

MORE LIGHT ON "ENGLISH" QUELLIN

By THE LATE KATHARINE ESDAILE AND
MARGARET TOYNBEE

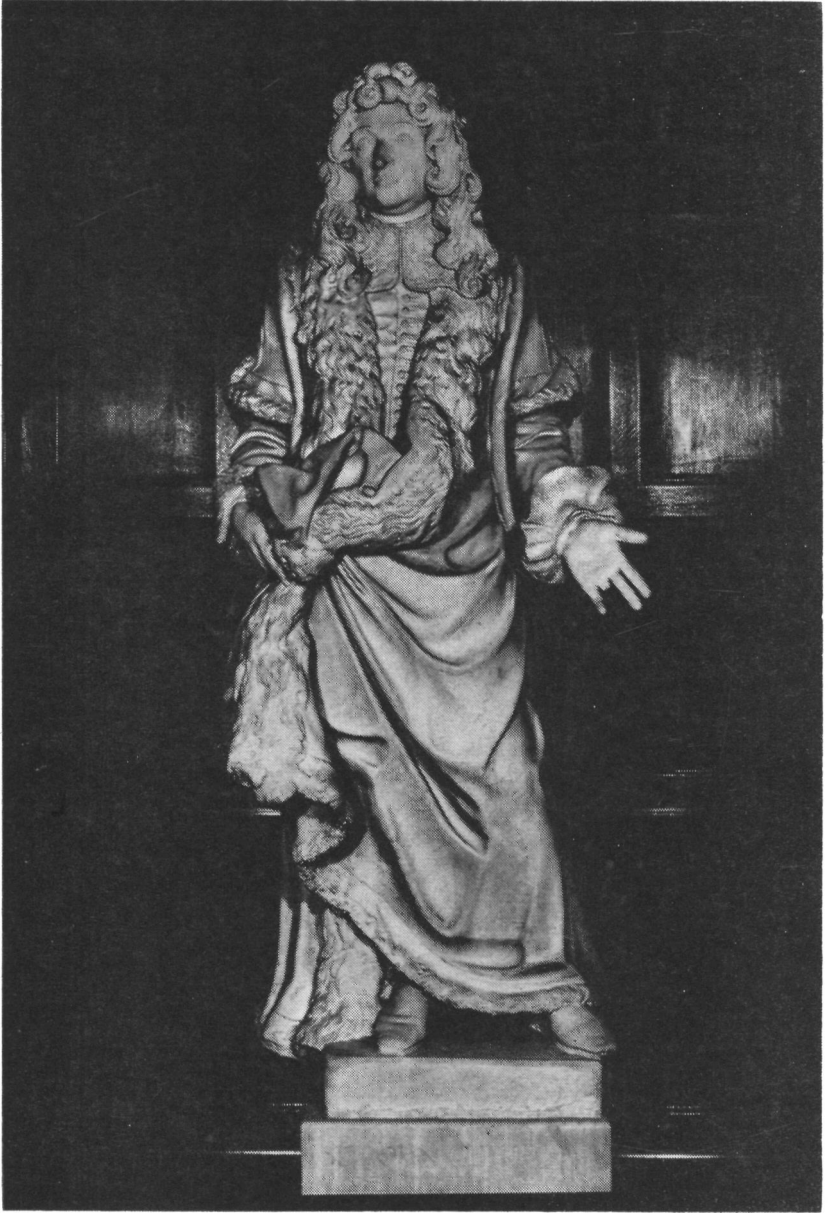
In my article entitled 'A Lost Stuart Statue' published in *The Times* for 8 December, 1928, I (Katharine Esdaile) remarked of the author of this sensitive *Charles II* which once adorned a niche in the interior of the second Royal Exchange—happily preserved to us in the model—that he 'is still, unfortunately, a very obscure sculptor'. I quoted Vertue's words to the effect that Arnold Quellin 'made several great & valuable workes. besides Esqr. Thinns Monument Westminster';¹ and although to the question: 'What were the other "great & valuable workes" to which Vertue refers?', I was able to supply some answer, the list was admittedly inadequate. In the intervening twenty-odd years, however, the study of certain contemporary records has enabled six more important statues to be placed to Quellin's credit.

