

THREE  
UNKNOWN DOCUMENTS  
CONCERNING  
THE PILGRIM FATHERS  
IN HOLLAND

BY

A. EEKHOF D.D.  
PROFESSOR IN LEYDEN UNIVERSITY

With six facsimiles



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**THREE UNKNOWN DOCUMENTS CONCERNING  
THE PILGRIM FATHERS IN HOLLAND**

The three documents presented herewith in facsimile, in transcript, and provided with an English translation, are as yet completely unknown. I had the good fortune to find them in the notarial documents in the city archives of Leyden, a source, which, as far as the Pilgrim documents are concerned, had not yet been searched<sup>1)</sup>. The well-known American writer, Henry Martyn Dexter, who repeatedly searched the historical sources of Leyden, and who based his well-known book "The England and Holland of the Pilgrims (Boston and New York, 1905)" upon his discoveries in these archives, was not acquainted with the documents which are published herewith. It is, indeed, no slight task to turn the leaves of all the volumes of documents of Leyden notaries, in order to ascertain whether there may be any

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<sup>1)</sup> My attention was called to the testament of Bridget Robinson, wife of John Robinson, by Mr. W. J. J. C. Bijleveld of Leyden, who in 1916 made an inventory of „de oude notariële archieven te Leiden”, which inventory also appeared in print.

Pilgrim documents among them. The catalogue contains 2760 numbers, which extend from 1564 to 1810. Of course, many of the documents need not be considered, but the thick "protocollen" must be searched, and they run into the hundreds, at least if we do not want to stop with 1625 — the year of John Robinson's death. Accordingly I do not regard the possibility precluded that, besides the three which I now publish, more could be found, if one would investigate them volume by volume and page by page. The indices which have been prepared upon most of them have proved an excellent guide as also the friendly direction of Mr. Bijleveld. Both have enabled me to find the three which are now printed for the first time. The three documents I now publish are to be found in the "protocollen" of the notaries J. van Tethrode, P. C. van Rhijn and J. F. van Merwen. All three are certainly very important.

In the first document we have nothing more nor less than the personal signature of John Robinson, the pastor of the Pilgrim Fathers, whose signature until now had been wholly unknown, and to whom another signature than the one here published was ascribed. The fact that this document also has the personal signatures of Thomas Brewer and William Jepson increases its value.

The second document contains the signature of William Bradford, the historian of the Pilgrims and the

later governor of New England. It was drawn up in the very last days before his departure from Leyden to Delfshaven, from whence, as is well known, he took passage to England in the "Speedwell" and from there sailed in the "Mayflower" to New England, where he helped to found New Plymouth, the colony of the Pilgrim Fathers.

The third document is the last will or testament of Bridget Robinson, widow of John Robinson, important among other reasons, because we here learn a number of facts about her children who were yet living in 1643.

The English and Americans will surely be no less interested in these documents than the Hollanders. Dr. J. Rendel Harris, to whom I presented a copy of the first and second facsimiles at the occasion of his latest visit in the Netherlands, wrote, when he had returned to England "everyone here is much excited over the report which I made of the discovery of the new documents"<sup>1)</sup>. I have accordingly deemed it best to add to the facsimiles and transcripts an English translation of the documents. That of the first two is from the hand of Mr. A. J. F. van Laer, archivist of the State of New York, Albany, N. Y., one of the best authorities on Dutch-American colonial history, and by reason of his publications of Dutch notarial documents in English translation especially able to translate specific notarial terminology.

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<sup>1)</sup> Letter, dated 6 Dec. 1919.

For the translation of the third document, which I discovered later on, I have availed myself of the assistance of my American students, Mr. Henry S. Lucas, M. A. and Albert Hyma, M. A. We shall now pass over to a more detailed consideration of these three documents.

The first document is dated 2 January 1621 and is a recognition of indebtedness, given by Thomas Brewer, John Robinson, minister of the Word of God, and William Jepson, for the behoof of Seigneur Jehan de Lalaing to the sum of 744 guilders, 13 stivers and 3 pence, on account of several years' accumulated interest, the last due on May-day 1621. The three subscribers promise to pay this interest on May-day 1621, without any further delay, which promise they conform on 2 January 1621 in a document drawn up before the notary J. van Tethrode. This was done at the office of the notary who was situated in Leyden on the Breestraat, in the presence of two witnesses, namely Willem Cornelisz. Ket, "buyrman", i. e. farmer of the manor of Rijnsburch, and of Jan Jacobsz. van Tethrode, the notary's clerk.

