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Sir *LEOLINE JENKINS,*

Judge of the High-Court of ADMIRALTY,
And Prerogative Court of CANTERBURY, &c.
Ambassador and Plenipotentiary

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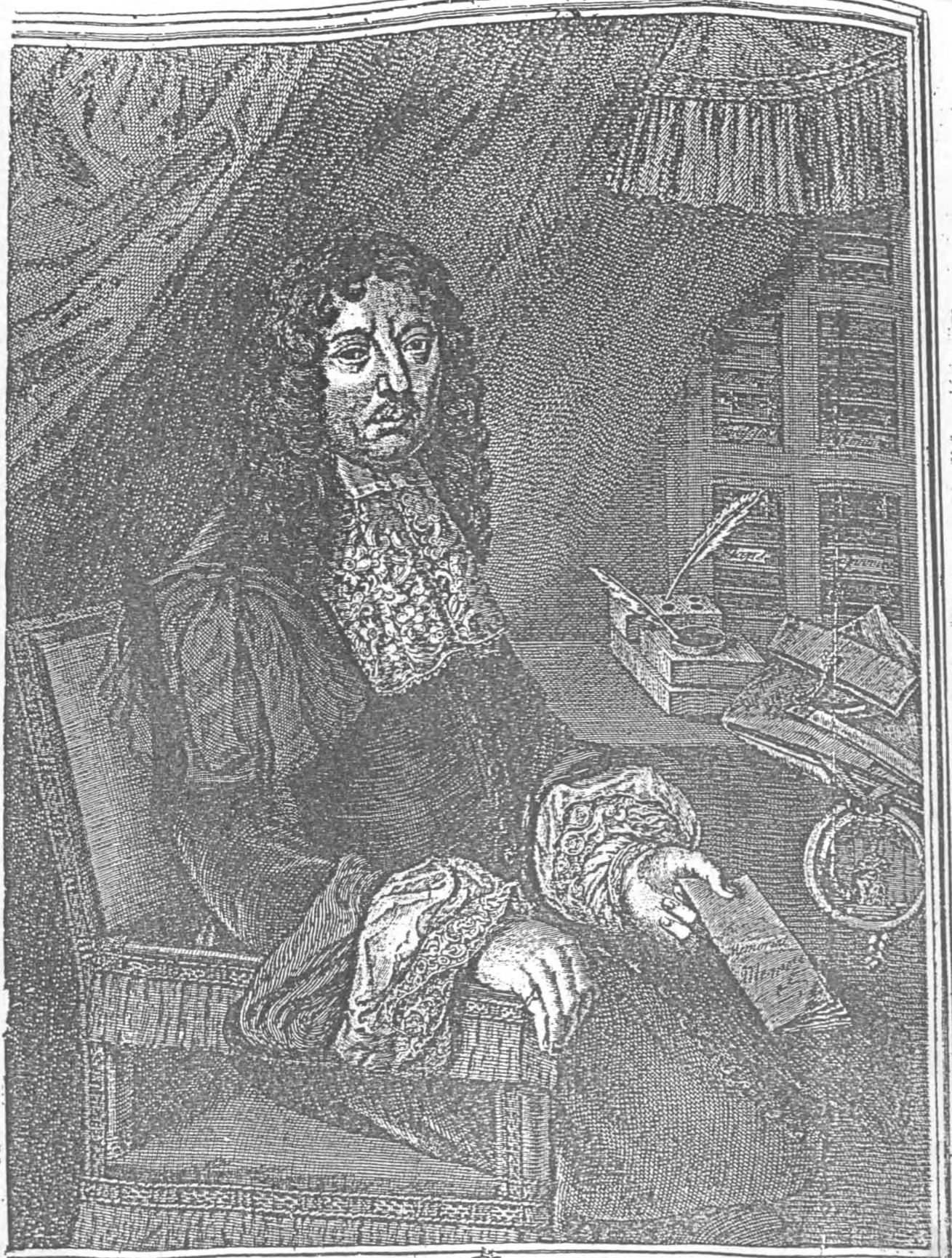
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in *Pater-noster-Row*; WILLIAM and JOHN INNYS, at the *West-End* of *St. Paul's*;
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*Vera Effigies Leolini
 in Suprema Admiralitatis
 Locum tenen: Generalis
 Prerogative Cantuar:
 ad Tractatum Pacis Gen:
 Extraor: & Plenip: & Se:*