With four of these statues I dealt very briefly in my 'Arnold Quellin's Charles II' published in *The Architectural Review* for November, 1947. They are the statues of Charles II and Sir John Cutler in the Guildhall Art Gallery; the statue of Cutler belonging to the Grocers' Company; and the statue of Edward IV once on the Exchange: this last received no more than a passing mention. In view of the fact that I (Margaret Toynbee) discovered in 1949 that two further statues on the Exchange, namely those of Edward V and Henry VII, were the work of Quellin,² it seems to us worth while to publish, largely from unprinted documents, the detailed history of all six figures.

Among the buildings destroyed by the Great Fire was the Royal College of Physicians. The completion of the new College (designed by Wren and begun in 1671) was undertaken in 1674 by Sir John Cutler, Bart. (1608-1693), an influential member of the Grocers' Company, of which he was several times Master. This benefaction, which took the form of an anatomical theatre, forming the eastern side of the quadrangle, with the entrance gate below it, abutting upon Warwick Lane, was opened on 21 January, 1678/9. In gratitude, the College decided to erect statues of Cutler and Charles II on its premises. The resolution was passed at a meeting held on 8 October, 1680: 'Statuas etiam Regi, et Joanni Cutlerio Baronetto quamprimum poni . . . ex eorum sententia statuibatur',³ Judging by the date inscribed under the statue of the King, the figures were completed by 1682. That of Cutler, wearing a fur-edged robe and holding a book in his left hand, stood in a niche on the outside of the *Theatrum Cutlerianum*, looking west into



KING CHARLES II



SIR JOHN CUTLER

the courtyard: below was carved: 'Omnis Cutleri Cadet Labor Amphiteatro'. On the western side of the courtyard (occupied 25 February, 1674/5), facing Cutler's statue and the entrance gateway, was placed the figure of Charles II in pseudo-classical costume and wearing a wreath (Fig. 1):⁴ it stood in a niche over the entrance to this portion of the building, which contained the library and other public rooms. Underneath was inscribed: 'Utriusque Fortunae Exemplar Ingens/Adversis Rebus Deum Probavit/Prosperis Seipsum/Collegii Husjusce Stator/MDCCLXXXII'.⁵

The statues, which are of Portland stone, are full-length and over life-size (about seven feet), were not removed when Wren's building was abandoned by the Physicians in 1825 for new quarters in Pall Mall East, but remained *in situ* until the demolition of the Warwick Lane College between the years 1866 and 1873. In the latter year, in order to save them from destruction, they were presented to the Corporation of London by Alfred Tylor (1824-1884), the geologist, and his brother (Sir) Edward Burnett Tylor (1832-1917), the anthropologist, the former of whom had succeeded their father, Joseph Tylor, a brass-founder, in the business which he had carried on in the quondam College. The statues are now in the Guildhall Art Gallery.

Payment for the statues was made in 1683. In the College Cash Book for 1664-1726, under the head of Expenses for the year 1683, occur the following entries:

'July 2. payd to M^r Colein Statue maker advance mony 20 [1]⁶
 payd to the Statue man Sept: 29. more to Mr Colein 40 [1]⁷
 payd Dec. 7. for Cutting the lettre [*sic*] under the Statues .16.0
 [Dec. 16. 83.] payd to M^r Colein Statuary more 20 [1]⁸

These four items correspond to four entries of Expenses in 1683 contained in the Cash Book (1682-1684)⁹ of Dr. Daniel Whistler (1619-1684), President of the College:

'July 2. payd to M^r Coleine Statue maker advance mony 20 [1]
 payd 29. Sept: more to the Statue man Mr Colein 40 [1]
 payd 7 Dec: 1683 for cutting the lettres of the Statues 0.16
 [15 December] payd to M^r Colein Statuary more 20[1].

It will be noticed that the statues for which payment (a total of £80.16.0) was made, are not specified, but there can be no reasonable doubt that they were the statues of Charles II and Cutler.