On 14 January 1621 "jonckheer" Thomas Brewer again appeared at the office of the above-named notary and showed him the document, which was now "gecas-seert", i. e. the debt had been cancelled<sup>1)</sup>. It is also

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<sup>1)</sup> The words "ende bekenden mits desen gesamentlijck ende onder renunchiatie van de benefittien ordinis, divisionis et excussionis" are explai-

worthy of remark that in this document the names of the Englishmen are given phonetically, as is also the case in numerous documents published by Dexter; Thomas Brouwer for Thomas Brewer; Jan Rabbijns for John Robinson; and Willem Jepsen for William Jepson. It is further to be noticed that Thomas Brewer is here referred to as “jonckheer”, signifying that he was a person of rank and position, i. e. a gentleman. He was not directly of noble descent, hence Mr. van Laer has thought that this title could best be translated as “Esquire”<sup>1)</sup>.

ned by Thymon Boey, *Woorden-tolk of verklaring der voornaamste onduitsche en andere woorden in de hedendaagsche en aaloude Rechtspleginge voorkomende 's-Gravenhage 1773*, blz. 100—101; also especially blz. 612—613. See also W. Modderman, *Handboek voor het Romeinseh Recht*, Derde herziene druk door P. A. Tichelaar, Gron. 1901, Dl. III, blz. 174. I am indebted for these references to Prof. A. S. de Blécourt of Leyden, who was also willing to give me some information concerning other expressions. — The “groot” may be estimated to be equal to a half stiver, hence the carolus guilder has the value of our guilder to day.

<sup>1)</sup> In the: *Hoofdgeld 1622 (Oct. 15). Bon Sevenhuysen*, fol. 37a and b in the city archives of Leiden, we also find:

Thomas Brouwer, Engels Edelman	
Machieu Brouwer, syne huysvrouwe	
Steven Truer	
Truy Voorsta, syne huysvrouwe	
Daniel	} Veerfijs (Fairfields?) kinderen.
Rebecka	
Jan	
Daniel	
Thomas Willigs	
Hester Willigs	

How H. M. Dexter, *The England and Holland of the Pilgrims*, Boston and New York, 1905, p. p. 604—605, can, when referring to this manuscript,



Thomas Brewer is best known as one of the two who were connected with the establishment of a small printing press in the Pieterskerkkoorsteeg (in vico choralis) in Leyden. The other person, who really did the work, was William Brewster, former postmaster of Scrooby, the "Elder" of Robinson's congregation. Thomas Brewer seems to have been the patron and to have provided the funds. By this press were printed Puritan pamphlets, and Thomas Brewer even had to undergo a prison sentence for this; but the tribunal of the University of Leyden interposed its protecting hand on the ground, that he had matriculated on 17 February 1615<sup>1</sup>). On 17 June 1617 the same Thomas Brewer bought from Seigneur Jehan de Lalaing a house in the "Kloksteeg", known as the "Groenehuis", located next the house which adjoined the "Groene Poort", the property which Robinson had bought on 5 May 1611 from

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write "(Thomas Brewer) lived in *Zevenhuysen*, Oct. 15, 1622, with wife, six children and Thos. and Hest. Willis (not servants and possibly the Willets)" is not clear to me. — Dudley Carleton wrote concerning him from the Hague, 13 Nov. 1619: "He [Brewer] being a gentleman of a good house, both of land and living; which none of his profession in these parts are, though through the reveries of his religion (he being, as I advertised your Honour, a professed Brownist), he hath mortgaged and consumed a great part of his estate". Edward Arber, *The Story of the Pilgrim Fathers*, London, 1897, p. 222.

<sup>1</sup>) Two titlepages of books printed on the Pilgrim Fathers press at Leyden are given in facsimile on p. 40, 41. The first is from a copy in the library of the Remonstrant Church in Amsterdam; the second is from a copy in the Bibliothèque Nationale de Paris.

the same Seigneur Jehan de Lalaing<sup>1)</sup>. In 1622 Brewer resided in the “bon” (ward) Sevenhuysen<sup>2)</sup> and as early as 1626 appears to have removed to Kent in England where he is supposed to have been known as the “general patron of the Kentish Brownists”<sup>3)</sup>.