*Jenkins Eq. Aur. L.L.D.
 Anglia, & Hiberniae Curia
 & Presid: Curia
 Magist: CAROLI Reg:
 eralis Colon: & Noom: Legat:
 Secretar: Status Primar*

Pinx. Thomazi 1679

g. P. Gualt. Sculp. Lond. 1679

SIGILLIS & VIRTUTE

THESE and the like Expressions frequently falling from him, made his Friends to apprehend that the Day of his Death drew near. And when that Day was come, he put off Mortality with as much Content, Cheerfulness, and Peace of Mind, as he used to express in the ordinary Occurrences of his Life, without any violent Agonies, or Strugglings of Nature, and in the full and perfect Use of his Reason to the last. So that the Circumstances of his Death were every way suitable to those of his Life, and he died as he had lived, with great Piety and Resignation.

WHEREUPON his Body was embalmed, and carried from his House at *Hammersmith* to *Oxford*, being attended by some of his intimate Friends, and domestick Servants. And if the Bodies of Men be capable of any Honour, Sir *Leoline's* had as much as any Man's could have; and he was attended to his Grave with all the Decency and Splendor becoming those high Employments he had undergone. So grateful and obliging to him was that learned Body, for the many useful and acceptable Services he had performed for them in the Course of his Life. And Wit and Eloquence were now at work, to offer up their Tribute to his Memory.

THE Pomp and Manner of his Reception there, and of his Interment, is thus described by one that was an Eye-witness^a. When the Corps came near the City, several Doctors, and the principal Members and Officers of the University, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Citizens, some in Coaches, and others on Horseback, went out to meet it, and conducted it to the Publick Schools, where the Vice-Chancellor, Bishop of the Diocese, and the whole Body of the University, were ready to receive it, and placed it in the Divinity-School, which was fitted and prepared for that Purpose, with all convenient Ornaments and Decorations.

Two Days after, the Vice-Chancellor, several Bishops, Noblemen, Doctors, Proctors, and Masters, met there again in their Formalities, as well as many others that came to pay their last Respects to him; and the Memory of the Deceased being solemnized in a *Latin Oration* by the University Orator, the Corps was removed to the Chappel of *Jesus-College*: Where the Vice-Chancellor (who happened to be the Principal thereof) read the Offices of Burial; and another *Latin Oration* was made by one of the Fellows of the College, which was accompanied with Musick, Anthems, and other Performances suitable to the Occasion. After which it was interred in the *Area* of the said Chappel, with a Marble Stone over his Grave, and a *Latin* Inscription on it, supposed to be made by his old Friend *Dr. Fell*, Lord Bishop of *Oxford*, and Dean of *Christ Church*; a Copy of which is to be found in the following Collection.

HAVING thus endeavoured, by the foregoing imperfect Draught, to give an Account of the most remarkable Passages of Sir *Leoline's* busy and useful Life, and having traced him from his Birth to his Grave, from his Appearance in Publick, to his most private Recesses; I am thinking whether it would be an Abuse of the Reader's Patience, after what has been already said, to add any Thing further of him. But inasmuch as there are some particular Circumstances, and some considerable Vertues, which I have not yet had an Opportunity, or at least not so fully, to speak of before; and some others which could not be fixed to any one Period of Time, but were habitual, and conspicuous in all his Transactions; it may not be amiss to add these further Observations on him.

FROM what has been said, it appears, that his Life was, as it were, one continued Course of Labour and Industry for the Publick Good. Few vacant Spaces, or neglected Moments, slipp'd away from him, and he was praise worthy almost in every Part of Life. His most indifferent Actions

^a Much the same Account in the *Gazette*. And in *Wood's Ath. Oxon.*

Sir Leoline JENKINS

JENKINS, Sir LEOLINE (1625-85), lawyer, diplomat, benefactor of Jesus College, Oxford, son of a father of the same name of Llanblethian, Glam. (described as 'a man about £40 a year'); b. at Llantrisant, apparently in 1625, but the date is sometimes given as 1623. After attending Cowbridge School, he entered Jesus College in 1641. There his studies were soon interrupted by the Civil War, and after having taken up arms for the king he was forced to retire to Glamorgan. It was then that he met his friend and patron, Gilbert Sheldon (later archbishop), who, along with Francis Mansell, principal of Jesus College (q.v.), taken refuge in Sir John Aubrey's house at Llantrithyd. Here Jenkins acted as tutor to Aubrey's son and others until he was forcibly removed and indicted with keeping a seminary of rebellion and sedition. He then moved with his pupils to Oxford and settled in a house

which received the name of the 'Little Welsh Hall.' Being suspected on account of his Royalist connections, he fled to the Continent, taking his pupils with him. While abroad he laid the foundation of his knowledge of the Civil Law which was to qualify him for his public career.