Besides being a patron of the Royal College of Physicians, Sir John Cutler was a generous benefactor to the Grocers' Company, to whose archives I (Margaret Toynbee) have been given generous access. Like the College, the Company had suffered from the Fire. A 'stately

Fabrick . . . which is now their Parlour, and Entertaining Room over it in the Garden¹⁰ was erected at 'his own proper Charges' as a contribution towards reconstruction. In this case, also, a statue was felt to be an appropriate memorial. An order of the Court of Assistants, dated 27 January, 1668/9, states:

'Upon A due Consideration of Sr John Cutlers Extraord.^{ry} kindnes & bountifull intendments to the Company . . . Itt is thought fitt and agreed—that his Statue and picture bee erected and placed at the Charge of this Company in the upper and lower rooms of his Buildings in Gratefull Acknowledgment and Memoriall of his singular Bounty and affection to the Company and to remaine as a lasting monument of his unexemplary kindnes'.¹¹

A committee having been appointed to deal with the matter, it was decided at a further meeting of the court, on 3 February, to

'visitt Sr John Cutler with the hearty thankes of this Court and to lett him understand the intent of this Company for setting up his Statue and picture for his inclination and willingnes thereunto and in what forme & posture the same may be most pleasing to him'.¹²

A fortnight later 'Mr Oliuer'¹³ was given notice to attend the next meeting of the court for purposes of consultation.

After this there is silence on the subject for six months, and then, on 27 August, we get a highly interesting entry:

'Upon some speech this day Concerning Sr. John Cutlers Statue and Intimacon from A Member of this Court to bee done in Alabaaster w.th Recomendés of the person that is in hand with the Kings Effigies for the Exchange Itt is referred to Mr Wardens or any two of them with Mr farr or more if they please with Mr Oliver or any other Artist if they thinke meete, and to Lymitt the Workeman for the finishing the peece to as short a tyme as conveniently may bee'.¹⁴

In 1669 the 'person that is in hand with the Kings Effigies for the Exchange' can have been none other than John Bushnell, six of whose statues for the Exchange he refused to erect, but his fine statues of Charles I and Charles II on the Cornhill front were in place by 1671. For reasons, however, which we do not know, Bushnell was either not given, or he refused, the Grocers' commission, most unfortunately for them, as we shall see. On 2 December, 1669, we learn that:

'This day Sr. Richard Pigott declared the Agreement made the five and twentyeth day of November 1669. with Mr. Young Mason for Sr John Cutlers Statue for the sume of 90.^{li} to have the Pedestall of the best white Genoa Marble to bee 3. foote high the Effigies to bee sixe foote after the best mode of ffigures to be finished in ffive Moneths from the first of December to pay —20.^{li} downe att 4 Moneths and 30.^{li} Att the finishing—Which was approved of by the Courte'.¹⁵

The 'Mr. Young' upon whom the Grocers' choice fell, was probably Nicholas Young, who became a member of the Masons' Company in 1663 and Master in 1682, and who in 1676 executed a bust of Gideon

Delaune for the Society of Apothecaries. But two other men of the name of Young, John Young the Elder and John Young the Younger, were members of the Masons' Company at this time. In accepting the commission to execute the statue of Cutler, 'Mr. Young' evidently felt that he had undertaken more than he was able to perform. For on 17 December we read:

'Upon Relation this day made to the Court of Mr Youngs declyning the Agreement for St. John Cutlers Effgies It is ordered that the Clarke and Beadle of this Company doe tender him xx^{li} in hand to pceede in the Worke according to his Contract And to take his Answer concerning the performance of the same for the further Consideration of this Courte thereupon.'¹⁶

The Company's efforts, however, proved unavailing. On 14 January, 1669/70, there was worse news to report:

'Upon a Relation made to the Courte of a tender of xx^{li} in hand to Mr. Young Mason for St. Jo. Cutlers Effgies according to order and his refusall of itt and declyning the undertaking of that worke according to Agreement Itt is ordered that hee have notice to putt in Baile to the Companies Accon in that Case in order to a proceeding thereupon for A determining the matter that some Course may bee considered for the performance of the Worke'.¹⁷

Unluckily, nothing is to be gleaned from the Minutes as to the upshot of the Company's 'Accon'.

