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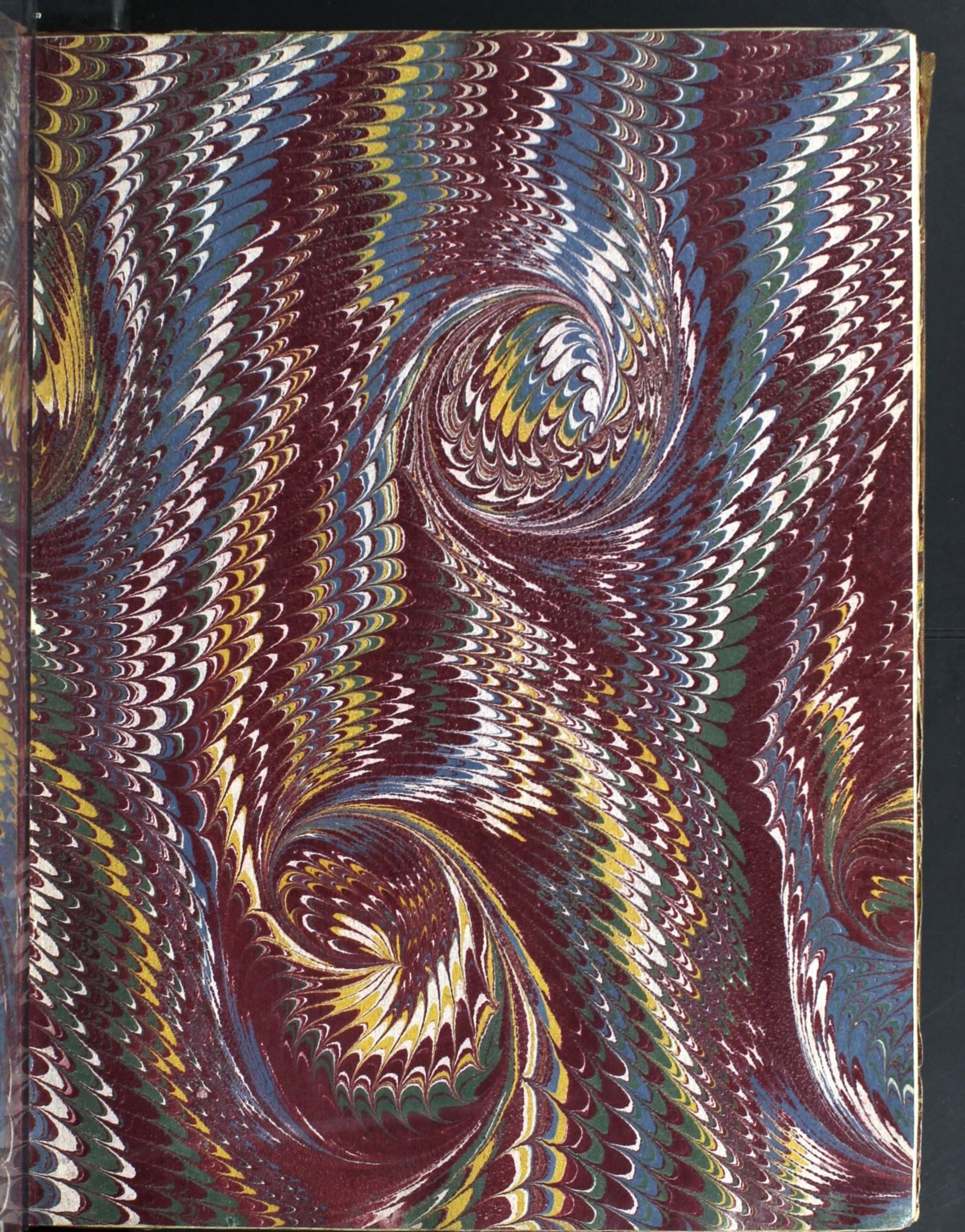
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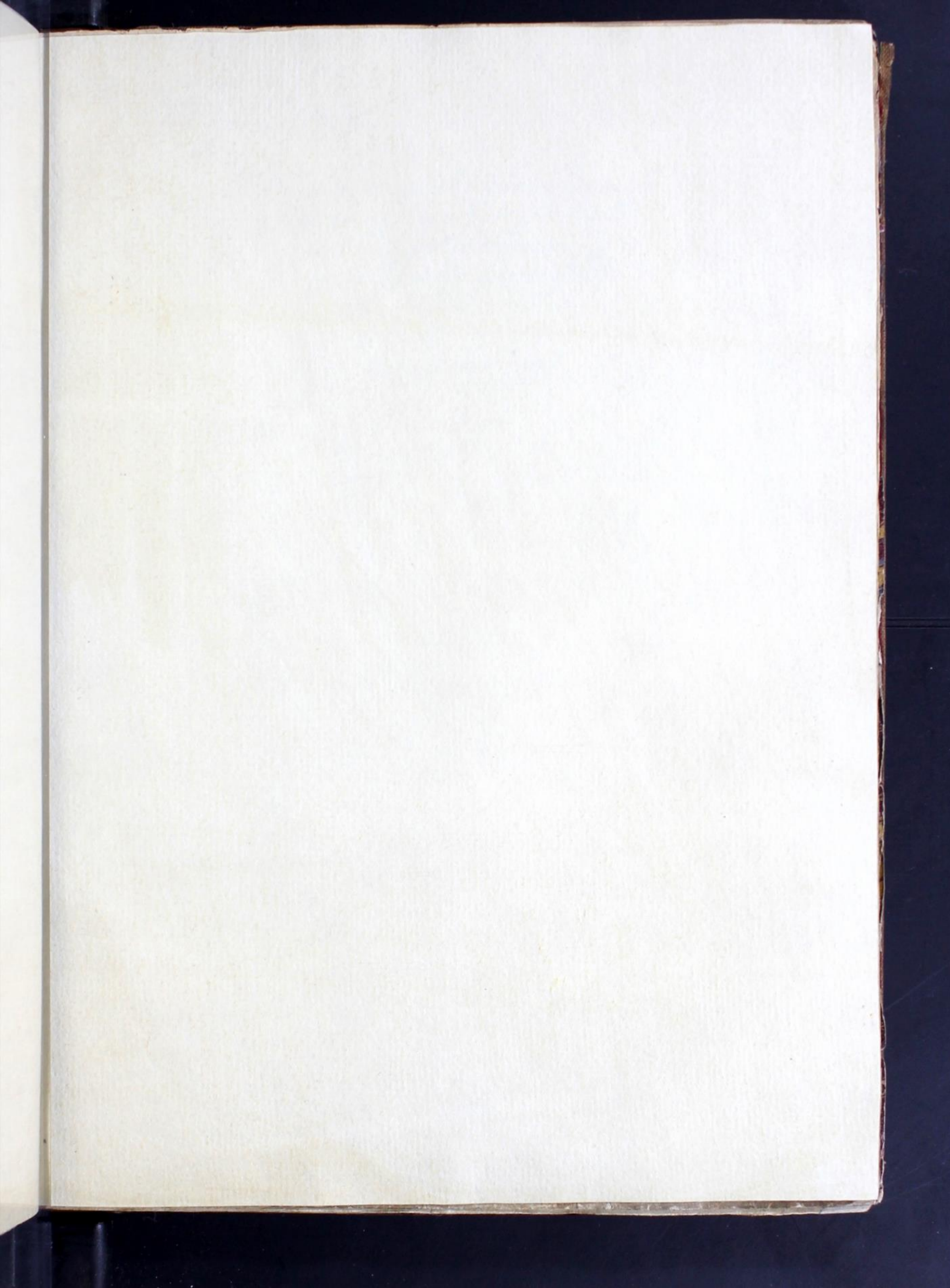
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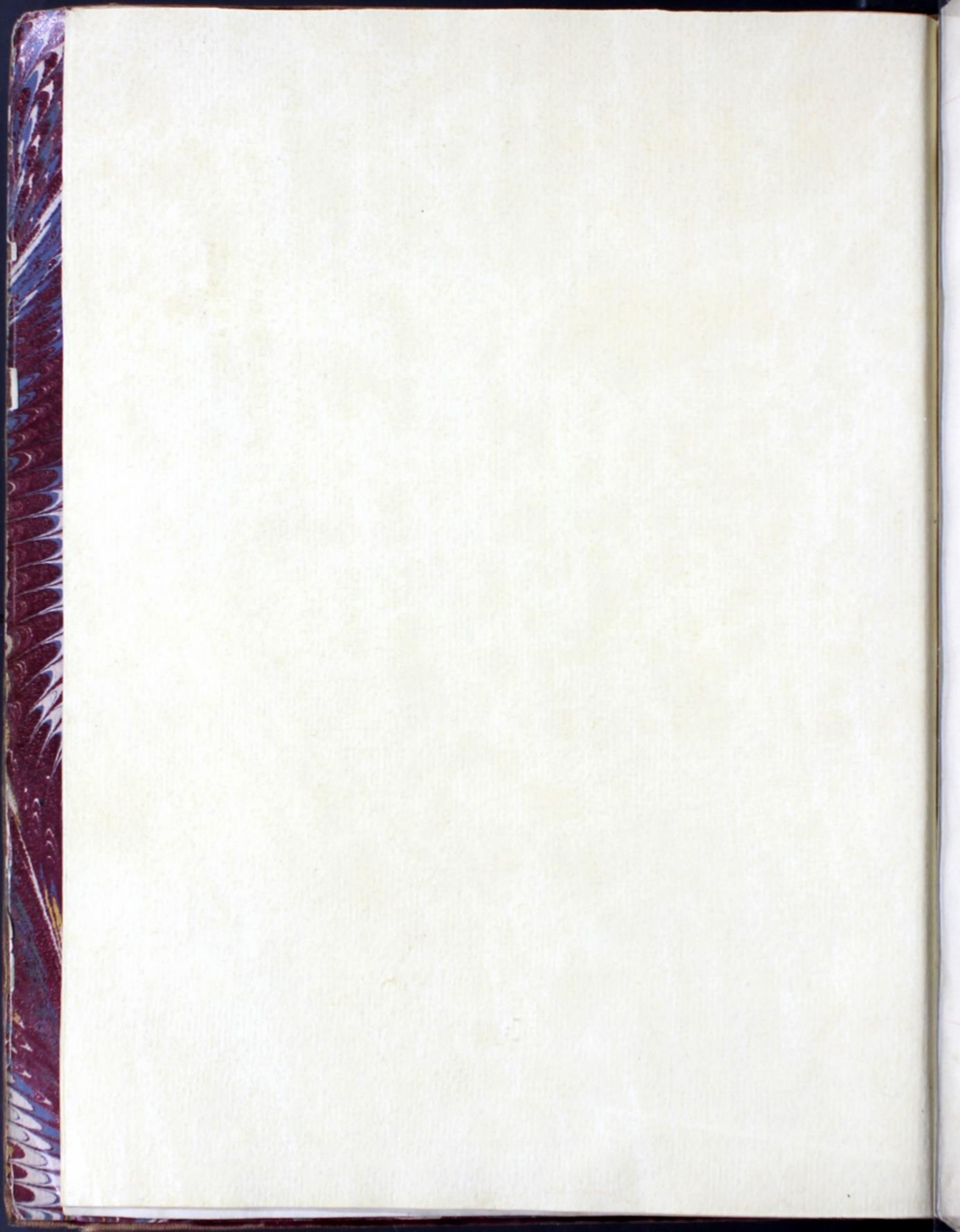
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1596

