

**THE ESSAYS OR COUNSELS
CIVIL AND MORAL AND
THE NEW ATLANTIS OF
FRANCIS LORD VERULAM**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649155927

The essays or counsels civil and moral and the new Atlantis of Francis Lord Verulam by
Francis Bacon

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

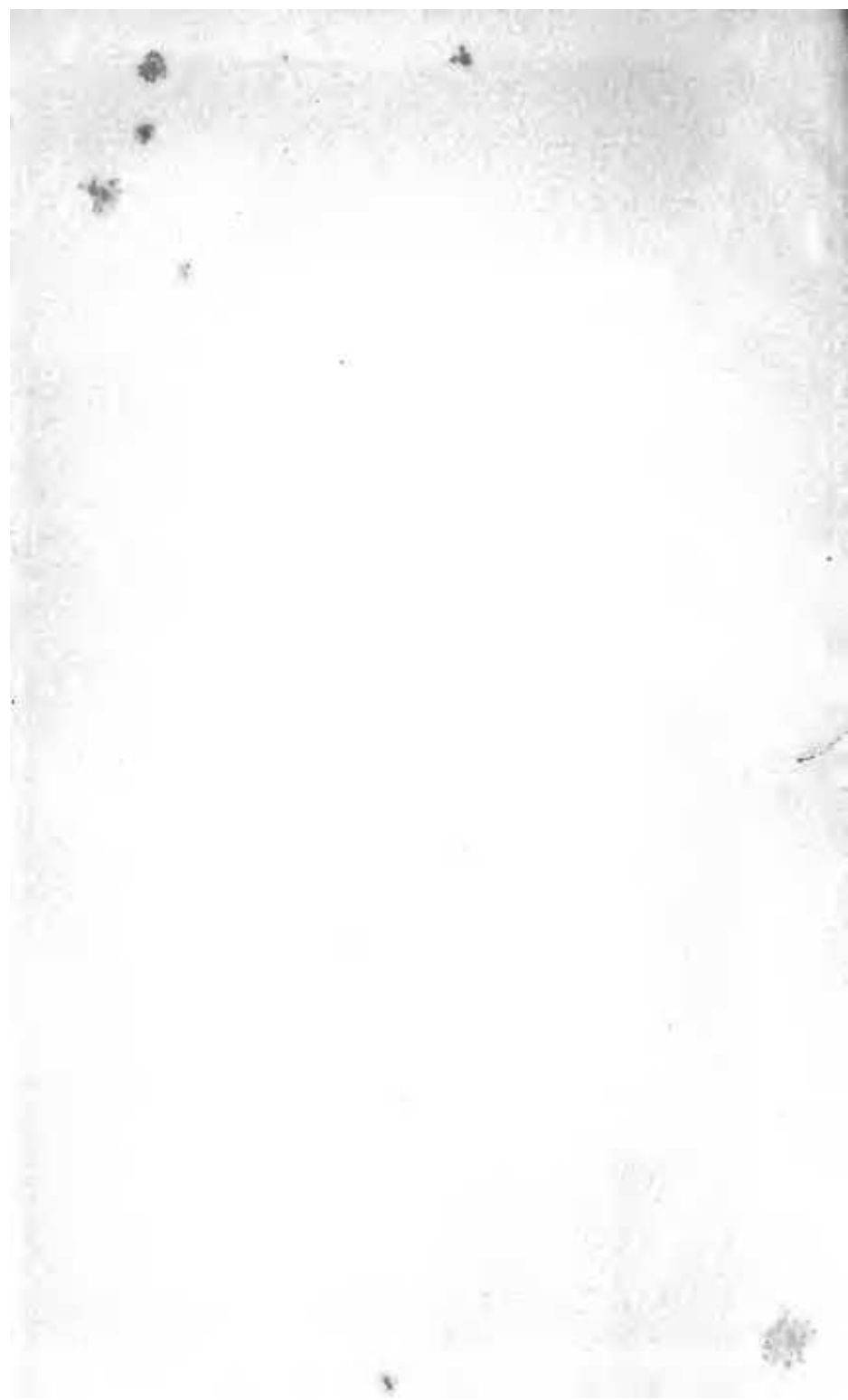
Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

