

XXVIII. *The Bill of the Expences attending the Journey of Peter Martyr and Bernardinus Ochin, from Basil to England, in 1547 : Communicated by NICHOLAS HARRIS NICOLAS, Esq. F.S.A. in a Letter to HENRY ELLIS, Esq. F.R.S. Secretary.*

Read 9th February 1826.

10, Somerset Street, Portman Square, Jan. 24, 1825.

MY DEAR SIR,

IT is known to every person acquainted with the history of the reign of Edward the Sixth, that in the year 1547 the famous Peter Martyr and Bernardinus Ochin, in consequence of their zeal for the reformed Faith, were invited to this Country; that the former was in the following year appointed Regius Professor of Divinity in Oxford; and that Ochin was nominated a Prebendary of the Cathedral of Canterbury by Archbishop Cranmer, on the 9th May 1548.

Whilst making some researches in the Ashmolean Library a short time since, I accidentally met with the original Bill of the expences paid by John Abell, the person who, it appears, was sent to bring them over, for their journey, as well as for clothes, horses, and other necessaries, to enable them to undertake it; and also of the amount paid for their lodgings, &c. on their arrival in London.

This document is not only interesting from its relation to these celebrated individuals, but likewise from its shewing the prices of various articles at the same period in England and at Basil; and still more, from its affording information on the costume and manners of the times.

The biographers of Martyr inform us, that his wife, whom he had persuaded to quit the convent where she was professed, accompanied

him to this country, but from Abell's memorandum that he had desired his factor at Argentine to give to Martyr's servant as much money as he thought necessary for the charges of "their wyffe" coming down, it would appear that such was not the case; though on the other hand, from the item for the repair of saddles and pillions, it may be inferred that some females were of the party. That Martyr's wife came to England is certain, but had she been with him on that occasion, Abell would scarcely have omitted to speak of her.

It is the general impression that both Martyr and Ochin came to this country by the personal invitation of Cranmer, and which is in some degree corroborated by the frequent mention of that Prelate's name in the bill; but as it is certain that Abell looked for the payment of his expences to the Privy Council, to which it seems his account was submitted, we may conclude that not only was the visit of these eminent divines approved by the Government, but that the charges of their journey were defrayed by the Crown.

The whole sum disbursed by Abell amounted to 126*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, a large proportion of which was for wearing apparel and books.

Believe me, my dear Sir,

very faithfully yours,

NICHOLAS HARRIS NICOLAS.

To HENRY ELLIS, Esq.
Sec. S. A.

Laus Deo. 1547.

Mony layd out by me John Abell for Bernerdinus Ochino and Petrus Martyr, from the 4th of November at Basell untyll the 20th of December that they came to London.

	Guldens.	batz.	oz.
Payd for cloth for a cloke and for a cote, for boot, hose, and for a hoode for Bernerdinus at Basell - - -	8	4	0
Payd to a taylore for fustyan and lynng for a doblert for Bernerdinus, and for makyng of hys cloke, cote, &c. -	3	0	2
P ^d to the skyner for furr for hys cote and furryng it -	3	3	0
P ^d for a petycote and for a payr knytt hose for hym -	1	9	0
P ^d for a payer of botes for hym - - - -	2	0	2
P ^d for a payer bogetts and looks for them - - -	2	1	1
P ^d for a sadle for hys horse - - - -	1	11	0
P ^d for a hatt and glovys for hym - - - -	0	9	3
P ^d for a sworde gyrdell, and mendyng hys sworde -	0	8	1
P ^d for our expencys from Basell to Argentine, for our horsemeat, &c. at Argentine - - - -	4	6	2
P ^d for mendyng of sadells & pylyons at Argentine -	0	7	1
P ^d for books for Bernerdinus at Basell as apperyth particu- lerlye by a byll thereof delyv'd to my lord of Canterburye	40	7	0
P ^d for the works of S. Augustine, Cyprian and Epithanius for Petrus Marter at Basell - - - -	13	8	1
P ^d for botes & spores, &c. for Petrus Marter - - -	2	11	0
P ^d for two daggers &c. for Bernerdinus & P ^r Marter -	1	12	0
P ^d for a payer furryd glovys for P ^r Marter - - -	0	13	0
P ^d for a peticote, glovys, & nyght cap for Julius - -	1	11	3
P ^d for 2 horse for Bernerdinus & Petrus Marter - -	36	12	0
P ^d for 2 horse for ther servants - - - -	40	7	0
P ^d by that I gave to two pencyoners of Argentine for con- ducting us two dayes jorney & for other expencys in the way - - - - -	12	4	0
P ^d for a vessell for ther books and for packyng them -	1	4	2
S ^m a	180	1	2

Laus Deo.