A brecfe treatis or rather a proiect of a course
to be taken for the defence of this Realme
against all forraine invasion &
for the necessarie service of the
same in all other actions of
warre, Scribled in hast
and finished y^e xixth
of Aprill
1596



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To the Right Excellent, prudent and renowned
Princes **E**lizabeth the moste mightie
Queene of England &c. In testimony
of fervent desire of your longe
and happie raigne in the
fulnes of all felicity.



Most sacred and worthe to be beloued dread soveraigne, When
first I heard of the Spanyardes flocking into Picardy vnder pre-
tence to releue Laferre, and therewith called to minde how Caesar
having subdued Fraunce and intending to invade Englande;
brought all his forces to Bullaine & Cassice the which hee made
his places of assemblies & store-houses for the provisions of his
Army; I began to fall into some Ielousie of that which since hath
happened though I did not so soone expect the event thereof.
But when aduertisement came that the Cardinall of Austria wth
Fifteene thousand men had besieged Cassice, and presentlie in y^e
neck thereof that hee had wone the Towne; I then resolued in my
simple conceipt that hee only labored for the like oppertunitie which
then Caesar therby had to invade this Realme, which longe he would
not deferr. Whereupon although if hee presume to imitate Caesar,
I see no reason whye Caesars succes in the first attempt should not
proue the fatale destine in all and euerie his attempts against your
Maiestie, in that if Caesar now were to undertake y^e enterprise
w^{ch} then with a mighty expert and longe disciplined army hee
against a rude multitude of naked & ignorant people did, I am
perswaded hee would be taught to knowe (as the Spanyardes

shalbe I hope when euer they come) that the worlde is sufficiently amended with vs both in arte, experience, and force to putt a greater number then they are able to land here, to the sword without greate difficultie. Yett neuertheless, out of my endless loue of your most excellent Maiestie and naturall zeale to my Countrye I could not free my selfe from consideration of the state wherein yo^r Highnes & your Monarque standeth, and the meanes whereby you maie best preuent the intended mischife of yo^r enemies towards the same. So that after many debates wth my selfe and sundrie diuersities of fancies w^{ch} fell into my troubled braine, I made choyse of one onlie course for the present saftie and securitie of both; w^{ch} I haue presumed to offer vnto your most approued and graue consideration. Wherm I haue used all brevitie possible, aswell in regarde of the necessitie of the hast, as that I knowe yo^r Highnes can see daie at a little hole, and euerie fault soone found can both casily & sufficientlie amende. And if in the depth of your wisdom & Iudgment, it fall not out a plott presissie fitt to be followed and yett proue any grounde or meane to sturr vpp a necessarie Motiue in yo^r Maiesties diuine mynde of any other better course that maie directlie tende to that ende, I haue my full rewarde for that thereby I shall obtayne my onlie wish, and you shall enioye that which before all the treasures of the worlde I should fittest for you to wish, nameslic immortall fame for the hastening of so suer a meane of the safty of yo^r Royall person and continuance of y^e honoz and glorie of yo^r Countrye. Noore in respect y^t I haue longe played y^e treuante and haue byn no actor in these late Ciuill warrs of Fraunce & y^e Lowe Countries, it may be that my oppynion in y^e iudgment of our modrne warriors (who therein only, haue byn brought vpp) maie proue but a falling =

all forraine invasion, I hope yo^r Highnes will gratioously accept y^e
same as some parte of the fruites of my earnest care & longing soule
to doe you acceptable service, and I trust all other such your loyall
subiectes without any sparke of envie will the rather endeuour to
frame their willing mindes either to further my faithfull iuention
or to forge some better that maie concurre with my desire to y^e best
end. Wherein if I seeme to some more curious then needeth, it is
because in truth I am no more carefull then needeth to haue yo^r Ma^{tie};
behould how rightlie yo^r Monarque maie bee compared to a strong
lustie younge horse that if hee knew his owne strength, would ne-
uer suffer the most skillfull & curious Rider in the world to back
him. And therefore haue I endeuored, parte to manifest y^e force
of the same vnto yo^r Maiestie, the which by others in like maner
maie be thoroughly perfected with little labo^r; For by vertue of
my precepts to the Cunstables of the hundredes within the diuisi-
on where I dwell in Wiltshire (the least of Six) contayning
foure little hundredes, the names of all the people both younge
and olde togeather with the number of horse geldings hacknies,
naggies & Carthorse within the Circuit thereof inhabiting and
being, Where within three or foure daies without any other
muster or trouble to the people brought vnto mee, whereof I haue
made a Booke herewith to bee shewed vnto yo^r Maiestie, if it
please you to behould it contayning. 3698. young striplings
vnder the age of Eightene yeares. 3676. habile men for
service, from eightene to fiftie. & 1316. olde men aboue
fifty, to be ymployed in seuerall degrees as hereafter is ex-
pressed together with the number of all sortes of seruiciable
horsses within euerie Parish of the saide diuision. Whereby
you maie nerely gesse at y^e forces of yo^r whole Realme, which

