

CORANTOE

COMPRISING

A true Reporte of Matters of Note at Canterbury Faire
and also other such sundrie Newes that
hath come to the ears of this Writer.

*Impartially communicating Truth, correcting Falsehood, reproving the Wilfull,
pitying the Ignorant and reporting the multitude of scandalous Goings-on.*

Tues. Januar. 21.

Numb. 1

Inaugural Issue cov'ring events untill nowe.

MARKET. An Advertisement Certain Persons request may be put into the Corantoe. That upon the afternoon of this day from the hour of 4 or thereabouts, there will be sold within the Great Hall, a great manie Goods : quality clothing and accessories & hand-spun yarn from Emma's Emmporium; Bling your belt with fine pewter buckles and mounts made by Sir Sebastian; Powders, aromatic waters, beauty creams, lip balms, soaps and other items to bring you to Cleanlinese made by Mistresse Rohesia; spoons & drinking vessels & such sundrie other items for use at table. (Itinerant merchants may sell during Faire from the Merchanting Tent at the Mong; see Lord Bjorn to arrange this. Mini-market on Saturday next.)

Nota Bene: the publishers would have you refrain from use of that Italian vice, the Forkke, forinasmuch as it is the Instrument of the Devil, and should be used by no right-thinking persons.

BACON BUTTIES. An Advertisement. Bacon on bread or on a skewer may be had from Lady Grace Kerr at hours approximating 9-10 of a morning/evening at the Mong, or any other such hour as she may be importuned or awake.

BIG BUNS. An Advertisement. Honey-apple Spice Buns may be purchased for 2 gold from the Bunsmiths each morning, Monday to Saturday. Regular daily delivery can be ordered from the House of Draco Viridis or their agents.

FURNITURE. An Advertisement. Lord Bjorn Svartsson has fine furniture for sale in oak, and can take commissions to order in walnut from Discerning Purchasers.

KNIGHT SCHOOL. A Publick Notice. Certain Knights of the Realme will take to the field of Canterbury Faire after the middaie meal on this day to provide instruction and advyse to such would-be combatants as maie attend.

To haue themselues deluded in this sort
By euery flying fained false report;
How itching eares doe entertaine all stuffe,
If it be named Newes t'is good enough.
One saies a traveller (a friend of His)
Is new come home, and he hath told him this
Another saies, as he in Pauls did walke,
He heard the newes whereof two knights did talke:
Another, he hath newes is very rare,
And heard it sitting in a barber's chaire:
Another, he is furnish't very strange
With newes new taken up at the Exchange
And thus about from man to man it flied
Was neuer such an age for telling lies.
The good Newes and the bad, that here is told
Doth take foundation on a better hold
For when this booke is over read by you
I'le lay the price, you will confesse t'is true.

Printed for P. Stubbes and J. Knox, gentlemen,
and are to be found in divers locales where Discerning Readers maie gather.

AS46.



OEAR READER, The search for *Truth* compels me to utter my conscience on this matter following, notwithstanding that the whole world should be offended with me for so doing. If any wonder why I conceal my name, be assured that the fear of corporeal punishment is neither the only, nor the chief cause. For there is Scandal at the Highest level of this Kingdom where it is said that One who hath promised to forsake a hidden love to take up a Union of Convenience for the sake of the Realme hath been sorely tempted and, yea, hath fallen to temptation for where may She be found? Not always upon the Chair of her New Estate but rather in a more horizontal place.

Though She is not entirely to blame, for Nature paints forth women to be weak, frail, and impatient; experience has declared them to be inconstant, variable, cruel. And these notable faults have men in all ages espied, for the which not only they have removed women from rule and authority, but also some have thought that men subject to the counsel or empire of their wives were unworthy of public office. But let it not be said that He is spotless of such sins himself for is there not a shadow household in the wings to which he flies. And if He is so drawn to this daark side then small wonder that words of war are whispered in the Kingdom to the dolour of all peace-loving members of the populace, few though they may be. It is a very difficult thing to a man (be he never so constant) promoted to high honour, not to be tickled somewhat with pride (for the wind of vain glory does easily carry up the dry dust of the earth). But as for woman, it is no more possible that she, being set aloft in authority above man, shall resist the motions of pride, than it is able to the weak reed, or to the turning weathercock, not to bow or turn at the vehemence of the inconstant wind. Would to God the examples were not so manifest as to the imperfections of rulers, of their natural weakness and inordinate appetites!