With the Restoration Jenkins returned to Jesus College and was made a Fellow. Upon Mansell's retirement in 1661 he was elected principal and he held the office until 1673. In 1662 he was made deputy professor of Civil Law; he was also made assessor to the Chancellor's Court, and he was entrusted with the foreign correspondence of the University. Persuaded by Sheldon, Jenkins decided to take up the practice of the Civil Law. Preferments followed rapidly. In 1663 he was made deputy to the dean of the Court of Arches, and soon afterwards he succeeded to that office. After the outbreak of war with the Dutch in 1665 he was appointed to preside over the High Court of Admiralty. Later he was also made judge of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury.

Jenkins's work as judge of the Admiralty is of great importance in the history of Prize Law, and, along with Lord Stowell and Sir Samuel T. Evans (q.v.), he is entitled to rank as one of the three principal builders of that important branch of International Law. In particular, his decisions foreshadow the development of the doctrine of continuous voyage.

The Government made constant use of Jenkins's services. He was a delegate to the Congress of Cologne in 1673, and he was the principal mediator at the Congress of Nymegen, 1678. From 1680 to 1684 he was secretary of State. In 1671 he was M.P. for Hythe, and in subsequent Parliaments he represented the University of Oxford. He secured the passage of the Statute of Distribution, 1670, by which succession to the personal estates of persons dying intestate was regulated until 1926. It was at his suggestion that the wills of soldiers and sailors were exempted from the formalities prescribed by the Statute of Frauds, 1677. His support for the establishment of a permanent commission to determine appeals to the Privy Council was not realized until the Judicial Committee was set up in 1833, and his attempt to forbid clandestine marriages had to wait until the passing of Lord Hardwicke's Act in 1753.

As a servant of the Crown, Jenkins was conscientious and incorruptible. Although exceedingly deferential in manner, he was firm in matters of principle, and so rather than submit to dictation as a judge he offered to resign. Gilbert Burnet says that he was dull and slow, but that it was unsafe to take advantage of his modesty was shown at the French court where a curious courtier, not knowing what country he came from, asked him for a specimen of his native language. The reply he received was the Welsh proverb 'Nid wrth ei big y mae'r hwythod cyffyllog' (You can't tell a woodcock by its beak).

Jenkins died 1/9/1685 ✓
was buried in the chapel of
Jesus College, of which he has
been justly described as the
second founder. It was he who
placed the college on its feet
after the Restoration, - the present
library was built by him at his
own expense. By his will, he left
to the college his real & personal estate,
& under the scheme which was drawn
up for the administration of this
very substantial endowment, the Welsh
character of the college was still further
accentuated. He also made provision
for Cowbridge Grammar School.

SIR LEOLINE JENKINS.

Boys of Cowbridge School have for many generations been interested in the story of the most distinguished old boy of the School—Sir Leoline Jenkins. His "Life," written by Wynne, and published in two volumes in 1724, is such a large work—1448 pages—that few would have the industry and patience to read it, and it deals chiefly with his career as a great public man.

The story of his life could be told from many points of view: Scholar, Principal, Jurist, Ambassador, and one of the greatest authorities on the International Law of his day.

His letters in the Bodleian, on Education, would form a large treatise on that subject.

In addition to the foregoing he was one of the most distinguished statesmen of his time and filled the high office of Secretary of State.

Few men, indeed, have had such a varied, successful, and, we may add, romantic career.

The tradition at Talygarn is that he was born in a house called the Brachty. His father has been described as "an honest,

prudent, industrious man of about £40 a year," which, perhaps, would represent ten times that amount in modern money, and, what is more, he was acute and intelligent enough to see that his son, Llewelyn, or Leoline according to the Latinized and Anglicized form of the name, had the best education which it was in his power to give him.



SIR LEOLINE JENKINS, KNT., LL.D.

It is related of young Leoline that in his morning walk to school he would take off his shoes and stockings and walk bare-footed, washing his feet in the Croft Pool before putting them on again. He would also rouse up the cattle in the fields on frosty mornings in order to warm his feet in the place where they had lain.

Such a method of foot-warming, so the Rev. W. F. Evans tells us, obtained among local lads at much later times, and is no evidence of his poverty, as some have taken it to be.