sicknes, yett if it maie please yo^r Ma^{tie} not to forgett y^e at the seige of
Litch when fewe or none of them were borne, I had the charge of a
hundereth horse and after the seige ended (where I lost both lim
and blood) I had the charge of two hundereth foote in the
garrison of Barwick, which were fiftie more then the eldest
Captayne there had, and was twice after that ymployed in yo^r
Ma^{tie} service in Scotland vnder the Lord Scroope that last
died, and the Earle of Sussex then yo^r Maiesties President
at York: And therewith if it maie please yo^r Highnes to consi-
der what knowledg so much sufficient experience, Joyned with
the continuall travell of a diligent mynde ever since wth sundry
other practises in the large Feildes of most aucthours that have
written in the Arte of warr maie bringe to a man of meane capa-
city, I hope yo^r Maiestie maie finde the lesse cause to be caried
awaie with the short resolutions of any, and with the more fa-
cilitie be perswaded to favour mee so farr, as to give mee leave
before your selfe (whom above all other I would have my Judge)
to argue with the best experienced of them vppon any poynt of
my conceipt w^{ch} they shall ymponge. Alwaies notwithstanding
submitting my fancies wholie to the vnfayleable censure of your
happie Iudgment, and the experienced conceiptes of your graue
Counsellours. And in that my purpose is not to prescribe any
newe rules of the most necessarie arte & honorable Science of
Warr; But principally, to manifest vnto yo^r most sacred Ma^{tie}
and to whome els it shall please you to ymparte the same (being
such as are already, both in the theorick and practick therof
thoroughly instructed) what course I should in the preparinge
ordering & conducting of yo^r forces to be y^e most easie, leaste
chargeable, & most secure for y^e defence of yo^r State against

being reduced into the forme of Regimentes, and so into seuerall
Armies prepared, directed, provided for, and conducted, as in y^e
privet & plott following maie appeare, I dare undertake for y^e
expedicon of all manner of services, the removing of errors out
of officers, the freeing your warres from all abuses, & disorders
hereafter, and the securing of yo^r Ma^{ties} State for euer, Fewe
better courses can be taken, Whereby as I hold my selfe out
of doubt that the same (if no other) once effected, will dis-
courage the proudest enemy, in the worlde euer from daring to
invade this yo^r Realme; So most feruentslie I beseech the
Lorde of hostes, that thereby, yo^r bodie in safety, your minde
in tranquillitie, and your life in felicitie, maie be prolonged by
the addition of so many daies to yo^r yeares as in the laste of
them maie come the dissolucon of the world, and that in the
meane tyme whosocuer wisheth you best, maie neuer wish in
vayne. Thus most humbly, craving pardon for this my
greate presumption springing from the fountaine of unviolable
faith, in the lowlines of a milde spirit I kis your unspotted
handes. At my poore Cottage in Charleton.

Yo^r Maesties most faithfull,
Seruant, and loyall subiect;

J. Knivett

*O*f the naturall scituacō of England
with the power and force of y^e same.

The Principall meane to put your most excellent *Ma^{tie}* out of all doubt of any harme that maie befall you or your state by the malice of any forraigne Potentate or enemy, whatsoeuer, is to consider how stronglie you are seated, how mightisie & peopled, and ^{how} surelie you maie bee protected and defended; For the first poynt, it maie briefelie & truslie be saide, that it is an Ilande environed with a large Sea (though in regard of the quantitie of the Ocean called Narrow) replenished wth a puissant Nauye, as well Royall as of Marchantes and others, and so both naturallie and artificiassie fenced & fortified with a most stronge ditch and mighty wall, as though *God* in his gracious wisdom had predestinated it euer to remaine inuincible. Touching the second it maie truslie bee verified, that as the people therof doe in number so exccede, as if some speedie order be not taken for the removinge of the surpsusage, or at least of the basest and poorest sorte of them into some forraigne place of habitation the Realme cannot possible longe maintaine them; So yo^r *Maiestie* without hiring any vnprofitable and dangerous mercenary soldiers maie leue of yo^r owne subiectes a sufficient number to encounter any Potentate in Europe, and leaue enow beinde to supplie all other necessarie tournes as I hope hereafter shall manifestlie appeare. And as concerning the third and last poynt, it is most certayne that y^e saide subiectes (whose naturall strength of bodie, valore of minde, and aptnes of Spirit for the execution of all martiall accions, doth moste

exactlie concurred being sorted, proportioned, armed dissipated, and orderlie conducted, will both secure your state at home and as iust occasion maie moue enable your Highnes besides to chasten any yo^r mightiest neighbors that shall offer you or yours any wronge abroad; So as whether it maie be yo^r Maiesties pleasure to contend with yo^r Enemyes by forraigne warr, or to stand vppon your owne garde and defend your selfe at home, you shall cuer be able to maintaine the oneth honor and profitt, and continue the otherth in safetie wout losse.

Howe the Subiectes are to be mustered that the certayne number of them maie be knowene to yo^r Maiestie, and howe they are to be sorted and enroled according as the stature of their bodies shall most fitte agree wth the variety of Armes.

Notwithstanding such former musters as to good purpose haue alredie byn taken (which out of good experience I knowe are weaklie performed and vnperfectlie left) I should it verie necessary that yett once againe a generall muster be more exactlie made througheout yo^r Maiesties dominions by the Iustices of peace within each seuerall diuision of the same, or other such officers as yo^r Maiestie shall assigne for that purpose of all yo^r Highnes Subiectes whatsoeuer. And that in the saide viewe diligent care be taken to deuide the same into foure sortes or kindes. The first whereof maie bee of the youth vnder the age of Eighteene yeares

whome I woulde haue enrolled vnder the title of younge Strip-
lings, for that they are not yett ripe enoughe to be trayned.
The seconde sorte, woulde be of such as are aged from eight-
teene to fifty, which are most apt for all kinde of seruice (in
no wise exempting the retaynors of Noble men Knights
Esquiers and gentlemen) whome I woulde haue likewise
enrolled vnder the title of such seuerall kindes of Armes
as the stature of their bodies shall most aptlie require, namely
the tall slender parsons, for Pike-ars, the stronge burleighe,
for Musketers & Halberdiers, The middle sized for
targatiers, and the least of all for Harquebutiers, And
all such of euerie sorte as are founde to bee stout & strong
Archers, for bowemen, with dispensation hereafter menti-
oned. The thirde sorte I woulde haue of Noble men
Knights Esquiers & gentlemen, with their houshold-
seruantes (other then Hyndes) whoe are to be enrolled vnder
the title of horsemen, for the which vse they are most fitt.
The fourth and last sorte must consequentsie bee of the
residue of the saide subiectes aboue the age of Fiftie years
whome I woulde haue enrolled vnder the title of Domesticals
for that their age begineth to craue a dispensation from all
martiall actions, and yett they maie for the benefitt of the
Common wealth otherwise most necessarisie be used as here-
after maye appeare. Also I should it as convenient that
the like musters be exactlie taken of all the horses geldings,
hackneis and carte Pades within yo^r Maiesties dominions,
Therein notinge which bee apte for men at armes to carry
barbes which for launciers, which for light horsmen,
after the Northerne fashion, which for stradiotes after

the Hungarian manner, which for Barquebusiers and archers,
and which for carriage, and so to be inrolled vnder those seuerall
titles. Of which musters and inrolementes I would haue
perfect booke made for euery the saide seuerall deuisions accor-
ding to the forme and manner of one which I haue made for
the deuision wherein I dwell and serue yo^r Ma^{tie}, and y^e
same faire written to bee transferred vpp to the Councell-table,
to the end that yo^r Ma^{tie} and your priuie Councell onely maie
once perfectly knowe ^{the} certaine number of men and horse contay-
ned within yo^r Dominions, and the seuerall sortes of the same
which alwaies will keepe one proporcion. Whereby, yo^r Ma^{tie}
maie both soundlie Judge of yo^r owne force and power, and also
euidently discern from tyme to tyme what parte thereof you
maie boldly, imploye in any forraigne action without the
enfeabling your state at home.

Howe the saide subiectes are to be ordered
for the necessary vse and service of y^e
Realme; And first of y^e youthe.

