

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR
FORREINE
TRAVELL. 1642**

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Instructions for Forreine Travell. 1642 by James Howell & Edward Arber

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JAMES HOWELL & EDWARD ARBER

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR
FORREINE
TRAVELL. 1642**

English Reprints.

JAMES HOWELL, B.A.

Clerk of the Council.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FORREINE TRAVELL.

1642.

COLLATED WITH THE SECOND EDITION OF 1650.

Senſico non Segnetico.

CAREFULLY EDITED BY
EDWARD ARBER,
Associate, King's College, London, F.R.G.S., &c.

LONDON:
5 QUEEN SQUARE, BLOOMSBURY, W.C.

Ent. Stat. Hall.]

15 June, 1869.

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SHORT ACCOUNTS of JAMES HOWELL.

* Probable or approximate dates.

It is impossible to give here any adequate notice of Howell's career, or of his many works: both original and translativ. I trust, in the course of next year, 1870, to include among the 'English Reprints' a satisfactory edition of his principal work *Epistole Ho-Eliane*; which grow into completeness in four successive instalments, published severally in 1645, 1647, 1650, and 1655: and in that edition to give the usual Chronicle of his Life, Works, and Times.

Two short accounts of him must therefore suffice for the present.

I. A contemporary, Sergeant-Major PERRIN FISHER, Poet Laureate to the Protector, edited in 1664, *Mr. Howell's Poems upon divers Emergent Occasions*. In his address *To the Reader*, Fisher thus characterizes the works of Howell, then a Septuagenarian in years and a Patriarch in literature.

"Not to know the Author of these Poems, were an Ignorance beyond *Barbarism*, as 'twas said of a famous person in *France*: yet I held it superfluous to prefix his name in the Title-Page, he being known and easily distinguished from others by his Genius and Style, as a great Wit said lately of him,

Author Hic ex Calaneo notus ut uagus Leo.

He may be called the prodigie of his Age, for the variety of his Volumes: for from his *Διδαχαια* or *Parly of Trees*, to his *Θυσακεια* or *Parly of Beasts*, (not inferior to the other) there hath pass'd the Press above forty of his Works on various subjects; useful not onely to the present times, but to all posterity.

And 'tis observed, that in all his Writings there is something still *New*; either in the *Matter, Method or Fancy*, and in an untrodde[n] Tract. Moreover, one may discover a kinde of Vein of *Poesie* to run through the body of his *Prose*, in the Continuity and succinctness thereof all along.

He teacheth a new way of Epistolizing; and that *Familiar Letters* may not onely consist of Words, and a bombast of Complements, but that they are capable of the highest Speculations and solidist kind of Knowledge.

He chalks out a Topical and exact way for *Foreign Travel*, not roving in general Precepts onely.

In all his Histories there are the true Rules, Laws and Language of History observed.

What infinite advantages may be got by his *Dictionaries* and *Nomenclatures* by all Professions and Nations!

How strongly and indeed unanswerably doth he assert the *Royal Right* in divers learned Tracts, to the unbeguiling and conversion of many thousands abroad as well as at home! &c.

Touching these Poems, most of them pere saw publick Light before; for I got them in *Manuscripts*, whereof I thought fit to give the Reader an Advertisement."

2. ANTHONY-A-WOOD gives this account of his *Life* (*Atk. Oxon.* iii. 744, Ed. 1817).

*1594.

'JAMES HOWELL was born in Caermarthenshire, particularly, as I conceive, at Abernant, of which place his father was minister. In what year he was born, I cannot precisely tell you, yet he himself saith, that his ascendant was that hot constellation of Cancer about the midst of the dog-days.'

[1608. Feb. 20. His elder brother Thomas, of Jesus Coll. Oxon., takes his B.A.—Wood, *Fasti Oxon.*]

1610. Oct. 16. 'After he had been educated in grammar learning in the free-school at Hereford, he was sent to Jesus coll. in the beginning of 1610, aged 16 years.'

[1612. July 9. His brother Thomas takes his M.A.—Wood, *Fasti Oxon.*]

1613. Dec. 17. 'James takes his B.A.'—Wood, *Fasti Oxon.* i. 352. He

Oct. 19.