The third to affix his signature to the document is William Jepson. Originally he was from Worksop in Nottinghamshire, the center of the Pilgrim-movement in England. At first he was carpenter, later also merchant. In 1609, at the age of 26, he married in Amsterdam, Rosamond Horsfield<sup>4)</sup>. He was connected with the purchase of Robinson’s house in the “Kloksteeg”<sup>5)</sup>. On 15 October 1622, he resided in the “bon” (ward) Sevenhuysen<sup>6)</sup>.

The second and most important signer of the document is John Robinson himself. He had already had some transactions with Seigneur Jehan de Lalaing on 5 May 1611, when he purchased from him the house,

<sup>1)</sup> H. M. Dexter, *The England and Holland of the Pilgrims*, p. 565; pp. 529—530.

<sup>2)</sup> See concerning this: p. 7, note 2.

<sup>3)</sup> Edward Arber, *The Story of the Pilgrim Fathers*, London, 1897, p. 246.

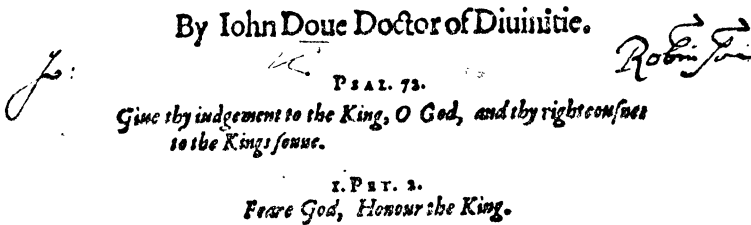
<sup>4)</sup> H. M. Dexter, *Op. cit.*, p. 469.

<sup>5)</sup> H. M. Dexter, *Op. cit.*, p. 530.

<sup>6)</sup> In the *Hoofdgeld 1622 (Oct. 15)*, *Bon Sevenhuysen*, fol. 37 b:

Willem Jaspersz. Timmerman	
Roseman Jaspers	
Abigael	} Jaspers kinderen.
Roseman	
Evert Horsvolt	

which occupied the present site of the Jean Pesijnshofje. As was mentioned above, we possess in this signature the only certain and officially authenticated signature of this famous man. Until now the signature of another person has passed for the genuine; the one on the title-page of a booklet in the British Museum in London, and of which a facsimile is here given. The title of the booklet is: "A persvasion to the English Recusants, to Reconcile themselves to the Church of England. Written for the better satisfaction of those which be ignorant. By John Dove, Doctor of Divinitie. Psal. 72. Give thy iudgement to the King, o God, and thy righteousnes to the Kings sonne. 1 Pet. 2. Feare God, Honour the King. Printed at London by V. S. for Cuthbert Burby dwelling in Paules churh-yard at the signe of the Swanne, 1602" <sup>1)</sup>.



A reproduction of the signature on this tract of John Dove is found in the "Narrative and Critical History of America" of Justin Winsor. He however says "No

<sup>1)</sup> For the facsimile I am indebted to Prof. J. Rendel Harris of Manchester.

wholly authenticated signature of Robinson is known". He reproduced it from H. M. Dexter, "The Congregationalism of the last three hundred years as seen in its Literature", pp. xx and 359. Dexter however remarks: "I can not vouch for the genuineness of this, but it is from the title-page of a book in the library of the British Museum, believed by the experts of that institution to have belonged to him". The autograph is printed at the top of p. 359. Yet another signature, very much like the one in John Dove's tract, has been reproduced in facsimile by Justin Winsor. This second signature is found in a copy of a booklet by Edwin Sandys, "Relation of the State of Religion, 1605", which is in the possession of Charles Deane Esq., Cambridge, Mass. U. S. A. <sup>1)</sup>

The "experts" thus have all erred, which is not surprising, for at the time when our John Robinson lived this name appears repeatedly. Joseph Hunter had already remarked, that John Robinson "had inherited, like Smith, one of those names which are really in a large population like that of England, no notamina, affording, therefore, little assistance to the critical inquirer" <sup>2)</sup>, and Champlin Burrage rightly says "a considerable number of John Robinsons can doubtless be found in

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<sup>1)</sup> Justin Winsor, *Narrative and Critical History of America*, Boston and New York (s. a.), Vol. III, p. 259.