In as much as the Archery, of England hath in former tymes
deseruedly borne greate and honorable fame in this parte of y^e
worlde, and at this daie in the opinion of men of sounde Judg-
ment and greate experience is helde to bee an ordynance of
no small importance especially for the defence and seruice of
the Realme, And that it is certaynly to be proued that a late
erionious conceipte of the excellency, of shott aboue archers (void
of experience) hath wrought the same out of vse whereby the
force and vertue thereof is much decayed, which by ordynary,

exercise maie easilie be restored to the ancient perfection, I
woulde haue the said first sorte of yo^r Ma^{ties} subiectes namely,
the youth vnder the age of eightene yeares, to be constrayned
according to the ancient lawes of the Realme in that case pro-
uided, to exercise y^e longe bowe diligentlie vntill they achieue
the saide age of eightene yeares, at which tyme vpon viewe taken
of them by y^e saide comissioners or some of them, I woulde haue
so many of them as were founde to bee likelic to proue faire stout
& stronge archers inrolled into the muster booke vnder the same
title with dispensation neuer to bee imployed in any Forraigne
warres other then in an Armie Royall of the English Nation,
And all the residue not likelic to become such archers as
aforesaide, to bee inrolled into the muster booke vnder y^e other
seuerall titles, that they may be imployed as occasion shall serue. So
as by meanes of the saide exercise (strictlie banishing all vn-
lawfull games) there is no doubt but our Archerie will in
shorte tyme become as stronge & effectiuall as euer it was &
which maie evidently be proued by example of my selfe, that
being maymed of both my handes after I was aboute fiftie yeares
of age, by practice within two yeares, learned to shoote with
my left hand so stronge as I was able to keepe companie with
the strongest archers that came into the Field all daie not sin-
ding faulste with the length or distance of any marke. So as
thereby it maie be concluded, that vse bringeth y^e greatest mis-
erie therem; And by the saide meane of dispensation the Ar-
chers will farr sooner & more earnestlie be moued to contynue
the practice of their bowes then by any lawe or constitucon that
euer was made or canne be deuised to that end, by reason that of
late yeares all pryuate soldiers haue bin so lightsie regarded,

yea so uncharitablie and cruellie used as were it not for their
extraordinarie obedience and loyall soue which they beare to
yo^r most sacred Ma^{ty}; they woulde more willingly be hanged
at there doores then abyde shamefull martirdome with sundry
extremities abrode. And for the rare and excellent vertue
of the longe bowe in all manner of warslike accōns being arti-
ficiassie conducted, yf my purpose tended not to an other
end, I woulde not doubt but to demonstrate by apparante
reasons, and as certaynly, to confirme the same by experience
that in three places of seruice to two it surmounteth any kinde
of manuall weapon whatsoeuer. And being a weapon where
with God hath naturallly adorned vs aboue and before all
the Nations in the worlde (whome with all kyndes of other
weapons wee canne redilie match, and with the longe bowe
farre beyonde the conceipte of the ignorant wonderfullye
surpas) I cannot but maruell how it cometh to passe that
wee haue so contemned and reiected so apparant an oddes
and thereby so singuler an aduantage ouer our neighbors
vnles God in his secreete wisdom to skourge vs for our
sines hath deprived our senses of the best instrument &
rediest meanes of oure defence.

How the second sorte of subiectes namely,
those from eightene to fiftie are to be used.

Nowe because such as are to become men of warre are to be
of a perfect age most apte for all manner of seruices and best
able to support & endure y^e insynite toyles & contynual hazard
of the warres, I haue chosen all betweene y^e age of eightene

and Fiftie to become trayned soldiers, and of the best able of
them onlie would I wish that yo^r foote forces should bee raised,
The which in regarde of the greatest expedition in all manner
of accions of warre, and of the exceeding benefitt which thereby
maie redowne to yo^r Maiestie (whoe longe by the shofeling
courses of many disorders haue bin much defrauded & impiouly
abused) I haue thought most requisitt to compose and drawe
into as many perticular & uniforme Regiments as y^e whole
number of the best habile of that sorte besides the archers may
supplie, allotting to euerie seuerall Regiment thirtene per-
ticuler bandes of footemen, namelie, one of three hundred
vnder the charge of the Colsonell, and twelue of one hundred
and fiftie a peice vnder the charge of seuerall captaines and
theire officers, all different the one from the other in coullers,
and nyne perticular bandes of horsemen, Namelie one of
a hundred men at Armes & Launcis vnder charge of y^e
saide Colsonell, aswaie to be lede by some such principall
Noble gentleman as the Colsonell for his vertue and experience
shall make choice of, and is well able to commaunde the other
horse bandes, and eight moe of fiftie a peice some Launcis, some
light horse, some stradiottes some argutetiers and Pistoliers
and some Archers: So as euerie regiment will contayne se-
uerallie in the whole, two thousand & one hundred foot
men and fiue hundred horsemen. And to the ende that euerie
one of the saide Captineries maie in the tyme of peace y^e more
casilie and exactlie with least trouble & charge bee trayned
and throughlie disciplyned, & in the tyme of warre the more
quietlie, ruled, carefully, cherished, diligentlie overseene to
haue their armes and furniture euer in perfect and comly

order and in all manner of accions artificially conducted, I
haue further deuided euerie of the saide perticular bandes both
of foote and horse into sundrie squares of twenty, fve soldiers
a peece, and euerie square into two societies of twelue a peece,
so as euerie fve and twentieth person (whome I will nomy-
nate a corporall or hede of a square) is to gouerne twenty, foure
besides him selfe; and euerie twelthe parson whome I will no-
minate a dosenier) is to ouerseee eleuen, besides him selfe.
Thus haue yee, to euerie collonells pryuate company, of foote
twelue corporalles of squares and twentie foure doseniers,
and in his company, of horse foure like corporalles & eight
doseniers; and so proporcionable, yee haue the like number in euerie
perticular bande of one hundereth fiftie foote and fiftie horse
which amounte in the whole for euerie Regiment to eightie
foure corporalles, and one hundereth sixtye eight doseniers
in the foote companies, and twenty corporalls and fortie
doseniers in the horse companyes, as maie more playnly
appeare by a demonstracon thereof made for the more
breuity in the plates hereto annexed. Wherem by, variety
of letters and cussers maie easilie be discerned the order
which I haue chosen for the placing of euerie perticular
bande and therein of euerie perticular person in the roome
where without chaunge hee is appoynted to contynue: and so
for the arming & weaponing of them according to the saide
places of seruice vnto them assigned, with such reasons
as my simple capacite canne yeeld, for prooffe of the same
to bee allowed worthie to be followed and put in vre before
any order and forme heretofore any where used.

How the third sorte of Subiectes namelie
Noblemen, Knightes, Esquiers, & gentlemen
with their houthould seruantes are to bee
used.

In as much as the nobilitie and gentilitie are the greatest
breeders of seruiceable horses & geldings, & that they & their
houthould seruingsmen doe most delight in, and exercise
horsemanship, or at the least are more oftener & better
inured with riding then others, and thereby, maye the sooner
be trayned to perfection the which once obtayned they are
most likelie to performe valiant and resolute executions, I
haue chosen the saide thirde sorte to bee imploied onely in
that seruice. And to the ende the multitude of horsemen
maie bee increased (which is the principall strength of yo^r
Realme in generall & of an army, in perticular) and that the
same maie euer bee kept in better readines then nowe they are
and contynued in exercise wthout charge; I wish that all the
bandes of horsemen already raysed throughe the Realme maye
be dissolued, aswell because they are vnproperlie furnished
slenderlie instructed, and chargably maintayned, as also
for that many are ordayned for Lanciers that maye carry
bardes and serue for men at Armes, many for light horse
that maie serue for Lanciers, and many for argutetiers that
are most proper for light horse or Pistoliers, and many not
used at all that best maie serue for argutetiers & archers
besides a sufficient number which maie be reserued for all
maner of cariages. All w^{ch} being aptlie proportioned I would
haue remaine vnder y^e trayne of euerie Nobleman Knight

and gentleman in the severall parrishes of their habitacions,
so as order maie be taken that euerie such of the Nobility
and gentillitie be commaunded to drawe out of their owne
stables, and call before them as many of the saide severall
kyndes of horsse, geldinges and haicncis as from tyme to
tyme shalbe founde remayning in the severall parrishes
where they dwell, appoynting for euerie horse according to
his nature and kynde a fufficient man to ride him and the
same to cause to bee armed, weaponed and furnished according
to the varietie of euerie sorte of horse aforesaide, And euerie
hollidaie in the afternoone to traîne them emongst such foote-
men as are called together by the next corporall according to
y^e order hereafter following, or in place where they are appoynt-
ed so to meete, aswell to excercise all the feates of armes prop-
to them selues, as also to make offer of charges retraites and
such like towardes and from the saide pettie Companies of
footemen, wherby, whensoever yo^r **Ma^{tie}** shall haue any
occasion to ymploye any companies of horsemen into anye
forraine action, you maie presentlie vpon view of y^e muster
bookes leuie them who redyslie shall likewise be able to discharge
theire office artificiallie therunto brought without trouble
or charge, and for the defence of yo^r State at home, whereas
nowe there are leued but here and there one, and so y^e number
fewe you shall hereby, euer fynde such a multitude of steyffull
horsemen redie to be conducted by such expert Captaynes as
yo^r **Highnes** shall appoynt as will make the earth to thunder
a terror to any enemy in the Worlde that shall presume to sett
foote vppon yo^r territories, Wherby yo^r generall being suer
to be Master of the fielde in horsemen, maie be accounted vn-

unworthie of his place, if hee doe not vanquish & overthrowe
the greatest army, of footemen that canne be brought to make
bedde against him, as I canne prooue by, infinit examples if
my purpose were therein to maintayne any, argument.

