sway that steede,
 As foule *concupiscence* that sowes her seed
 In fleshie furrowes to corrupt the soule,
 Should not preuaile, but haue her due controule.

103.

No maruaile then, if brutish creatures beene
 In priuate warre, the *Millet* and the *Pike*,
 The *Cocke* and *Foxe*, the *Eagle* and the *Wren*,
 The *Kite*, and *Crow*, the *Tode* and *Spider* like,
 That doe each other of selfe-nature strike:
 Which makes each sect to stand in feare to fall,
 Sith each hath foes, and foes are full of gall.

104.

What makes a *Kingdome* to continue long,
 But feare of foes, that breedes preuenting *mindes*,
 And *mindes* forbidding to do neighbours wrong,
 Lest *Iustice* punish, where deseruing binds?
 Nought but *securitie* a *kingdome* blindes.
 But when it sees apparent *enemies*,
 It then takes heede, they are her *contraries*.

105.

The *Lacedemons* made stout *Athens* feare.
 The *Romanes* rouzed *Carthage*, then secure.
 The *Saxon* furies did the *Brytens* weare.
 All states haue foes, and yet they may endure:
 Though peace to pietie should best allure,
 Yet is it seene where is no feare of thrall,
 That state soone stumbles, and hath sorest fall.

106.

For *pride* pricks people that are free from *foes*.
 And *riches* rauish *mindes*, dipt in *desires*,
 To clime aloft. And pleasantly hee rowes,
 That hath no winde nor tyde to check aspires:
 When he but seemes to rowe, indeede retires.
 All haue their ends, and all are borne to change,
 Cros'd, or at quiet, all like race do range.

107.

And though the *Elements* distributed,
 As may be thought, in true *proportion*:
 And *bodies* feele them not distempered,
 Fit *lineaments* and due *coniunction*:
 There will in fine be yet *confusion*.
 For what so is compact of *contraries*,
 By *combates* fall to mortall maladyes.

108.

Then is it seene that *earth*, and earthly things,
 Conserued long by *Heauens* influence,
 And *Elements*, the foure pretended *kings*,
 That keepe all *creatures* in obedience:
 Although they haue most due ingredience,
 Their *discord* seeming most sweete *concordance*,
 In fine they perish by *distemperance*.

109.

Now let vs see the *earth*, and all her *parts*,
 Her *places*, and her strange diuersities,

And how the *Heauens* aspects are found by arts
 To worke in men, and things antipathyes,
 Or by consent of *Clymats*, simpathies,
 How *plants* and *fruites*, how *birds* and *fishes* fare,
 That all throughout the *orbe* dispersed are.

110.

The *Heauens* and *earth* diuided by the *Zones*,
 Appeare to haue fiue fit partitions,
 Two *cold*, one *hote*, and two *temperate* ones,
 Some seeke to proue by strong assertions,
 The *cold* and *hote*, of these diuisions,
 Were not, nor may at all be habited:
 Two only are, that are well tempered.

111.

The *Zones*, they say, beneath the *poles*, are cold,
 And so exceede, in that extreame they kill
 The creatures that in them doe couet hold.
 The middle *Zone*, neath *Equinoxe* as ill,
 That burnes the creatures subiect to her will:
 And onely two, that lie on either side,
 Do foster *men* and *creatures* vnderide.

112.

Yet is it found by due experience,
 That all haue people and commodious things,
 And *Natures* might and sweete beneficence,
 So swayes the *Clymats*, and such issue brings
 Vnto this *orbe* of earth, and earthly things,
 As all her parts and limits are beset
 With men and fruite, that Nature daignes to get.

113.

Yea, in the *North*, vnder the coldest *clime*,
 Dwell sundrie people, and great Nations,
 Long since, and some found in this latter time,
 Diuers in *tongues* and *habitations*,
 In *Lawes*, *Religions*, and in *fashions*.
 And though the *cold* ingender *Ice* and *Snow*,

Men trauaile, traffick, plant, warre, arye, and sow.