'took a degree in arts, and then, being a pure cadet, a true cosmopolite, not born to land, lease, house, or office, was in a manner put to it to seek his fortune. But by the endeavours of friends and some money that his father assisted him with, he travelled for three years into various countries, whereby he

*1614—*1617.

- advantaged himself much in the understanding of several languages.'
1622. Oct. 28. 'Some years after his return, he was sent into Spain 1622, to recover of the king of that place a rich English ship, seized on by his vice-roy of Sardinia for his master's use, upon some pretence of prohibited goods therein.'
1623. Oct. 29. 'He was elected fellow of Jesus coll.'
- *1625. Oct. 31. 'Three years after his return, he was entertained by Emanuel lord Scrope, Earl of Sunderland, and Lord President of the North, and by him was made his secretary. So that residing in York for that purpose, he was by the mayor and aldermen of Richmond chose a Burgess for their corporation for that parliament that began at Westminster in the year 1627.'
1627. Oct. 33. 'Four years after he went secretary to Robert earl of Leicester, ambassador extraordinary from our king to the king of Denmark: before whom and his children he shew'd himself a quaint orator by divers Latin speeches spoken before them, shewing the occasion of their ambassy, to condole of death of Sophia, queen dowager of Denmark, grandmother to Charles I. king of England.'
- 'Afterwards going through several beneficial employments, particularly the assisting the clerks of the council, he was at length, in the beginning of the civil war, made one of those clerks.'
1642. *Sept. Oct. 48. 'But being prodigally inclined, and therefore running much into debt, he was seized on by order of a certain committee (after the king was forc'd from his parliament) and committed prisoner to the Fleet.'
- 'So that having nothing to trust to but his wits, and to the purchase of a small spot of ground upon Parnassus (which he held in fee of the Muses), he solely dedicated himself to write and translate books; which, tho' several of them are meer scribbles, yet they brought him in a comfortable subsistence, during his long stay there.'
- [1644. July. 1646. 1660. Oct. 66.] His brother Thomas consecrated Bishop of Bristol, but dies in 1646.
- 'After the King's return in 1660, we never heard of his restoration to his place of clerk of the council, (having before flatter'd Oliver and sided with the commonwealth's men), only that he was made the King's historiographer, being the first in England that bore that title; and having no beneficial employment, he wrote books to his last.'
- 'At length after he had taken many rambles in this world in his younger years, and had suffered confinement in his last, he gave way to fate in the beginning of Novemb. in 1666, and was buried on the north side of the Temple church in London, near the round walk. Soon after was a monument set up in the wall over his grave, with this inscription thereon. *Jacobus Howell Cambro-Britannus, Regius Historiographus, (in Anglia primus) qui post varias peregrinationes, tandem naturæ cursum peregit, sætur annorum et famæ, domi fortisque huc usque erraticus, hic fixus 1666.* This monument was pulled down in 1683, when the said Temple church was beautified and repaired.'
- 'He had a singular command of his pen, whether in verse or prose, and was well read in modern histories, especially in those of the countries wherein he had travelled, had a parabolical and allusive fancy, according to his motto *Senesca non Segnæra*. But the reader is to know that his writings having been only to gain a livelihood, and by their dedications to flatter great and noble persons, are very trite and empty, stolen from other authors without acknowledgment, and fitted only to please the humours of novices.'

Wood's account of Howell may be accepted *pro tem.*; his estimate of him should be laid by for future investigation.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FORREINE TRAVELL.



AMUEL PURCHAS in his address *To the Reader*, prefixed to his celebrated *Pilgrimes*, 1625, thus speaks of foreign travel:—

As for Gentlemen, Trauell is accounted an excellent Ornament to them; and therefore many of them coming to their Lands sooner than to their Wits, adventure themselves to see the Fashions of other Countries, where their soules and bodies find temptations to a twofold Whoredom, whence they see the World as *Adam* had *knowledge of good and euill*, with the losse or lessening of their estate in this *English* (and perhaps also in the heauenly) Paradise, and bring home a few smattering termes, flattering garbes, Apish crings, foppish fancies, foolish guises and disguises, the vanities of Neighbour Nations (I name not *Naples*) without furthering of their knowledge of God, the World, or themselves. I speake not against Trauell, so vsfull to vsfull men, I honour the industrious of the liberall and ingenuous in arts, bloud, education: and to prevent exorbitancies of the other, which cannot trauell farre, or are in danger to trauell from God and themselves, at no great charge I offer a World of Trauellers to their domesticke entertainment. . . .