And yet, with us all there is such silence, as if therewith were nothing offended. I know there are many causes why no such doctrine ought to be published in these our dangerous days: first, for that it may seem to tend to sedition; secondarily, it shall be dangerous, not only to the writer or publisher, but also to all such as shall read the writings, or favour this truth spoken; and last, it shall not amend the chief offenders, partly because it shall never come to their ears, and partly because they will not be admonished in such cases.

Hereafter you shall hear more of this Great Matter.



And for another part, it has been well-known in times past that importune games are to be found in the vicinitie of that Den of Iniquitie termed the Mong, such that the skill at shooting with arrows has been almost totally laid aside for the purpose of various useless and unlawful games such as football, coits, golfe, dice, kailes and suchlike. As concerning football playing, I protest unto you it may rather be called a friendly kind of fight, than a play or recreation; a bloody and murdering practice, than a fellowly sport or pastime. For doth not every one lie in wait for his adversary, seeking to overthrow him and to throw

him on his nose, though it be upon hard stones. So that by this means, sometimes their necks are broken, sometimes their backs, sometimes their legges, sometimes their arms, or one part thrust out of joint, or their noses gush out with blood. Forasmuch as there is great noise at the Faire caused by hustling over large from which many evils may arise which God forbid; we call upon the King to forbid, on pain of imprisonment, such game to be used at the Faire. For we well recall that time when husbandmen, yeoman and even Peers of the Realme to the number of one hundred, assembled themselves for the foote-ball, by means of which there was amongst them a great affray likely to result in homicides and serious accidents. Let us not even consider the truly dire nature of juggler or dwyle flonking.



And another thing to be condemned is that place of sin and mischief, the REVEL or THEATRE. For was there not last evening a Great Tumult and Roistering where those benighted souls gathered to have such Fun as they might within the very Pitte of Vice. And that such roisterings, albeit assaying to appeal to those of the Gentler Sort, will come again tommorow e'en after dinner at the presentation of Plays and Interlewdes in the curving arms that hold the Half-Cirde Theatre. Do not these gatherings maintain bawdry, insinuate foolery, induce uncleanness? nay, are they not rather plain devourers of maidenly virginity and chastity? For proof whereof, but mark the flocking and running to theaters and curtains, daily and hourly, night and day, time and tide, to attend Revels and Theatres; where such wanton gestures, such bawdy speeches, such laughing and fleering, such kissing and bussing, such clipping and culling, such winking and glancing of wanton eyes, and the like, is used, as is wonderful to behold.

And whereas you say there are good Examples to be learned in them, Truly so there are: if you will learn falsehood; if you will learn cozenage; if you will learn to cog, lie, and falsify; if you will learn to jest, laugh, and fleer, to grin, to nod, and mow; if you will learn to play the vice, and to swear; If you will learn to become a bawd, unclean, and to devirginate Maids, to devour honest VVives: if you will learn to murder, slay, kill, pick, steal, rob, and rove: If you will learn to rebel against Princes, to commit treasons, to consume treasures, to practice idleness, to sing and talk of bawdy love and venery: if you will learn to deride, scoff, mock and flout, to flatter and smooth: If you will learn to play the the glutton or Drunkard, you need to go to no other school, for all these good Examples may you see painted before your eyes in Revels and Theatre.



And a final matter of Certain Persons preoccupied with the trimming and tricking and braiding of hair, whether it be upon their heads or their chins or beards or having their mowchatowes laid out from one eare to another and turned up like two hornes. The barbers now have monstrous manners of cuttings, trimmings, shavings, and washings, termed variously the French cut, the Spanish cut, the unkindest cut, the newe, the bravado, the common, the court, and the country cuts that you would wonder to see. Vanity!