<sup>2)</sup> Joseph Hunter, *Collections concerning the founders of New Plymouth*, London 1654, p. 90.

England during the period in which the Pastor of the Pilgrims lived, and even in Cambridge University at the time he was there, another Robinson of the same name was attending Emmanuel College”<sup>1)</sup>. We thus see the significance of the fact, that we now possess the authentic, officially attested signature of John Robinson. I have no doubt that with this one as a guide new facts will come to light concerning his life-history, especially of his youth and study-period, of which so little is known. The seed has already produced fruit, for Prof. J. Rendel Harris wrote me that a second signature, from 1602, has been found in England.

The second document is dated 24 July 1620, and is signed by William Bradford, who followed the profession of sayworker at Leyden. We know that the Pilgrim Fathers left Leyden at the close of July. Dexter says: “Probably it was on Friday, July 31, that the emigrants left Leiden for Delfshaven”<sup>2)</sup>. Bradford does not tell us definitely in his “History of Plymouth Plantation”. We shall also have to bear in mind the old and new style of dating, but in each case Bradford was yet in Leyden on 24 July 1620, when he puts his business affairs in

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<sup>1)</sup> Champlin Burrage, *New facts concerning John Robinson, Pastor of the Pilgrim Fathers*, Oxford 1910, p. 22.

<sup>2)</sup> H. M. Dexter, *The Holland and England of the Pilgrims*, p. 587.

order<sup>1)</sup>. In this document he empowers the already mentioned William Jepson, carpenter, and John Keble, woolcomber, also a well-known member of the congregation of the Pilgrim Fathers<sup>2)</sup>, to collect in his name from Jan des Obrys a sum of 100 carolus-guilders, which he had to pay to Bradford as a mortgage.

The third document is the testament of Bridget Robinson, the widow of John Robinson, drawn up 28 October 1643, at the office of notary J. F. van Merwen, on the Breestraat. We know that on 15 October 1622, John Robinson had six children: Jannes (John), Brugitta (Bridget), Isack (Isaac), Mercy, Ferer (Fear) and Jacobus (Jacob)<sup>3)</sup>. When Robinson died on 1 March

<sup>1)</sup> Thus when John Masfield in the "introduction" of his in other respects splendid booklet "Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers", London 1917, says: „Those who chose, or were chosen, to go, left Leyden for Delft Haven, where they went aboard the Speedwell, of 60 tons, which had been bought and equipped in Holland. On or about the 10th/20th July 1620, the Speedwell sailed for Southampton", he dates it too early.

<sup>2)</sup> He was one of those who in 1619, with John Robinson, accompanied Thomas Brewer, who had been arrested and was to go to England, as far as Rotterdam. Edward Arber, *Op. cit.*, p. 224.

<sup>3)</sup> In *Hoofdgeld 1622 (15 Oct.)*, *Bon Sevenhuysen*, fol. 38a:

Jan Robbenson, predicant	
Brugitta Robbenson syne huysvrouwe.	
Jannes	} Robbenson's kinderen.
Brugitta	
Isack	
Mercy	
Ferer	
Jacobus	

1625, and was buried in the Pieterskerk on 4 March 1625, his wife continued to live in the "Engelsche Poort", Robinson's house. Johannes Hoornbeek was able to inform us that, after Robinson's death, division and schism arose in his congregation over the question whether one might listen to the preaching of the Word of God in the Anglican church, and that Robinson's widow, his children, and other acquaintance and friends were accepted into the communion of the Netherlands Reformed Church. Among those who went to the Reformed Church are the two, who as witnesses, signed this document, Steven Butterveldt (Stephen Butterfield) and Jan Meester (John Masterson)<sup>1)</sup>. Furthermore Prof.

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Marija Hardy, dienstmeyt

Of course the names in their English equivalents are: John, Bridget, Isaac, Mercy, Fear and Jacob. Edward Arber, *The Story of the Pilgrim Fathers*, p. 159 apparently errs, when he translates the first name Jannes as James.

<sup>1)</sup> J. Hoornbeek, *Summa Controversiarum Religionis*, Trajecti ad Rhenum 1658, p. 741: "sed, post obitum eius (Johannis Robinsoni), obortâ in Caetu contentione et scismate, super communione cum Ecclesia Anglicana in auditione verbi, D. Robinsoni vidua, liberi, reliquique propinqui et amici in communionem Ecclesiae nostrae recepti fuerunt".