S ^m ia 180 guldens 1 batz 2 oz. aft: 15 batz for the gulden, facit 127 crones of the sun & 15 batz 2 oz. reckonyng aft: 23 batz for the crone	-	-	-	-	117	15	2
P ^d more for our expensys & for our guydes frō Argentine to London 83 crones of the sun	-	-	-	-	83	0	0
S ^m ia 200 crones of the sun & 15 batz 2 oz at 6 ^s the pece, facit	-	-	-	-	60	4	Ost.

Mony layd out by me John Abell for Bernerdinus & Petrus Marter sens
ther comyng to London the 20th of December 1547.

	<i>li.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Payd for two payer of hose for Bernerdinus & Petrus Marter	0	11	4
P ^d for a payer nether stocks for ther servant	-	-	0 2 0
P ^d for 3 payer of shooe for them & ther servant	-	-	0 2 4
P ^d for 2 nyght cappes of vellvet for them	-	-	0 8 0
P ^d for 2 round cappes for them	-	-	0 6 0
P ^d for 2 payer of tunbrydġ. knyves for them	-	-	0 2 8
P ^d for 2 payer garters of sylke ryband	-	-	0 2 6
for ryband for a gyrdell for Petrus Marter	-	-	0 1 2
for 2 payer of glovys for them	-	-	0 1 0
P ^d for ther sop' & brekefast y ^t nyght & mornyng that they came to London	-	-	0 10 5
Pd for Potycary ware for them and sending ther gere to Lambeth	-	-	0 1 10
for the frayght of Petrus Marters dryfate of books from Argentine to Andwerp 12 dollers	-	-	2 12 0
for the frayght of the same dryfate from Andwerp to London	0	4	4
for the frayght of Bernerdinus dryfate of books frō Basell to Andwerp 17½ dollers	-	-	3 15 2

for the frayght of the said dryfate from Andwerp to London	0	7	9
P ^d for ther horsmeat untill two of them were sold & two delyv'd to ther švants	-	-	2 8 6
			<i>li. s. d.</i>
S ^{ma}	-	-	11 17 0
S ^{ma} of the other syde			60 04 6
			<hr/>
S ^{ma} tot'	-		72 01 6 ^d
Wherof I have R. for two of the sayd horsès sold in Smythfeld	-	-	4 13 6
			<hr/>
So ther remanynth herof due to me	-	-	1xviij ^{li} . vii ^s . vi ^d .
Delyv'd also by my lord of Canterburye co ^m andment to Julius & Peter Marter's s'vant at hys going o' french croncs at 6 ^s the pece, fecit	-	-	9 00 0
Delyv'd also to Julius by my lord of Canterburye co ^m and- ment a byll to receyve at hys comyng to Argentine	-		30 00 0
More for to be allowyd for my costes in rydyng to Argen- tine at Basell c ^s for thes two men	-	-	20 00 0
S ^{ma}	-	59 ^{li} . 0 ^s . 0 ^d .	
S ^{ma} total of all the charges layd out by me John Abell amountyth as apperyth by this byll	-	-	126 ^{li} . 7 ^s . 6 ^d .

Memorandũ that I have also wrytten to my factor at Argentine to delyv' to the sayd Julius if he shall nede as mych moneye more as he shall thinke necessary to pay the charges of the comyng downe of ther wyffe.

It may please my lords of the Counsell to consyder my hynderance & losse of tyme about myne owne busyness sith I went about this. ^a

Indorsed, "John Abell 126^{li}

Petro

D. Brnard."

^a Ashmole's MSS. No. 826.