Of his school life we know but little, and what is told us by Wynne is only this :—"The first Essays and Foundation of Mr. Jenkins's future Learning was laid at Cowbridge School, very near the Place of his Birth, and even then no inconsiderable School. . . . Here it was that he laid the Foundation of that knowledge and accuracy in the *Latin* and *Greek* Tongues, to which he afterwards arrived, and by his great Industry and Proficiency in all Parts of Learning which that Place afforded, gave an early Assurance to his Friends of those excellent Fruits which he afterwards brought forth." (P. ii.)

Old Judge Jenkins, of Hensol, took an interest in this promising boy, and in a letter which he wrote from Wallingford Castle, when confined there as a prisoner for his loyalty to the Royal cause, recommended him as a person worthy of his care to the protection of Dr. Wilkins, at that time Warden of Wadham College, and afterwards Bishop of Chester.

But Leoline himself seems to have been of the opinion that his advancement in life was not due to the patronage or favour of the great, for in the choice of his motto, *Vigiliis et virtute*, which has become the motto of the School, there is an indication that he regarded virtue of mind as the only true nobility, and that he was beholden more to his own perseverance and industry than to any favours he had received.

When he was sixteen years of age he proceeded to Oxford, and was admitted a member of Jesus College in 1641.

His career, like that of so many young men of our own time, was interrupted by the war, for Leoline went to fight for the King.

At the conclusion of his military service he returned to Glamorgan and was engaged as tutor to Sir John Aubrey's son at Llantrithyd, which was a place of refuge for persecuted Royalists. Here he became acquainted with many eminent men of the time—Dr. Frewyn, Archbishop of York, and Dr. Sheldon, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury.

He remained Dr. Sheldon's life-long friend, and was appointed by him to some of the most important offices in the Church. Sir Leoline drafted the Conveyance of the Sheldonian Theatre to the University of Oxford, and, as the Archbishop's official, delivered an important charge to the clergy of the Diocese of Canterbury, which is printed in Wynne's "Life," and is well worth reading.

There is in the Bodleian Library an account of some of the exciting things that happened to Leoline during his sojourn at Llantrithyd, in his own handwriting, so it is said. The "Young Man" referred to therein is none other than Sir Leoline himself.

SIR LEOLINE JENKINS
1623-1685

An Old Boy of Cowbridge School,
he went up to Jesus College and
became Principal of Jesus in 1661.
He served later as an Ambassador abroad
& as a Judge of the Admiralty court. The
extract from Pepys's Diary is very complimentary!
In 1680 he was appointed Privy Councillor
& also Secretary of State to Charles II.
In 1685 he purchased the school & the
Vale lands from the Stradlings & bequeathed
them to Jesus College. His portrait
(mentioned in the photocopied letter) is now
in the Headmaster's study in the Middle
School

HEADMISTRESS:

MISS E. M. SMITH, B.Sc,

TELEPHONE COWBRIDGE 2311

THE HIGH SCHOOL,

COWBRIDGE,

GLAM.

CF 7 7 EN

Sir Leoline Jenkins

'Tradition says that Sir Leoline was the son of poor parents living at Talygarn, and some forty years ago the house his father and mother lived in was pointed out to a traveller in a heap of stone overgrown with nettles. The old man, William Hopkin, then in his ninetieth year, told the tourist that he had heard his parents speak of the family many times. There were two brothers, Llewellyn and Efan, and they walked barefooted to school to Cowbridge, carrying their shoes along carefully across their shoulders (with a view to their preservation) until they arrived at the east gate, where they would wash their feet and put them on to come to town, and their dress that of the children of the humbler class, plain home-spun cloth (Brethyn Llwyd) very much worn – bearing evidence of the thrifty care of their mother. This is not the only instance we have on record of knowledge being sought for under extreme difficulties by former scholars of Cowbridge School. The sons of John Stirling walked daily from the house where their father lived at Llanblethian. Sir Leoline was employed as a sewing boy by Colonel Aubrey of Ash Hall, whose sons he had to attend in their rides to and from school. Hearing them repeating their lessons day by day he picked up as much learning as his young masters. Colonel Aubrey, pleased with the ability he displayed, placed him in school, and he afterwards arrived at great distinction. He richly endowed Jesus College, gave the tenor bell in Llanblethian, and £20 yearly to the poor of four parishes, Llanblethian and Cowbridge being two, besides many other charitable bequests.....'

CADRAWD, 'Welsh Tit-Bits', The Cardiff Times, October 22nd 1904 (*typed by B. Alden*)