Concerning the above-named matter the following sections of the minutes of the consistory of the Dutch Reformed Church in Leyden give more light: 22 September 1628. — Thomas Smith, Engelsman, geweest zijnde lidtmaet van de Bruniste kercke in Engelant, ende van deselve geexcommuniceert zijnde, omdat hij eenige predicatien in de publycke kerck hadde gehoort, alsoo men hadde verstaen uyt eenige informatie, dat hy een goeet, vroom man was, is goetgevonden dat de predicant van 't quartier na voorgaende examen sal moghen als van nieuws aennemen. — (Thomas Smith, Englishman, who had been a member of the Brownist church in England, and who had been excommuni-

Antonius Walaeus declared on 25 May 1628, which Prof. Festus Hommius confirmed on 26 May 1628, that their pastor Robinson had often told him how he regretted the split which existed between his church and the other English churches in Holland, and that he was prepared to do his very best to remove this split. Also that Robinson had declared, he would rather educate his son for the ministry of the Dutch than the English congregations, and that he, with the help of Prof. Walaeus and the Rev. Teellinck, had succeeded to move some wealthy persons of Middelburg to provide some support, in order that he could thus let his son study for several years. It is even supposed that he thought of moving with a part of his congregation to the West Indies<sup>1</sup>).

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cated from the same, because he had heard some sermons in the national church: because they had received information that he was a good and pious man, it is approved that the minister of the quarter (of the city), after previous examination, may accept him anew.

17 Juni 1639. Jan Meester ende sijn huysvrouw, oock Steven Buttersvelt, Engelschen, van de gemeynte van saliger Robbinson, clagende tsedert sijn doot by mankement van behoorlycke exercitien, soo wel niet te connen gesticht werden als of se leeden waren van eenige kercke voorsien van predicanten, versochten tot lidmaten onser kercke toegelaten te mogen werden. 't Welc by de broederen is toegestaen. — (John Masterson and his wife, also Steven Buttersvelt, English, members of the congregation of the late Robinson, complaining that since his death by lack of proper exercise (of religion) they could not be edified as well as the members of some other church provided with ministers, requested to be admitted as members of our church. Which was accepted by the brethern).

<sup>1</sup>) See explanation by Walaeus in: H. M. Dexter, *The England and Hol-*



We do not know to which of the three sons, John, Jacob or Isaac is here referred. Jacob died in 1638 and was buried in the Pieterskerk in Leyden on 26 May 1638<sup>1)</sup>. Concerning Isaac something is known. Judge Sewall's "Journal", which deals with his trip through New England in 1702, from which Edward Arber quotes, says: "Visit Master (Isaac) Robinson, who saith, he is 92 years old; is the son of Master Robinson, pastor of the church of Leyden; part of which came to Plymouth. But to my disappointment he came not to New England, till the year (1631) in which Master Wilson was returning to England, after the settlement of Boston. I told him I was very desirous to see him, for his father's sake and his own. Gave him an Arabian piece of gold, to buy a book for some of his grandchildren"<sup>2)</sup>. Fear, the daughter of John Robinson, married John Jennings Jr. She died before 31 May 1670, leaving three daughters not yet of age<sup>3)</sup>; the other daughter, Bridget, married, on 26 May 1670, John Greenwood.

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*land of the Pilgrims*, p. 592—593. Brewer was also acquainted with the Teelinck's in Middelburg. Edward Arber, *The Story of the Pilgrim Fathers*, London 1897, p. 226.

<sup>1)</sup> *Register van de overledene personen begraven binnen Leyden. Begonnen den 5 October 1636*, (No. 8), fol. 60a: Den 26e dito Jacob Robbrecht in de Engelsche poort.

<sup>2)</sup> *Historical Magazine*, vol. IV, p. 6, Boston and New York 1860, 4, thus quoted in: Edward Arber, *The Story of the Pilgrim Fathers*, London 1897, p. 160.

<sup>3)</sup> See concerning her: H. M. Dexter, *The England and Holland of the Pilgrims*, p. 618.

who studied theology at the University of Leyden<sup>1)</sup>.