There the matter of Cutler's statue was allowed to rest for some eleven years. It was not until after the restoration of Grocers' Hall (completed at Michaelmas, 1681), to which Cutler had also contributed, that the project was actually carried out. *The Case of the Company of Grocers* (1686), already quoted, tells us:

'The Company (as soon as they had afterwards Re-built and enlarged their Hall) in pursuance of several Orders of the Court of Assistants, in grateful acknowledgment, caused his [Cutler's] Lively Statue in Effgie in White Marble to be erected on the right Hand at the Upper end of the Parlour'.

The first reference to the renewal of the scheme in the Minutes of the Court of Assistants, occurs on 27 March, 1682, when a deputation was ordered to wait upon Cutler,

'And from this Court to Entreate him to admitt the Carver to attend him in order to perfect his Effgies now soe neare finished And that the Carver haue notice to attend him at what time he shall appoynt accordingly'.¹⁸

The second and final reference informs us that on 11 July, 1682:

'The Clerke read the Inscription p'pared to be Sett over Sir John Cuttlers Effgie in the Parlour which is approved of and ordered to be painted in a plaine legible Character and Sett up accordingly'.¹⁹

The noble full-length life-size marble statue of Cutler thus so tardily completed for the Grocers' Company, now stands in the vestibule at Grocers' Hall. He is again shown wearing a fur-edged robe; his left hand is extended, with wide-open palm (Fig. II).²⁰

Payment for the statue was prompt. In the Wardens' Book for July, 1680-July, 1681, occurs the entry:

'To Mr Collen²¹ Carver for Carving Sir John Cutlers Effigies 20.00.00':

while in the Book for July, 1681-July, 1682, we read:

'Paid to Mr Arnold Quelling in full for carveing Sir John Cuttles [*sic*] Effigies 63.00.00'.

The attribution to Quellin of the Guildhall statues of Charles II and Cutler was made for the first time in 'Arnold Quellin's Charles II'. I (Katharine Esdaile) did not, however, comment upon the fact that when I previously gave some account of them in 'City Statuary. A Forgotten Sculptor' (*The Times*, 16 August, 1927) I had not arrived at the Colein-Quellin equation. I there wrote of the sculptor: 'We may take it that he was a young and unknown man. That he was an assistant of John Bushnell seems probable from the boisterous undercutting and elaborate draperies of his works. It is something, however, to have added a new name to the illustrious obscure among our native sculptors'. By an unfortunate undetected typing or printing error 'the otherwise unknown sculptor Colein' became 'the otherwise unknown Stephen Colein', a slip which having misled the authorities of the Guildhall Art Gallery, has helped considerably to darken counsel. For instance, apropos of their statue of Cutler, it has been suggested in a brochure printed by the Grocers' Company²² that 'the payment to Collen (or Colein) may have been a contribution towards the statue in the Royal College of Physicians which is known to have been carved by Stephen Colein'. 'Collen' is of course the Grocers' clumsy first attempt at writing Quellin, which a little later becomes the all-but-correct 'Quelling', the form in which, as Mr. Rupert Gunnis kindly informs us, Quellin signs his name in his letters preserved at Longleat. 'Colein' and 'Coleine' (as odd as 'Collen' but not so odd as the Skinners' and Tallow Chandlers' respective renderings of Cibbers as 'Sibart' and 'Sybbals') are efforts by the Physicians to render the same name—Quellin—but, unlike the Grocers' Company, they never improved upon them.

The £83 paid by the Grocers for their statue was a considerable sum. Although less than the £90 which (if the figure was correctly minuted) they were prepared to pay Young in 1669, this is little more than the total paid by the Physicians to Quellin for their *Charles* and *Cutler*, but it must be remembered that these are only of stone, whereas the former is of marble. By a slip they were described as being of marble both in *The Times* article of 16 August, 1927, and in the monograph on Bushnell published by the Walpole Society (XV, 1926/7, p. 39). Moreover, it is possible that reduction was made for the pair of statues. Incidentally, the Grocers' Hall *Cutler*, as was remarked in 'Arnold

Quellin's Charles II', is a far finer piece of work than the *Cutler* in the Guildhall Art Gallery, with which it is interesting to compare it.