How the fourth sorte of yo^r Subiectes namely,
y^e reste aboute the age of fiftie are to be used.

Because time doth nowe begine to offer such as exceede the
age of fifty, yeares quiett acces to peace & rest, and that their
longe experience (as it is supposed) hath brede in them pfect
knowledg & profounde Judgment I should it conuenient
that all such be exempted from all manner of militar ser-
vices other then voluntary, and that they be reserved at home
for the gouernment & necessarie busines of the Common wealth.
For as nothing maie be forborne and left vndone that maie
concerne y^e maintainance, proffit & vpholding of the same
(to which ende only all the courses & actions herein specified
are principally deuised & offered) So in tyme of vprere, broyle
and Alaromes, nothing canne be more necessarie, then good &
diligent regarde of the meane, poore, and basest sorte of light
headed ill contented people, and euell disposed mindes, which
then wilbe most prone to the execution of mischief, when y^e
better sorte are dutifully, occupied in the defence or other such
like seruice of their Prince & Country, vnlesse they maye
be restrayned or hemmed in with the compas and listes of
presise gouernement by, the grauity, and stoutnes of wise
& expert Maiestrates & officers.

Of the election of Collorells Captaines & other
officers appartayning to each Regiment, that the
abuses of yo^r Maiestie, and other disorders nowe
in daies used, maie the rather be reformed if it be possible

To make recitall perticularlie of the errors and disorders
crept into our warrs in these daies were a troublesome busines
for mee, and to to tedious a worke for yo^r Maiestie to peruse,
and therefore sith it is knowne by longe experience that the
corruption thereof springeth onlie from the rash and euill choise
which hath byn most commonlie made of needie riotous licenti-
ous, ignorant and base collorells, Captaynes, Lieutenantes,
Ensignes, Sargentes, & such like officers, who haue made
marchandize of their places & without regard of their
duty or respect of conscience haue made porte sale of their
soldiers bloode & liues to maintayne their vnthriftines &
disorders; It will be most answerable to my desire of breuity,
in euerie poynt, to informe your Maiestie: whome are moste
likly to doe you, and their Country, best and truest seruice
in the saide callings, & to redresse the inconueniences of to
much liberty, giuen to such vnworthy men. I am therefore
throughlie perswaded that if it might please yo^r Highnes from
hence foorth to commaunde that the saide officers be chosen
of the Noblemen Knightes, Esquiers, & gentlemen of the
Country inhabiting within the circuit where the saide soldiers
are leuyed, the neighborly acquaintance and mutuall loue
betweene them will ingender a necessary care one of the other,
and such a conformyty in euery condition as the countrie
shall not bee pillled nor poled in the begining, yo^r Highnes

not deceaued nor the soldiers defrauded in the proceeding nor
any horse armore furniture or ought els ymbesed in the en-
ding, but what euer maie bee preserued will be restored to the
owners againe in regarde of the reputation and credit which
both officers & soldiers ^{will} strue to conserue for euer amongst
their neighbors. And no doubt but such will proue most
tractable industrious and obedient in all poyntes of true
dissiplyne, & most valiant and resolute in all manner of
military actions, in respect they are free from the contagion
of the moderne corrupted and impious customes of bare &
vnrusie mercinarie chieftaines and soldiers, which from
hencefoorth (because many of them are not held worthie to
come into the company of ciuill people, I would haue only ta-
ken vpp by the drume as voluntarie men to be imployed
by them selues in all seruices, vntill they with their ciuill
disorders were vttersie consumed, or by the example of
the vertuous, or Justice of severe dissipline throughlie re-
formed.

How the nowe Soldiers are to be trayned
with most facillitie & least charge.

For the auoyding of the excessiue & vnnecessarie trouble
and charge which the Realme is put vnto in every shire wth
ignorant and base muster Masters, depending vppon great
men that otherwise haue no pleasure to relieue their vnworthie
wantes. I wish that they were all discharged with a strict
iniunction to commaund them either abroad into some forrayn
warres, or els at home to their olde occupacions and trades
wherem they haue best skill, and so in tyme maie be drawne

from their idle & prodigall humors, and that for the speedie
trayning and disciplining of y^e said newe forces, the same maner
(w^{ch} I wish wthout all presumption) be generallie sett a worke through
the Realme w^{ch} in the diuision where I commaund six hundred
footemen, I haue caused to be practised, and thereby, effected more
good in shorte tyme then hath bin brought to passe these fourtene
yeares past. For whereas to the greate trouble toyle and charge
of the Country rounde aboute me, the muster masters cause the
Collonells and captaines to gather their whole companies toge-
ther, and so keeping them three or foure daies, make them walk
vpp and downe and labor in vnecessarie actions to litte pur-
pose, saving for the spending of a greate deale of powder wast-
fullie and twelue pence a daie for euerie soldier with other
exactions for officers, I haue taken order, that euerie Corporall
of foue and twenty aforesaide within my charge doth call
his company together sometymes at one parish church and
sometymes at another wth in the circuit of euerie their Corporall-
shippes vppon the hollidaies in the afternoones, whereby the
lookers on maie receaue greate instructions, and by immitacion,
reape greate knowledg. And so doe they see their charge well
and sufficientlie furnished with their armes and all thinges
els necessarie, and doe discipline & trayne them in all manner
of science and practises proper for all seruice in earnest, &
especially, doe frame the Shott to be perfect Markemen with
the expence of one pounce of powder for euerie man which ne-
uer was effected before, and wth no more difficultie, and in
no other manner then any boy within three dayes maie be taught
perfectly to kill fowle for his masters hauekes, putting them to
neuer a penny charge more about all this busines, in that

none of them doth trauell about a mile from his habitation, nor is forced to be from thence absent about three howers in a daie with his march forward and bakeward. In w^{ch} severall companies after they shall be labored to some perfection, I purpose then to haue them drawne together to be exercised once or twice in y^e yeare, in the whole bandes whereof the one maie bee in the Whitsontide holidais, where I woulde haue the whole Regimente wth competent horse of each kynde to attende the same, to meete about y^e middle of the shiere and to continew together one daie and two nightes at the least, to make them acquainted in Campe with all thinges proper to men of warre, and to knitt them vpp in the perfection of all actions fitt for their capacities and callings. The which course being followed and contynued throughe the Reasme, but one two yeares, and the Nobilitie & gentillity, put to no other charge then in obseruing y^e order before specified in the preparing of their owne and parishn^{rs} horse, Your Ma^{tie} maye houlde yo^r selfe safe from the malice of the worlde, and I dare vndertake that if Richard the second at a Torney pretended into Scotland, the Eight yeare of his Raigne, did ioye in the appearance & muster before him, of three hundered thousand horsemen, yo^r Ma^{tie} shall haue good cause to be pleased with the number of serviceable horse of all kyndes, which by the said meanes will be raised furnished and trayned, ever to be redie at the turning of a hand for euery seruice either forraigne or domesticall. And if it be trusie considered, in the defence of yo^r state, what effect the multitude of horsemen maie worke and that accordinglye in tyme of necessitie they be jmployed with a competent number of the Regimentes of footemen deuided into severall armies

in manner as hereafter ensueth, I hold my selfe out of doubt
that it will cause the greatest Enemies yo^r Highnes hath to
be twice aduised ere once they attempt to invade any of your
territories and rather make the proudest of them to feare your
disturbance of them abroad. Wherevpon what good effects
maie follow both to the peace and quiett of yo^r sacred minde &
securitie of yo^r Royall State, I should thinke that doth
not pas publick feele.

Howe yo^r saide forces maie beste without
confusion be drawne together for the defence
of the Realme vpon any Alarme or fying
of Becons.