What then do we find in the document which we now publish? Bridget Robinson — her real name was Bridget White — did not remarry after the death of her husband, as in 1643 she was yet a widow. At that time she had four children: Johannes, was doctor of medicine, who was married and who lived in England; another son, Isaac, who lived in New England and who was also married; and further two daughters, Brechgen (Bridget) and Fear, both also married. Both children of her son Doctor Johannes, named John and Maria, shall, after her death, receive each a silver spoon; also both little daughters of her daughter Brechgen, named Maria and Martha, each a silver spoon<sup>2)</sup>. Isaac's wife, who lived in New England is to receive her long cloak and skirt of black cloth. Her son, doctor Johannes, is to have the "Reemse Testament", apparently father Robinson's

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<sup>1)</sup> See concerning her: H. M. Dexter, *Op. cit.*, p. 616. *Echtboek B* (1611—1633) fol. 230b:

Aenget. den 10en Mey 1629 Jean Grynwith, student in de Theologie in de Vrouwencamp, verges. met Thomas Nass ende Samuel Lae (?) (Lee) sijn bekendens

met

Brechgen Robbenson, jonge dochter opte Beestemarct, verges. met Brechjen Robbenson haer moeder opt kerckhoff ende Lijsbeth Kebel in de camp haer bekende.

<sup>2)</sup> In the testament of the mother of John Robinson, she also bequeathed a silver spoon to Bridget, Robinson's wife. Champlin Burrage, *The Early English Dissenters in the light of recent research, 1550—1641*, Cambridge 1912, Vol. 1, p. 376—377.

Bible<sup>1)</sup>. Futhermore Isaac and Fear (Veer) are to receive 40 guilders in advance, which Brechgen, the other daughter, had already received out of her father's estate. Her daughter Fear is yet to receive a silver cup, also all the household effects which the mother had acquired or purchased in the last four years and which she might yet acquire before her death. Brechgen and Fear both received all of their mother's clothes, both linen and woolen, except the long cloak and skirt which she had intended for Isaac's wife. Doctor Johannes Robinson had in the past already received considerable from the lands and goods, located in England, and also money, and for this reason he is not to share in the final division; what he had already received, however, was to remain his or his children's property. In the begin-

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<sup>1)</sup> Apparently: The Remish Testament, an English translation well known as the "Rhemes and Doyay Version". The *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, Eleventh edition, Cambridge 1910, Vol. III, p. 901 says: "The translation is really anonymous, but there seems to be little doubt that it was carried out by some of the Romanist refugees connected with the Seminary at Douai and the English college at Reims, the chief amongst them being Gregory Martin, William Allen, Richard Bristow and J. Reynolds. Like the Wycliffite versions it is merely a secondary rendering from the Latin Vulgate, and it suffered from many of the defects which characterized these versions, extreme literalness, often stilted, ambiguous renderings, at times unintelligible, except by a reference to the Latin original". — A book by Thomas Cartwright, *A Confutation of the Rhemists Translation, Glosses and Annotations on the New Testament, 1618*, in folio, was also printed on the Pilgrim Fathers press in Leyden. Perhaps she refers to this book, which is also a folio, and contains the text of the New Testament.

ning mention had been made in the testament that in case he or his children were not satisfied with this clause, they were all to surrender what they had already received into the estate, and then divide equally. This provision however, was scratched out. All the remainder then, was for the other three children, Isaac, Bridget and Fear Robinson.

Finally attention is to be called to the fact, that the English — and that already as early as 1643 — were beginning to spell their names in accordance with the Dutch pronunciation. Stephen Butterfield signs his name as Steven Butturveldt and John Masterson as Jan Meester, a proof that John Robinson's congregation is beginning to melt into Dutch society.

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## DOKUMENT I.

Op huyden den 2<sup>en</sup> Januarii des jaers 1621 sijn voor my Jacob van Tethrode notaris publycq ende den ondergescreven getuygen gecomen ende gecompareert Joncheer Thomas Brouwer, Jan Rabbijns, dienaer des godtlicken woorts, ende Willem Jepsen, alle wonende binnen deser stadt Leyden, ende bekenden mits desen gesamentlijk ende elck een voor al als principael, onder renunchiatie van de beneficien ordinis divisionis et excussionis, voor hen, haren erven ende nacomelingen wel ende deuchdelicken schuldich te wesen aen ende ten behouve van Sr. Jehan de Lalaing ofte den thoonder van desen, de somme van seven hondert vier en veertich carolus guldens, van XL grooten tstuck, derthien stuyvers ende drye penninghen, ter saecke van verscheyden verlopen jaren interest, tlaetste te verschynen Meye dage 1621. Belovende daeromme de voorsz. somme van seven hondert vier en veertich guldens, derthien stuyvers, drye penninghen, wel ende getrouwelick by eere ende vromicheyt op te leggen ende te betalen te Meye dage thoecomende XVI<sup>c</sup> een en twin-