114.

As they that dwell in *Lythuania*,
Lyuonia, *Sweden*, and *Estoteland*,
Perima, *Condora*, *Noua*, *Zembla*,
 In *Norway*, *Muscouia*, and *Finland*,
 In *Iseland*, *Freyland*, and in *Lappen-land*.
 These and farre more, lie in *Septentrion*,
 Though a distempered and cold Region.

115.

Yet when tne *Sunne* brings to them wished light,
 And thawes the waters, erst congeal'd with cold,
 Then doth retire their long and wearie night,
 And fruits, and plants, and trees them then vnfold,
 And make the *earth* more sweeter to behold.
 And men that erst in couert *caues* did dwell,
 Like winter sleepers, rouze them from their cell.

116.

For as all *Regions* are found to lie
 On th'one, or th'other side th'*equator* line:
 Their distance farre, or their propinquitie,
 Doe shew how much or little they decline,
 Which doth the length of nights and dayes define.
 And as the *Sunne* comes neere, the *dayes* do grow,
 And as shee passeth from, the nights doe so.

117.

The *limites* that do bound the world about,
 Are *South*, and *North*, *East*, and *West* opposited:
 The first two, firme and stable seeme throughout.
 Tow last moue, as *Sunne* comes low or hight'ned
 In the *Zodiacke*, and signes obliqued.
 Which makes the *East* and *West* to alter so,
 (Some hold) as *Sunne* is seene to come and go.

118.

And though the countreyes in extremities
 Of hot and cold, seeme much distemperd:
 They yeeld of precious things varieties,
 Wherewith all *other parts* are plenished.
 For *Nature* sweetely hath distributed
 Her friendly fruites to all that all may see,
 That good, and great, and full of fruites is she.

119.

She hath ordain'd the *Indies* of the East,
 With *Pearle* of price, with stones of highest deeme,
 The *Emerald*, the *Ruby*, and the rest,
 Which potent Princes hold in such esteeme:
 As in respect, the purest *gold* doth seeme
 More base then these, yet these more base then it,
 Tride by the *Test*, the *Quintessence* of *Wit*.

120.

Thence comes the *Elephant*, a beast of might,
 Of maiestie, and humane courtesie:
 And the **Rinoceros* with vertues dight:
 Whose bloud, bones flesh, and skin, haue secrecie,
 As Phisicke rules hold most salutarie.
 There is also the loftie *Palme*, a tree,
 That beares a fruit, whereof good wine may bee.

*The
 Rinoceros
 a beast,
 whose
 parts are
 all Phisi-
 call..*

121.

And thence the *silke*, high *Honours* ornament,
 Or rather *Sirick*, comes from *Sirrick* steede,
 In great esteeme, yet but wormes excrement,
 That liues and dyes, and dying leaues a seede,
 That dieth not, but of it other breede.
 High *Peeres* beholden to this silly beast,
 Deck them with that, which it esteemeth least.

122.

Arabia South, not of lesse consequence,
 Yeeldes forth her talent, sable *Ibony*,
 Finest *Cottons*, *Mirrhe*, and sweetest *incense*,

And *Iewrie*, which of yore had dignitie,
 Affords the loftie *Cedar*, and sweete *Balsamy*
 So much imbraced for her *vertues* might,
 In healing hurts of wounded men in fight.

123.

Moluccaes in the farthest part of *West*,
 Yeelds *Pepper*, *Cloues*, *Mace*, *Cinamon*, and *spice*,
Ginger, *Nutmegs*, and *Phisick* drugs the best.
 Yea, from the South comes many things of price.
 Else where are found by *nauticke arts* deuce,
 Sweete *Ciuet*, and the finest *Cassia*,
 That Marchants bring from *Aethiopia*.

124.