In the same spirit, seventeen years afterwards, Howell wrote his *Instructions for Forreine Travell*,—our first Handbook for the Continent. He intended it as a cautionary Guide to young English gentlemen who went abroad to complete their education, and to make their first acquaintance with Life and Manners.

In itself the book is very discursive. A survey of foreign politics, much shrewd speculation in language, descriptions of foreign customs; and in particular, a notable discrimination of the differing characters of the Frenchman and the Spaniard of his day; these are mingled with the legitimate subject of the treatise: while at the close, he offers an apology for Episcopacy, and is as severe as Purchas upon home-imported

fooleries. So that, while the Author wanders, Posterity gains.

One historic allusion may be made. It is interesting to connect this Tract on Travelling with the Life of our great Epic poet. John Milton, then a young man of thirty years of age, journeyed through France to Italy and back, in 1638-9. Inverting Howell's information, we may gather some impressions of Milton's foreign tour.

In the present Reprint, the second edition of 1650 has been collated with the first. Its variations—mainly grammatical—are shown between [], and its *Appendix* has been added.

The *Appendix* is not the result of actual observation. Howell never travelled 'into *Turky* and the *Levant* parts.' It is a brief memorandum compiled from general sources of information.

Altogether these *Instructions* give us an interesting glimpse of the Continent between 1618—when Howell first went abroad, staying away three years—and 1642. They are the counsels of a man, himself notable on many accounts. A thorough Welshman, Howell became a celebrated English author in his day. He was past forty years of age before his first book was published. Then for the remaining twenty odd years of his life, with an incessant and unwearying industry, he wrote, compiled, or translated book after book, each varying greatly in subject. Lastly, he is one of the earliest instances of a literary man successfully maintaining himself with the fruits of his pen.

INSTRUCTIONS
FOR
FORREINE
TRAVELL.

Shewing by what *cours*, and in
what *compasse of time*, one may
take an exact Survey of the King-
domes and States of Christen-
dome, and arrive to the practicall
knowledge of the Languages,
to good purpose.

— *Post motum dulcior inde Quies.*

LONDON,
Printed by *T. B.* for *Humphrey Mosley*,
at the *Princes Armes*, in Paules
Church-yard. 1642.

To the growing Glory

OF

Great Brittain,

Prince CHARLES.

A parallell 'twixt His *Highnesse*, and
the *Black Prince*.

SIR,



Charles had one Glorious Prince of haire and hue
(Which colour sticks unto Him still) like
You:
He travell'd far, He won His spurs in
France, (chance)

And tooke the King, the KING, & monstrous [wondrous]
Then his victorious troupes afresh He gethers
And with the gray Goose-wing his shafts [shaft] new
He beats a march up the Pyrene Hills, (fathers,
And the Cantabrian clime with terror fills,
To re-inthroned Don Pedro Castile's King,
Of which heroique Act all Stories ring.

Your Royall Sire travell'd jo far, and Thay
Of all our Princes only made that way.

Who knows, Great Sir, but by just destiny,
Your bunch of (Youthfull) Plumes may further fly?
But Faulcon-like, You may with full summd wing
The Eagle cuff, and from his tallons wring
The * Prey, or in exchange seize on his Ore,
And fixe Your Standard on the Indian shore.

'Twas by ^a Charles, France once the Empire got,
'Twas by a ^c Charles the Spaniard dreue that lot,
Why may not Brittain challenge the next call,
And by a CHARLES be made Imperiall?

^a Palatinat.
^b Carolus Magnus.
^c Carol. Quintus.

———— Sic Vaticinatur.

IA. HOWELL.