FRANCIS BACON

**THE ESSAYS OR COUNSELS
CIVIL AND MORAL AND
THE NEW ATLANTIS OF
FRANCIS LORD VERULAM**



THE ENGLISH WORKS OF
FRANCIS BACON

VOLUME I

METHUEN'S
STANDARD LIBRARY



EDITED BY SIDNEY LEE

THE ESSAYS OR
COUNSELS CIVIL AND MORAL
AND
THE NEW ATLANTIS
OF
FRANCIS LORD VERULAM
VISCOUNT ST. ALBAN

METHUEN & CO.
36 ESSEX STREET W.C.
LONDON

*Published in Methuen's Standard Library
in 1905*

Add'l
Rog. F. Davis
GIFT
Hansen

928
B128
e
1905

FRANCIS BACON

FRANCIS BACON, son of Sir Nicholas Bacon, Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of England, was born at his father's official residence, York House, near the Strand, London, on 22nd January 1561. His mother (his father's second wife) was sister of the wife of Lord Burghley, Queen Elizabeth's Lord Treasurer and chief minister. After spending two years (1573-5) at Trinity College, Cambridge, Bacon was admitted student at Gray's Inn. Three years of his youth (1576-9) were spent at the English Embassy in Paris. In 1582 he was called to the Bar, and in 1584, at the early age of twenty-three, he entered the House of Commons. He was re-elected to every Parliament that met during the next thirty years, and formed enlightened opinions on many political questions. From boyhood until death, however, the dominating interest of his life lay outside politics or law. He consistently cherished the ambition of extending the limits of human knowledge and of helping his fellow-men to understand and control the forces of nature. He regarded the emoluments and influence, which political and legal preferment might bring, as necessary means of reaching his intellectual goal. In view of his exalted intellectual aims he deemed himself entitled to override ordinary laws of morality in the ancillary pursuit of remunerative and influential office. He drew up a series of cynical rules of practical conduct on which he relied to secure his worldly advancement. In accordance with these rules he enlisted his abilities about 1591 in the service of the Queen's favourite, the Earl of Essex. He under-

took to supply the Earl with political advice, for which he hoped to receive in return profitable promotion. The arrangement worked ill. The Earl was by temperament incapable of benefiting by Bacon's sagacity. He was dismissed from all his offices in 1600 for misconduct in the government of Ireland, and next year was executed for stirring up treasonable rebellion in London. Bacon, in defiance of all considerations of honour or propriety, sought to turn Essex's misfortunes to his own advantage, and appeared as one of the counsel for the prosecution at the two trials of Essex. But Bacon's unprincipled action did not bring the preferment for which he yearned, and his prospects remained unpromising until Queen Elizabeth died in 1603. On James I.'s succession Bacon was more successful in winning the royal favour, and material recognition ultimately came his way. In 1607, at the age of forty-six, he was made Solicitor-General, and in 1613 he received the higher office of Attorney-General.

Meanwhile he had pursued his literary and scientific labours with eminent success. In 1597 he published the first edition of his *Essays*, and in 1605 there was issued his greatest contribution in English to philosophical literature, his *Advancement of Learning*. Until his death his intellectual enthusiasm steadily grew. But in practical affairs his conduct came to defy more and more openly lofty principles. In order to enhance his worldly position, he lost no opportunity through middle life of conciliating the goodwill of those in power, no matter how disastrous to the public welfare he knew their policy to be. His subservience to the King's worthless favourite, George Villiers, afterwards Duke of Buckingham, was richly rewarded. In 1617 he was admitted to the high legal office of Lord Keeper. Next year he was made Lord Chancellor, and was created a peer of the realm, with the title of Lord Verulam. In the early days of 1621 he was promoted to be Viscount St. Alban. Both his titles commemorated his association with the city of St. Albans, the