Now that yo^r Maiestie by the meanes aforesaide maie playn-
lye discern the quantitie and quassitie of yo^r Monarques
forces thereof it maie seeme a matter verie easie out of yo^r same
in shorte tyme redilie to leuie a competent number for any
forraine seruice such as maie be spared without weakening
yo^r state at home (which euer would be so many and so well
furnished as without the assistance of friends or associates
might effect what euer they undertake) howbeit vpon the
invasion of a mightie enemy, orderlie and speedilie to draw
all the forces of the Realme in degrees together wthout confusion.
I should thinke it to be no easie matter without greate foresight and
carefull preparacon before hande so that no detraction of tyme
or other impediment maie hinder the necessitie thereof and yo^r
present seruice to ensue. The best course therefore in my opinion
to effect the same is to compose the saide forces into seuerall

armies of six Regimentes a peice, which will amount to twelue thousand six hundereth footemen and three thousand horse w^{ch} I gesse maie rise to some eight or ten armies at the least, And to assigne to euerie one of them a seuerall place of assembly in or neere some Cittie or Porte towne where the enemy is most like to land one that coast; vnto the which vppon any alarome or fireing of Beacons, without staie euerie priuat person belonging to the saide Army, from his owne habitation with horse armore and weapon throughlie furnished, must be inioyned to resorte with all speede, and there to seeke out his Captaines and Colloones Lodginge by view of his ensigne hanged foorth of the same or sound of his drome. And by that tyme that the Colloones and Captaines haue gotten their companies together and bee redie to enter into Campe, (which in reason will be with most seueritie) such principall officers and Councellors as yo^r Ma^{tie} is then and not before to nominate and appoynt for the gouernment and conducting of each armie, will become likewise vnto euerie seuerall place of assembly & finde y^e same redy to marche.

How prouision may be best made of all thinges necessarie for y^e maintenance of yo^r Ma^{ties} forces.

Now in as much as an orderlie course for the speedie meetinge of euerie the saide armies at their seuerall places of assemblies is playnely shewed, whereby many inconveniences maie bee preuented, and as many good effects follow. I should it very necessarie that such prouident care for the prouision of all thinges incident vnto the same be in due tyme had, as nothing

maie be wanting that is convenient for their maintaunce or
incoragment towards their enterprise when they meete: And
therefore it were requisit to haue three principall officers elected
inhabiting within the Presingue of those Shieres out of the w^{ch}
the people proper to euery seuerall armie are to be drawne, and
the same to be resident in the saide seuerall places of assem-
blie. Of the which the principall is to be Tresorer, whose in degree
would be a Knight at the least, of approued religion and
integritie of the best sorte for liuelihode and wealth, and in
euery respect likelie to bee free from all kinde of couetousnes
other then of Justice and true hono^r. The other Master of y^e
ordinaunce, whose likewise should be a Knight of like religion
and vertue and of good liuelihode or at the least an Esquire
of the best calling. The third, Master of the victualls who
also would be an Esquire or a gentleman of good calling at
the least quassified in euery respect as the other before. And
althoughe I am perswaded, that in tyme without any burden
or hinderance vnto yo^r Ma^{tie}, many plausible meanes maie
easilie be founde out to bringe treasure more then enoughe
to euery of y^e saide seuerall treasuries out of the Shieres ap-
propriated to euery perticular Army (which for many
respectes I forbear in this place to sett downe) yett for y^e
present (the better to content the common people) I would
wish that it please yo^r Maiestie to disburse to euery, of
the saide treasurers so much redy money, as were sufficient
to provide at yo^r ordinarie prises a store of victualls to
remaine in euery place of assemblie proporcionable for
the maintaunce of euery seuerall Army, the space
of one Moneth, of which treasure the better parte, by y^e said

Master of the victualls or his substitutes, woulde be iustly,
and trulie imploied within the saide seuerall Circuites, to
the end that in tyme by good husbandrie, the same maie
certaynly so increase as besides the ordinarie charges of the
officers, the principall maie bee gayned. For be it that there
be disbursed ten thousand poundes for victualls at such
ordynarie prises as by, vertue of yo^r **M**aiesties Comissions
are vsuallie taken vpp for the prouision of your Household
(whereat I should my selfe out of doubt that no good subiect
to so good a vse will grudge) and at the monethes end or,
in some reasonable tyme the same (being vnfitt longer to be
kept in store) be sould at such prises as in the Countrey
adioyning it maie yeelde at the uttermost rate, It is in
reason verie manifest, that at euerie exchange such
gaine will bee gotten, as in shorte tyme it will bringe in the
principall, If you be but indifferently delt with. So as
eue that your **M**aiestie shall haue any, occasion together
yo^r forces together to make headd against any, invado^r (who
will haue many, double mindes before hee attempte any
matter aganst you, being so well prepared to resist him)
If there were no other meanes to increase yo^r treasure, this
onlie woulde suffice the torne of your defensiuie warres,
& yett some other parte of the saide treasure being in like
manner bestowed by, the Master of the ordynance for the
prouision of all kyndes of munition & other thinges incident
to his office, and so likewise from tyme to tyme exchanged
to reasonable gayne will also add some helpe therevnto.
Now althoughe it maie be thought as conuenient that vn-
der the charge of carriage-masters such like prouision

maie be made for euerie seuerall Armie of all thinges be-
longinge to their office, whereof they maie haue as greate
neede and vse as of any the precedent prouisions, in that
without sufficient carriages neither money victualls muni-
tion nor ought els necessarie can follow the Campe, yett
because in the meane tyme before wee neede the vse of them
there will no gaine rise by the prouision and pakinge vpp
thereof in storehouses, but rather the contrarie, I should it
sufficient that in euerie Shire a proporcionable number of
Carriages for the treasure, victualls munitiō, great artillery,
proper to euerie regiment, the greate officers, and Captaines &
all other thinges necessarie for euerie seuerall army be sett downe
and prepared, to be redy at an howers warninge vpon any allarom,
or fiering of the Beacones, to repaire withall expedition to y^e
saide seuerall places of assemblies with a competent number
of Cart horse for y^e draught of the same, & the greate artillery,
proper to euerie Regiment, Namely two faulconettes, two
faulcons and two Mynions, the which the master of the Ordry-
nance must alwaise see to bee mounted vppon good & sure
Carriages, so as when occasion shall moue a generall assem-
bly, Carriage-masters maie then be assigned to y^e perticular
charge of the same, Who also woulde be gentlemen in de-
gree disposition, & conuersation as the other aforsaide
officers are wished to be. And euen so when yo^r Maiesty
shall haue any occasion to sende any Army Royall into any
Forraigne Countries or maintaine any other forces abroad,
whereas vnder culler of good husbandry, and staying of
yo^r treasure at home (which I take to be but fallax) the
manner is nowe that yo^r men of warr haue wecklie sendings

victualls Apparell & other necessaries by the prouision of
the marchantes vpon exchange: if it maie please yo^r Highnes
heriafter to take order that yo^r owne officers chosen of the most
vertuous and honest sorte, vpon ^{such} prizes as aforesaide maie pro-
uide all thinges necessarie within yo^r owne dominions for the
yse of yo^r men of warre abroad, and that the same maie bee
transported in yo^r owne bottomes to some such towne as
should be founde most convenient for the purpose, from
whence vnder safe conduct it maie from tyme to tyme bee
transported to the Campe or garison townes, and there sould
to the soldiers at such rates as the Countries thereaboutes
yeelde the like; for ought I conceaue yo^r Maiestie maie
thereby, preuent the transporta^{con} of redie Coyne necessa-
rie imploye some parte of yo^r Navie, which neuer shall
neede to come emptie home, and saue yo^r charges at the
least by the gaine of the saide exchanges besides the
increase of marriners with many other commodities w^{ch}
will ensue, whereof I forbear to speake. So as when
euerie perticuler & priuate person according to their
callings maie haue out of your Maiesties Store all thinges
necessarie both for their backs & bellies, with allowance
of Armes and munition (which in any wise must be pro-
uided as good of all sortes as any, where els the like maie be
had for money) they will in no respect grudge to be straight-
lie inioyned & compelled to take their whole paie and all
thinges els whereof they shall haue neede out of yo^r Maiesties
Store of prouision. And althoughe thereby they shall haue
the lesse neede of the vse of much money, yett because money
doth much incorage mennes myndes especially, of such as