In the light of our knowledge that Quellin had recently executed two statues of an important Grocer, one for his Company itself, as also two figures of King Charles (the other being for the courtyard of the Exchange in 1684), it appears highly natural that this sculptor should have been employed by the Grocers when, in 1685, they took in hand the provision of the effigy of the reigning monarch for the Exchange which they had promised the previous year. It is instructive, indeed, to compare the Grocers' employment of Quellin with the Fishmongers' employment of Edward Pierce, who executed for them both their statue of Queen Elizabeth for the Royal Exchange and their statue of Sir William Watworth for Fishmongers' Hall. For his Exchange *Charles II*, Quellin received £60, as is recorded in the Wardens' Book for July 1685-July 1686: 'To Arnold Quelling for carveing the King's Effigie 60.00.00'.

The statue of Charles II was, as already stated, far from being the only one on the Exchange for which Quellin was responsible. When, by an order of the Court of Aldermen, dated 11 November, 1684, twenty of the City Companies which had not yet promised statues were directed to do so, a busy time set in for sculptors. As we now know, among the busiest was Quellin. Of the five statues already promised, and the nine eventually set up under this order, Quellin executed no less than five,²³ an eloquent testimony to the esteem in which he must have been held. On 27 November the Armourers' Company resolved to contribute the *Henry VI* and they employed Quellin ('Quillen') to do the work, facts published as long ago as 1926 by Mr. Harald Faber in his life of C. G. Cibber. But Quellin also carved the *Edward IV*, the *Edward V*, and the *Henry VII*: his authorship of the two last-named statues was new information when this article was written, but its publication has been anticipated by Mr. Gunnis (see Note 2).

At a meeting held on 3 December, 1684, the Tallow Chandlers' Company decided to approach the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen on the following day on the question of setting up a statue on the Exchange. 'This day the M^r. and Wardens of the Company of Tallow-chandlers ppounded unto this Court [i.e. the Court of Aldermen] to sett up the statue of King Henry y^e. Seaventh upon the Royall Exchange . . . which was here assented and agreed unto by the Court'.²⁴ Accordingly, the Company went ahead with its plans, and on 20 December a Mr. John Symes nominated 'certain artists in Stone in reference to the above mentioned Statue or Figure viz.:—Mr. Pearse at Arundell Ground, Mr.

Bushnell at Hyde Park, Mr. Sybballs at . . . '. On 15 January, 1684/5, it was agreed that:

'The Master, Wardens and others do speak with Mr. Olliver the Surveyor and also meet and treat with able Workmen and agree for the making and setting up the Statue of King Henry VII &c. And to Report the same'.

As a result of consulting Oliver, the three sculptors first considered, Pierce, Bushnell, and Cibber, were passed over, and Quellin (in one place styled 'Mr. Arthur Quellin' but usually 'Mr. Qullin') was chosen to do the work. On 14 July, 1685, it was reported at a meeting of the Tallow Chandlers' court that the committee appointed on 15 January had

'(by the recommendation of Mr. Olliver one of the Surveyors of the City of London and others) agreed with one Mr. Arnold Qullin as followeth, viz.:— That he for the sum of £50 should (in a very ornamental manner) make gild, finish and set up the said Statue by the last of May last, and that the said Committee did further agree to pay him £23.0 more if the said Statue should be made and set up according to the good liking of the said Company, And that the said Mr. Qullin should be at all charges as well in the gratifying of the said Mr. Olliver as otherwise and for the performance whereof and of other matters on his part the said Mr. Qullin obliged himself by Covenant under his hand and seal'.

'£20 paid to Mr. Qullin in part of the said money which was approved of and allowed by this Court'.²⁵

On 19 August, 1685 the statue was put in place:

'Memorand. That on this day the Statue or Figure of King Henr. VII (at the proper cost and charges of this Company provided) was set up and fixed upon the Royal Exchange being in a very ornamental manner gilded and enriched in several parts of the said Figure'.