In *Callicute* the ayre most temperate,
 The countrey neuer touch'd with pest:
 All trees and plants are still in greene estate,
 Yeelding each month new frutes, then in request:
 Fayre, sweete, and pleasant: diuers yet in test.
 Which eke doe differ from all other frutes,
 In colour, forme, and in their diuers sutes.

125.

In *Syria*, where stood fayre *Paradise*,
 As antique writers doe the place assigne,
 About *Damascus*, *Natures* benedice,
 Appreares in *corne*, in *flesh*, in *fruit*, in *wine*,
Quinces, *Pomegranets*, and fruits of that line,
Oliues and *Almonds*, and the fragrant *Rose*,
 Sing sundrie prayses by their sweete disclose[.]

126.

But contrarie this blessing is deni'de
 To many people fell and barbarous:
 To them that in *Tartara* abide,
 And in *Arabia*, robustious,
 That follow cattel, liuing beastious,
 Moouing by troupes, feeding on milke and grasse,
 Seldome returning, as they erst did passe.

127.

But in the countreyes of Ciuilitie,
 Where Lawes do leade, and where Religion guides,
 The people there, liue well and decently,
 And plant, and sow, reape, and what besides
 May yeeld supplie, fit for all wants and tydes.
 These changing courses, shew dame *Nature* may
 Giue, or depriue: none countermaundes her way.

128.

Her vertues streames, and bountie richly flow,
 From parts and *Clymates* best etempered,
 Where *ayre* and *waters* holsomely bestow
 Health and fertilitie, things gloried
 Of *men* and *beasts*, that bee well qualified,
 In *vigor*, *colour*, and *complection*,
 But in extreames ill *constitution*.

129.

The *Ethiopians* neere to the sunne,
 With parching beames, that on them doe reflect,
 Their colours *blacke*, some *tawnie*, some are *dunne*,
 The *head* and *beard* are frised of that sect,
 Their *bodies* drier by the same effect,
 Sharp witted, fierce, sterne, and of warlike minds,
 And differ much from them of colder kindes.

130.

The people in *Septentrionall* parts,
 In countries cold, and Icie regiments,
 Haue softer *skinne* and *white*, yet brutish *hearts*:
 For these *extreames* breede seele good rudiments:
 Yet in them both *natures* habiliments.
 Their stature tall, their courage cruell set,
 As heate and moysture their extreames beget.

131.

Like difference in other things is found,

In herbes, in trees, and things inanimate,
 They grow or wither as they like the ground:
 Things of one kind stand not in like estate,
 Too hot or cold, too drie or humidate.
 All vegetables doe proue best in land,
 Where ayre is sharpe, yet not too sharpe at hand.

132.

Some *plants* applaude, (yet as their nature willes)
 On driest ground, some on the moyster steede:
 Some on the *valyes*, some aloft the *hilles*.
Pine trees and *Cedars*, and the *Firre* agreed,
 To choose high *mountaines* for their better breed.
 The *Oke* and *Beech*, the *Ashe* and *Hazell* tree,
 In lower land and *Forrests* best agree.

133.

The *Alder*, *Popler*, and the *Willow* loue
 To liue below, where rilles of water runne.
 Each creature seekes (by nature) best behoue:
 Their *Will perseuers*, as it first begunne.
 Art yet may alter, and it may be wonne,
 To like the *place* which was not first assign'd,
 Yet not, if *nature* do it counterbind.

134.

For if the *Orange* and the *Lemon* trees,
 Be brought from *Spaine*, and set in English soyle,
 They grow perchance, their *nature* yet they leese:
 And he that plants them, lendes a fruitlesse toyle:
 As wash a *Moore* (blacke still) *Art* hath the foyle.
 Nature preuaileth, maugre *industrie*,
 In things where *Nature* will haue dignitie.

135.