will endeuoure to saue some part of their paie to comforte them .
when y^e warres are ended, seeing the matter maie be so ordered,
as it shall butt passe out of your Coffers to be imploied and
transported in one kynde, and assuredlie retorne to the same
in another, I would wish that the whole Armie (being inioyned
as aforesaide) according to their place and callinges, should
be monethly paid by the poble in readie money, deductinge
so much as either in prest victualls, apparrell, Armes, mu-
nition or els what they haue before hand receaued. So as in
reason it must needes fall out that by the often exchange &
supplie of victualls and other thinges as aforesaid, not only
that which they reccaue in paie, will with increase be brought
backe againe, but also whatsoeuer els by booties or any other
meanes they canne procure. which course being stricte-
ly followed, I see no reason to the contrarie but that yo^r Ma^{tie}
maie easilie maintaine an Army, of Twenty foure thousand
footemen and six thousand horse in any Forraigne Kingdome
whatsoeuer, at the least one of twelue thousande six hundereth
foote & three thousand horse then the which I cannot allowe
that fewer should bee sente ouer in assistance of any League of
association. In that of their owne power as I haue before
specified they ought euer to be able to effect any enterprise
they take in hand without the assistance of their confederats,
whose curtesies and kyndnes in tyme of neede proue often
verie feeble and trecherous. And therefore sith this Realme
maintayneth so many thousandes at home, there is no reason
but the same maie vphould a handfull abroade in compari-
son of the multitude it feedeth at home; sith they muste
liue at home that canne but liue abroade; and whye they

shoulde not as easilie be nurrished abroad as at home, I cannot conceaue any trewe grounde, but that in regarde euerie man is suffered in all disorder & licentiousnes to liue as he listeth, havoocke is made of all thinges w^{ch} should be preserued, and so for want of true discipline, the hono^r and wealth both of Prince & Countrie is desperateslie and friuolouslie ruinated.

How y^e saide Armies are seuerally to be conducted & gouerned to make heade against the enymie and so to entertaine him by degrees as they maie be sure to overcome him or put him to flight

Althoughe most men of sounde Judgment do houlde it for certayne, that hardlie any forraime power canne be gathered together sufficiente to preuaile against yo^r Maiestie, but that you must needes haue intelligence thereof so long before hand as easilie you maie prevent their mallice by one meanes or other if you will, and by reason of infinit impediments which maie stumble in their waies, in their combyning, before their imbarcking, in their passage, and especially at their landing, they shall fynde as hard a matter quietly to passe throughe y^e narrowe seas & safely to enter vpon any yo^r dominions as they proue it easie to march vpon the Continent throughe the Countries of mightie Princes Malgre their teathes; Yett for the auoyding of all inconueniences which maie happen by the vnadvised and hastie concourse of a multitude without order, and to bee assured wthou^t fleshinge the enemy by losse of yo^r owne bloode, to fight with him either at the landing or as soone after as maye be, and so in reason,

without any greate losse easilie to Vanquish his whole power -
I should it the best course (the saide Armies makeing repaire
to the severall places of assemblies fullie prepared as aforesaid)
that the army, which by destinie is ordayned to be nearest to
the place or Porte where the enymie shall first approche -
Should first march to make hedde against him by all meanes
possible, to staie his incurtions, as by casting of trenches, &
fortifying of Straites and other such like impedimentes, In
any wise avoyding all manner of feightes, other then upon
greate and assured advauntage, untill the coming of an
other armie to seconde the first, and so of the third, fourth,
and the rest, or so many of them at the least as maie well
be ymployed to the assured Conquest of the enymie. Where
in our multitude of horsemen will no doubt wonderfully
preuaile both in regarde that no enemie can transporth any
greate power of horse, and the ouerplus of ours, will day
and night so hould their noses to the grindstone, as in y
night they shall take no rest, and in the daie they shall not
putt a man out of their battells of Pykes for any vse whatso-
euer, but hee shall forthwith be beaten in, or cutt in peeces.
So as thereby, wee being alwaies master of the fielde shall
easilie with our horsemen at euerie hande beate their shott
into their Pikes, which done, wee maie without resistance
bringe downe our ingens, Shott, and greate Artillerie (w^{ch}
for that purpose onlie I would haue to be no bigger then
Fawlsconettes, falcons, or minions, as aforesaid, in that wee
are vnsikie to haue any cause to vse any battering peeces)
and therewith as at Birdes in a Cage, Shote at and beate
them to peeces, or force them to yeeld. So as if our mindes

bee not distracted, and that in faith to **G**od and Loyally to
your **M**aiestie wee continew united, making Ireland safe
and conseruing a perfect League with the Kinge of Scottes
his allies and associates, although he you maie faile in keeping
the ballance euen betweene the States of Holland, Zealand
and y^e prouinces united of Flaunders and Brabant on the
one side, and the Spanissh & French on the other side (wherem
as occasion maie serue on either side you maye add a Cole
to the cooling fier alredie kyndled, to make the flame equall)
yett yo^r Highnes soundely depending vpon the vnfalible force
of yo^r owne Territories, shall haue no cause to stande in any doubt
of the combinacion against you of all the potentates in Europe,
for both by Sea and Land, you shall euer be able to ouermatch
them. The which the more assuredlie to confirme for our owne
partes, because nothing tyeth man to due obedience & faithfull
seruice more then the bande of Religion, and that it were
most perrissous that any member of the foresaide bodies of Regi-
mentes and Armies, shoulde bee currupted or defectiue, whereby
hee might bee drawne to dissent in Loyalty, & so becoming tre-
cherous, mutenous and rebellious, might indaunger the whole
Common Wealth: I would haue a strict order taken for the
swearing of euery pertituler person, of what degree soeuer before
hee be allowed or accepted into any office, trayne, or place within
any y^e foresaide Armies. Aswell for y^e supremasie as his Loyalty
& fidelitie to yo^r **M**aiestie & obedience to yo^r generall & other
superior officers so long as y^e seruice contynueth.

How y^e saide Armies both abroad & at home maie bee
kept entier & all other disorders now a dayes crept
into yo^r warres reformed or extinguished.

The corruption which long hath bin fostered in the disorderd warres of these latter tymes of Ciuill dissention in Fraunce and in the Lowe Countries, being nowe apparant to all the world, and some remedies for the same aymed at in this simple treatis I hope it maie stande with the good liking of euerie reformed minde, and the necessarie desire of yo^r Maies^{ty} to haue yo^r forces once leuied euer the same that you paie for, and the same most trusie payde, which yo^u most honorablie & bountifullie allow them. If the kissing or robbing a man by the highe waie side deserue deathe, what punishment are they, worthie to haue, that by deminishing their companies for gaine, & robbing the Prince of deade payes to maintaine their licentiousnes, are the cause of lingering warres to the greate destruction of a multitude of valiant men, the vniust wasting of the Princes treasure, and betraying of the accoⁿs they take in hande? Trusie ten deathes were to little for them, & the penastie of treason & their true rewarde of their desert; And therefore it is more then highe time that the necessarie yoke of true dissipline were seuerely offered them. The which that they maie the more willingly put on, and quietly beare, I should it requisit that a competent quantitie of treasure besides sufficient for y^e ordinarie monethes paie of the Army, should euer remaine in store in the Tresorers handes at y^e generalls commaundment; And yett I am perswaded y^e the force & vertue of any Army which yo^r Maies^{ty} will send forth, shall euer by booties or other Politique meanes be able to augment & maintaine the same so sufficiently after yo^r Army is entered y^e enemies Countrie vnder the Conduct of a worthie

generall, as there will be no greate neede of a supplie out of yo^r
Ma^{ties} Coffers. Neuerthelesse as he that in a Mummeric
carryeth the box and brauelic shaketh the same though he
mindeth not to venter the losse of halfe the money therein
contayned, So would I that yo^r generall should haue at his
deuotion a greate deale more treasure, then hee shall haue neede
or will to occupie, as well to dismaie his aduersaries, as to
comfort his Friends, and also to rewarde all his followers
bountifullie according to their merrites, and to requite in-
telligencers Spies and such like instrumentaries according
to their paynes & seruice; For otherwise how or wth what
credit or conscience canne hee commaund worke any greate
effect with, or chasten those, whome indeede hee doth not
trusie paie & recompence, or at the least so provide for, as
they want nothing necessarie, and maie be in some hope by
good husbandrie of a little store to releeue them at y^e ende
of the warres? or what seruice canne bee looked for of such
soldiers, as for want of garmentes and other necessaries
ashamed of them selues, perish for cold and hide them
selues, or Mutenye when they should vndertake accions
of most moment, And so forced by greate extremities,
fall to robbing of their confederates and friends, Yea
sometymes of their owne Companions, that most Countries
thereby growe wearie of our Nation (heretofore helde
to be the most Ciuill people in the worlde) more then
of their professed enemyes. And therefore yo^r generall
(whome I would wish aboue all thinges to bee a Nobleman
of approued vertue, perfect religion, & knowne wealth, only
desireous of true honor without greedie appetite of Luceer