On 26 August it was

'Ordered that the £32.3.0 remainder of the £52.3.0 due to Mr. Arnold Qullin for making setting up &c. the Statue of King Henry VII be paid as followeth. viz.: £15 when demanded, £12.3.0 more in some short time after and £5 more residue immediately after an Iron Sword well gilded shall be (at the said Mr. Qullin's charge) provided for and fixed to the said Statue according to the direction of Mr. Olliver, Surveyor and certified to this Company under his hand. Inquiry to be made of what matter the Crown of the said Statue is made'.

Finally, on 12 February, 1685/6, the transaction was completed when the 'Motto or Inscription' under the statue was finished.

On 5 December, 1684, the Ironmongers' Company voted to provide the statue of Edward IV for the Exchange.

'This Court being especially called by virtue of an order from the Court of Aldermen dated the 11th of the last month wch being read concerning the setting upp upon the Royall Exchange one of the Statue [*sic*] of the Kings of England as was before the late dreadfull fire and King Edward 4th granting unto this Company their first Charter it was voted nemine contradicentee [*sic*] that the same should be complied with accordingly at the Comp^{as}

charge and that the Master and Wardens attend upon Tuesday next on the Lord Maior and Court of Aldmen to acquainte them therewith, returning Sir Robt Gefferyes thanks in preventing the Barber-Chirurgions in having the same statue, they being incorporated by that king and this Compa the like in the third yeare of his Reigne'.²⁶

The previous day (4 December), at the same time that the Tallow Chandlers asked leave to put up the *Henry VII*, Sir Robert Geffrey (1613-1703), who was Master of the Ironmongers' Company in 1667, 1685, and 1688, had already propounded the matter of the *Edward IV* on behalf of his Company and the request had been favourably received by the Court of Aldermen.²⁷ The jealousy of the Ironmongers of the Barbers is an amusing instance of the rivalry which was apt to occur between the Companies over these statues: it may be paralleled by the struggle which took place between the Mercers and the Fishmongers as to who should provide the *Queen Elizabeth*, and by the dispute between the Grocers and Founders over the *Charles II*.

After having confirmed Geffrey's action by a written request dated 5 December, 1684,²⁸ the Ironmongers proceeded, on 13 January, 1684/5, to appoint a committee to deal with the matter of the statue. The work made rapid progress, for we read that:

'The Wardens with Mr. Benia Skutt and the Clerke went the second of Maye, and viewed the Statue of Edward the fourth being neare finished which they approved of and Mr. Cartwright assured ye Committee that the same should be sett up upon the Royall Exchange next weeke'.

It is not, however, until 13 May that we get mention of the sculptor's name. This time Quellin is disguised as 'Mr. Collynes'.

'It is ordered that the Wardens pay unto Mr. Cartwright for the use of Mr. Collynes forty pounds in pt of fifty pounds which he is to have according unto a verball agreement made by the Master Wardens and Supervisors formerly for the Statue of King Edward the 4th sett up by this Company upon the Royall Exchange by Order of the Lord Maior and Court of Aldmen the other tenn pounds to be paid when fully finished'.

Six months later, on 13 November, 1685, it was

'Ordered that Mr. Cartwright the Mason be paid tenn pounds in full of fifty pounds agreed with him for the Statue of Edward the fourth sett up at this Companyes charge at the Royal Exchange'.

The 'Mr. Cartwright' referred to in the last three entries was Thomas Cartwright the Elder, builder and master mason, who had been placed in charge of the work on the Royal Exchange in November, 1668, on the death of the architect Jarman, and who was clearly still in the same position of authority in 1685. It appears that for some reason the Ironmongers chose to make their agreement for the statue of Edward IV with Cartwright instead of direct with Quellin, who would have been

servng under him on the Exchange, and that Cartwright handed over to the sculptor the two payments, which together amounted to £50.²⁹