The *Vine* and *Figge tree* do refuse to grow
 In *Babylon*, yet found a fertill land.
 And *Indie* Occident, doth seeme a foe
 To *Oliue* trees, there planted, will not stand
 But fruitlesse, none therefore doth take in hand,

To sowe or set, the *kernelles* root none take:
They loose their labour that doe triall make.

136.

No place is yet of that sterrilite,
But yeeldes a portion and beneuolence
To *man*, a subiect who hath soueraigntie
Ouer all creatures. *Natures* efficence
 Begets and leaues them to mans *diligence*:
 And *diligence* discreete obtaines the lot
 Of *life* and *libertie*, which *sloth* hath not.

137.

For *gold* and *siluer*, *lead*, and *tynne* lie dead,
And sundrie precious things, in minerals:
None find the *celles* wherein these things bee bred,
But such as diue into the *earths* entrals,
 Which *art* and *labour* find out by trials.
 For *Nature* giueth men *hands*, *feete*, and *eyes*,
 To worke, to walke, to see, *hearts* to deuise.

138.

Which well is seene among men qualifi'd
In sacred gifts, learning to liue aright:
They onely rule, they onely rectifi'd,
Doe onely polish *Nature* with *Arts* light,
 Disposing creatures pleasing to the sight:
 As *plants* and *trees*, *gardens* and *Orchyards* fayre,
 Fraught with fayre *fruites* in the holsom'st ayre.

139.

In this doth *Europe* farre excell the rest.
Spaine, *Italy*, *France*, high, low *Germany*,
And *England* Northmost, equall with the best,
The first most famous for sterrillitie:
 The last hath fame for sweete fertilitie.
 They haue the *art* that *nature* beautifies,
 And *nature* giues the rest their dignities.

140.

Thus prouidence *diuine* distributes things
 To *men* and *people*, and to *Nations*
 Peculiar. Most bountifull shee brings
 Vnto them all change of *conditions*.

Land lendes to Land such contributions,
 As may supplie each others needfulnesse.
 That land wants most, that wants *Truths* heedfulnesse.

141.

Yet in the barreynest, where truth is not,
 And where true *light* lends not releeuing rayes,
 There yet haue beene, and are some gifts by lot,
 That sauour, some, (as blemish'd) of disprayes,
 And some of *vertue*, all grow by *essayes*.
Essayes breede *vse*, *vse*, *custome*, *custome*, *arts*,
Arts ayding *Nature*, perfit both their parts.

142.

The parts of *Nature*, yet most absolute,
 Not subiect to the *Art*, for *Art* shee breeds:
 If shee denie, *Arts* all stand dumbe and mute,
Art onely growes from *Natures* working deedes,
 Which first did sowe in *Aristotle seedes*,
 That grew to *branches*, others brake the same
 And planted in their *braines*, thence *Logicke* came.

143.

Auicen and *Gallen*, and the most of skill,
 That first did find the *simples* Nature out,
 Were not first helpers, but at first did *kill*.
Nature gaue *wit*, *wit* held the thing in doubt:
Doubt then made *prooffe*. *prooffe* brought the thing about,
 And found the hearbs, fit Phisick for vnsound:
Phisicke minerals *Paracelsus* found.

144.

Geometrie the mother of all Arts,
 Was not at first found by a former Art:
Nature did first delineate those parts,

That *Wits* and *Willes* might come vnto her mart
 And buy by practise (to adorne the heart)
 The principles of Art, as *Archimedes* did,
Archytas too, and other, to some hid.

145.

Art in *Astrologie* grew by degree,
 The *Babylonians* excel'd therein:
 Imperfect first, til Nature gaue to see:
Anaximandes did the art begin:
 Since many famous in the same haue bin.
 But if high *Nature* did forbid the skill,
 None comes to *Art*, vsing what meanes he will.

146.

Yet some by nature haue such apt incline
 To this or that, as holpen by *Arts light*,
 Doe see the secrets of that Art (for signe)
 To which if they attribute meanest might,
 They soone attaine, when others not so dight,
 May striue and struggle to acheiue the same,
 But yet in vaine, *Nature*, not *will*, to blame.