and sincerely bent to undertake and followe the accion for
the honor of him selfe and glorie of his Countrie (having
treasure at commaundement as aforesaid, must likewise
haue large aucthoritie vnder your gracious Letters Pattents
to extende equall Justice with seueritie to all sortes of peo-
ple within his gouernment aswell highe as lowe, wherem hee
must bee as carefull with iudgment to rewarde euerie wor-
thie man according to his vsuall desert as to punish euerie
offender with seueritie according to the nature of his offence,
and so maie all Captaines & officers bee constraigned to
keepe their companies as entier as is possible, for that they
are not hereafter to haue any dede payes allowed them, but
vnder a greate penastie to bee forced to deliuer strict and
true certifficates, of euerie the seuerall entries of their
soldiers into paie and the discharge of them by death or
otherwise, so as the fuller they keepe their companies
(being the principall meane speedelie to effect y^e seruice
they take in hande) y^e more credit with the generall they
shall gaine, and for the same, the more bountifullly bee
rewarded with his owne handes, and euer helde worthie
according to y^e ancient custome (w^{ch} woulde from hence
foorth be obserued vniuolabile) to rise from place to
place euen from priuate soldiers to euerie degree in y^e field
not aboue a Corronell, as the fortune of the warres maie
afforde their worthie actions, And not to be chopped &
chaunged & misplaccd for fauor, as nowe a daies to y^e greate
discouragement of fromard spiritus is to much used. Besides
all other disorders by y^e care & industerie of y^e generall
(so chosen & inhabled as aforesaide) maie be amended or

suppressed. as the not wearing of such armes as they are ap-
pointed, If they list to cast them of, w^{ch} in my conceipt is a
straunge & perillous tolleracion, the excesse of costlie diet
& apparrell, y^e beastlie custome of drunken Carousing, y^e
surcharging the Campe with multitudes of wemen and
boyes, the vntollorable pissing of freebooters, and in a worde
all newe barbarus inornities whatsoeuer, And so much y^e rather
will this reformatiō growe, if the counsell and other superior
officers proper to the army be likewise carefullie chosen &
that if it bee possible they maie be of the greatest calling vn-
der the degree of the generall, and quallified in euerie
respect fitting their profession and the accion they haue
in hand, whereby to conclude it is most apparant, that y^e
generall and counsaile aucthorised and furnished as afore-
saide are wourthie of vnexcusable reprehention, if they doe
not gouerne & maintaine y^e Armie abroade as Ciuillie &
frugallie as the members thereof maie be ruled & preserued
at home, sith the martiall lawe is the lodestone of the field,
and that their are no moe mouthes & backes to be feed &
sustayned abroade, then might haue remayned, if they
had not bin leuied in y^e seuerall parrishes of their habi-
tacions or aboade, And therefore must haue byn maintay-
ned with the same charge at home, which in reason may
be proportionablye sufficient to defraye y^e like abroade.

Some fewe reasons emonge many moe
which might be alleaged to recomend
y^e saide order of Regimentis aboue &
before all others heretofore used.

Firste whereas vppon euerie chaunge of the nature of y^e soyle
& Countrie throughe which an Army is forced to martch,
the manner hath bin heretofore accordingsie to alter & chaung
y^e formes of y^e battells, wherein much pretious tyme hath bin
spent & lost, and whereby most of the priuat Companies
if not all haue bin shofled vpp from place to place, & from
corner to corner one from the other and so drawne from
y^e gouernment and leading of their Captaines & officers
to the greate hinderance of the seruice & occasion of many
mutenies & disorders: Now by the deuiding of yo^r
Armies into Regimentes, and euery Regiment into per-
ticuler bandes, & euerie parson in his proper place once
setled without alteration as by the plattes annexed maie
appeare, whatsoeuer the nature of the soyle be wherem
they are to martch either champion or woodlande, they
maie passe in order & throughe any straight where
three maie martch in ranke, and as sone as they haue so
without any staye passed, and are come to any sufficient
playne that maye contayne y^e whole in order againe, they
will presently rane into the same they were before, and
so forthwith euen at an instant when they are to encoun-
ter the enemy as the generall or other principall comaun-
der shall appoynt, Conjoyning 2. 3. 4. or 6 Regimentes
together they maie make three two or one whole bodie
as they list, or (whereof I best allowe) - reserue some
one or two Regimentes a parte to come fresh in ayde of
the rest, or to follow y^e executions as occasion shall most
aptlie proffer, and so not chopped and chaunged out of
theire ordinarie places they shall in all their actions

euerr remaine vnder the conduct and commaunde of their pro-
per officers, which is a matter of no small moment. Next,
if they bee broken & putt to rowte and by their Comaunders
passing before them on horsebacke to some convenient place of
Aduantage to make a stand, maie so be stayed, they maie
presentlie rüne into their former order againe by reason
they are so perfectlie acquainted with their places, longe
before the enemye pursuing them scattered cane ouertake
them in any other order to anoye them.

Thirdlie the armie being incamped according to their march
euerie Regiment both of horse and foote a parte, whereas
the moderne manner is out of euerie bande to collect a Cor-
porallshipp thereby, to couer certaine faulstes, Nowe if
order be hereafter taken that the whole bandes maie watch
& ward together, the same amounting to the thirde parte
of the armie as it ought to doe euerie imperfeccion and dis-
order will playneslie be discovered to their captaines and
such as are to redresse the same.

Fourthlie if any exployte be speedilie to be executed,
either for the possessing of any grounde of aduantage
to remoue the Campe vnto, or to fight with the enemye in,
or to stopp or interrupt any passage, or to meete with any
Convoye or to take any booty or any such like without any
other direction of the Sergent. Maiore, then informacon
of the attempt to bee made, euerie Regiment, or so many
of them in lesse companies as shalbe assigned, will with
such expedition knowing their places by custome, rüne
out of the Campe into order by, y^e maie as they are passing
towards the place of the appoynted seruice so as they

maie achieve the same longe before the enemies possible canne
thoughe they were neerer the saide place by halfe the waie mar-
ching in any other order.

Fiftlie the bodie of euerie Regimente being thrise so many
well neere in front as they are in flanke are all heuelic armed
of purpose to stand fast and fight for the honor of y^e field
if they be forced therevnto, otherwise to be a garde & defence
for the rest which are alwaies to be executors of euerie light
seruice, and therefore are lightlie armed and weaponed, so
as the one parte are alwaies to remaine firme and the other
to be imploied as occasion shall serue.

Sixtli whereas by confounding the companies togeather,
as aforesaide, the Captaines & officers canne hardlie
or will not at any tyme giue the Sergent Maior true Certifi-
cate of the varietie & number of the weapons contayned
in theire seuerall companies, and whereas at euerie musters
they doe patche vpp their numbers by slight, Now euerie day
as the armie marcheth in manner as the Captaines are seue-
rally, placed in the Regimentes, both the Sergent Maior
maie daylie take a true and perfect note for his remembrance
of euery thing belonging to his office, and especially, (which
is to greatest purpose) yo^r Maiesties muster maisters by this
order maie better take a more perfect & exact viewe of eue-
rie priuate company & euerie parson in the fielde as they
daylie march, then possible they maie in any daie or tyme
appoynted for the especiall musters, whereby they maie
assuredly doe yo^r Maiestie most true & proffittable
seruice. In which otherwise after the old manner they may
be ouertaken by many slights thoughe they meane never so truly.

Castle, whensoever yo^r **M**aiestie shalbe disposed to raise an
Armie Royall or what companie soeuer to bee employed in any
forraigne seruice, you maie redelie leuie them out of y^e Regiments
in differentlie taking from the same, either whole bandes, Cor-
poralls, Shipps, or Dozoners, till the number of yo^r Armie bee
fullfilled. Which petty companyes maie presentsie be supplied
againe out of y^e saide sorte of yo^r Subiects aged betweene
Eighteene & fifty.

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