On 12 March, 1684/5, the Leathersellers' Company offered to put up the statue of Edward V on the Exchange. 'Upon a motion now made unto this Court [i.e. the Court of Aldermen] by the Mr. and Wardens of the Company of Leathersellers that y^e statue of King Edward the 5th. might be sett up by the said Company on the Royall Exchange, the same was very well approved of by this Court'.³⁰ In the Accounts of the Company for the year 1685-1686 occurs the following entry:

	li s. d
'Pd. Mr. Arnold Quelin for the Statue of Edward y ^e 5 th . sett vp by this Society vpon the Royall Exchange	38 00 00'

One last point should be noticed with regard to the Royal Exchange statues. Neither Quellin nor his fellow sculptors had an entirely free hand in their designs, for in each case when giving its consent the Court of Aldermen was at pains to admonish the Company concerned to take care that the figure was furnished with a 'proper habitt', adding some such phrase as this: 'and as neer as can be to what the said Kings statue was in before the fiire'.

We will conclude with a glimpse of Quellin towards the close of 1685. On 4 November, 1685, when the Bridge House Committee was preparing to erect a statue of James II on the front of the new court-house in Southwark, the three sculptors selected to meet the Committee were 'Mr Bushnell Mr Peirce & Mr Coleine'. On 18 November the candidates had been reduced to Bushnell and Pierce, Bushnell finally receiving the commission. With five statues for the Exchange completed or nearing completion, Quellin's reputation must have stood high in the City: it is obvious that his claims for consideration as a likely 'statue man' to execute the contemplated effigy of James II, were very strong.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are greatly indebted to the following for permission to publish extracts from their records: the Royal College of Physicians, the Corporation of London, the Grocers' Company, the Tallow Chandlers' Company, the Ironmongers' Company, and the Leathersellers' Company. Dr. John Keevil, formerly Librarian of the Royal College of Physicians, Mr. Raymond Smith, Director of the Guildhall Art Gallery, Mr. P. E. Jones, Deputy Keeper of the Corporation of London Records, and the Clerks of all the above-named Companies have rendered us invaluable assistance and granted us every facility in our researches.

1 *Notebooks*, IV, 35.

2 Listed among Quellin's works in Mr. Rupert Gunnis's *Dictionary of British Sculptors 1660-1851* (1953), p. 313.

3 *Annals of the Royal College of Physicians*, IV, f. 159.

- 4 Reproduced by kind permission of the Guildhall Art Gallery.
- 5 William Munk, *The Roll of the Royal College of Physicians of London*, 2nd edn. (1878), III, p. 328.
- 6 F. 86.
- 7 F. 88.
- 8 F. 90.
- 9 Accompts of the president of the College of physicians beginning ffeb. 14. 1682.
- 10 W. Ravenhill, *The Case of the Company of Grocers Stated . . . together with a short Account of their Original* (1686), p. 26.
- 11 Orders of the Court of Assistants 3 July, 1668—22 January, 1691/2, f. 33.
- 12 F. 39.
- 13 The well-known City surveyor John Oliver who became master-mason to the King in 1686.
- 14 Orders of the Court of Assistants, f. 86.
- 15 F. 106.
- 16 Ff. 106—7.
- 17 F. 112.
- 18 F. 600.
- 19 F. 609.
- 20 Reproduced by kind permission of the Master and Wardens of the Grocers' Company.
- 21 Not 'Colein' as stated in *The Architectural Review* for November, 1947.
- 22 *Grocers' Hall and the Principal Objects of Interest therein* (1936), p. 24.
- 23 It is possible that Quellin may have done even more. The sculptors of the *Edward I*, the *Henry VIII*, the *Charles I*, and the *Queen Anne* on the second Exchange have not yet been discovered.
- 24 Repertory 90, ff. 18 and 18v. 4 December, 1684.
- 25 An entry for the payment to Quellin of £20 occurs in the Accounts for the year 1684-1685, and for £30 in those for 1685-1686.
- 26 This extract is printed in John Nicholl's *Some Account of the Worshipful Company of Ironmongers*, 2nd edn. (1866), p. 291.
- 27 Repertory 90, *loc. cit.*
- 28 This letter is taken from Nicholl's MS History of the Ironmongers' Company, IV.
- 29 Mr. Gunnis has kindly given us the benefit of his opinion on this matter.
- 30 Repertory 90, f. 60v. 12 March, 1684/5.