147.

To some yet, are some common faculties,
 And people of some lands haue priuate skill,
 In some peculiar *trades* and *mysteries*,
 Which doe preuaile by *Nature* more then *will*,
 As if the soyle did learne them what they nill:
 But there it seemes *Nature* and vse agrees:
 And willing minds seldome their labour leese.

148.

The *Scythians* did will, and vse to ride:
 They grew so excellent, they gained fame,
 Their *horses* and good *horsemanship* their pride.
 By Bowes the *Parths* and *Medes* gat greatest name:
 And *English* Archers famous for the same.
 But now of late, by course they leaue the thing
 That got them fame, and glorie to their King.

148.

The *Irishmen* strong and robustious,
 Use for offensive weapons, armed darts,
 Their armes are active, bodies valerous,
 Casting by force, assisted by their arts:
 No people equalize them in these parts.
 Their natures and their educations one,
 Makes them most famous in these arts alone.

150.

Although of yore the *Sarmates* and the *Getes*,
Cretens, *Armaspi*, and the *Perses* were
 Admired most excelling in these fetes,
 Th'Irish soyles most dreadful darters rere,
 Who in the skirmish skip them here and there,
 Ouer the bogges, that tremble as they runne:
 The bullet vnborne, darts and arrowes wonne.

151.

But *men* their manners and their properties
 Doe alter so, that all things alter too,
 Subiect to them, and to their faculties:
 As *time* doth *men*, so *men* *invention* woo,
 And things do follow as the *founders* doo.
 Man onely erreth from right *reasons* way,
 Fed by fond *fancie*, guide vnto estray.

152.

Who doth not see the state of fickle *man*,
 His changing courses and his diuers turnes,
 Tweene aged yeeres, and time he first began,
 How *time* his termes from time to time adiurnes?
 Time tries him still, to triumph him he wurnes,
 And will not let him glorie long in blisse,
 In this short *progresse* where no *glorie* is.

153.

Before his *birth* hee lies as in a caue,

Inclos'd with gore, an vgly shape he beares:
 Then by degrees hee gins some forme to haue,
 And represents what after hee appeares,
 A humane bodye then hee comes with teares
 From cell of *darknesse*, and partakes the *light*,
 A silly creature, and of silly might.

154.

Then he forthwith liues, and forthwith he dies,
 Though liuing long, he lingers and decayes
 From *youth* to *age*, hee pining, mortifies,
 Although hee seeme to glorie in his dayes,
 His day to die comes stealing, though it stayes.
 And when he seemeth to haue constant state,
 A change chops in, of more inconstant rate.

155.

Man neuer standeth, but like wauing *tyde*,
 That comes and goes, now calme, then full of ire:
 Now sings he sweete, all sorrowes layd aside,
 Then groweth *griefe*, welcome to no desire,
 Heau'd vp, hurl'd downe, dismay'd, or in aspire:
 Grac'd now, then in disdain, now in the sunne
 Of sweetest *fauour*: then eclips'd, vndonne.

156.

Th'inconstant state of *man* inconstant, mooues
 My constant Muse to mourne and pause a while,
 Sad and in silence, as my state approues,
 Beset with sorrowes, comforts in exile,
 Fed with imperfect promise (wounding smile.)
 Reft of releefe, the worlds *change* I sing.
 This first approou'd, a second part I bring.

157.

Wherein the changes of mans glorie seene,
 Of *Cities*, *Kingdomes*, *tongues*, and *Nations*,
 Shall well approoue, *Time* strong, a checklesse *Queene*,
 Yeeldes not to idle allegations,
 That fruitlesse fancie frames for fashions,

To colour *sinne*, and gloze fond vanitie,
With fayned habite of sweete pietie.

F I N I S.