tich precys, ende sonder langer vertreck ofte dilay. Daer onder verbindende de comparanten hare respective personen ende goederen, roerende, onroerende, jegenwoordige ende thoecomende, gerechticheyden ende inneschulden, egeen ter werelt uytgesondert, nocte buyten gehouden, d'selve mitten vruchten ende keure van dien onderwerpene tverbant ende bedwang van allen tsheren rechten ende rechteren, mitte costen daeromme doende, versouckende hiervan openbare acte. Aldus gedaen ende gepasseert binnen der stadt Leyden ten comptoire mijns notaris, staende aldaer aen de Bredestraet, ten dage ende jare als boven. Ter presentie van Willem Cornelisz. Ket, buyrman der heerlicheyt van Rijnsburch, ende Jan Jacobsz. van Tethrode, schryver, als getugen ten desen versocht sijnde.

WILLEM CORNELISS. KET  
J. JSZ. VAN TETHRODE

THO. BREWER  
JOHN ROBINSON  
WILLIAM JEPSON

J. VAN TETHRODE, nots. scripsit  
1621.

*(In margine staat:)*

D'originele deser es my ondergescreven notaris gecasseert vertoondt by Joncheer Thomas Brouwer, huyden den XIII<sup>en</sup> Junii 1621.

J. VAN TETHRODE, nots.  
1621.

*(Protocol notaris J. van Tethrode, No. 82  
acte 23. — Gemeente-archief te Leiden. Het  
document is 29 X 19½ c.M.)*

## DOCUMENT I (English translation).

This day, the 2<sup>nd</sup> of January of the year 1621, before me, Jacob van Tethrode, notary public, and the subscribing witnesses, came and appeared Thomas Brouwer, Esquire, Jan Rabbijns, minister of the word of God, and Willem Jespen, all residing within this city of Leyden, who hereby acknowledge that jointly and each for the whole as principal, waiving the *beneficia ordinis, divisionis et excussionis* for themselves, their heirs and successors, they are well and truly indebted to and for the behoof of Sr. Jehan de Lalaing, or the bearer hereof, in the sum of seven hundred and forty-four Carolus guilders of 40 groots each, thirteen stivers and three pence, on account of several years' accumulated interest, the last due on May-day 1621. Promising therefore well and faithfully, in all honor and conscience, to tender and pay the aforesaid sum of seven hundred and forty-four guilders, thirteen stivers and three pence on May-day next, sixteen hundred and twenty-one, promptly and without further extension of time or delay. For which the subscribers bind their respective persons and properties, real and personal, present and future, rights and claims, nothing in the world excepted or reserved, submitting the same with the fruits and the choice thereof to the jurisdiction and control of all our sovereign lord's courts and judges with (promise to pay) the costs

to be incurred. Requesting a public instrument hereof. Thus done and executed in the city of Leyden, at the office of me, the notary, situated there on the Bredestraet, the day and year above written. In the presence of Willem Cornelisz. Ket, farmer of the manor of Rijnsburch, and Jan Jacobsz. van Tethrode, clerck, as witnesses hereto invited.

WILLEM CORNELISS. KET  
J. JSZ. VAN TETHRODE

THO. BREWER  
JOHN ROBINSON  
WILLIAM JEPSON

J. VAN TETHRODE, notary scripsit  
1621.

*(In the margin was written :)*

The original hereof, cancelled, was shown to me, the notary, by Thomas Brouwer, Esquire, this day, the 14<sup>th</sup> of June 1621.

J. VAN TETHRODE, notary  
1621.

*(Protocol of Notary J. van Tethrode, No. 82,  
instrument 28. — City archives, at Leyden.  
The instrument measures 29 × 19½ c.M.).*

## DOKUMENT II.

Factum.

XXIII<sup>e</sup> July 1620Nu<sup>o</sup> C 42

Compareerde voor my notaris ende getuygen onder genomineert, Willem Braedtfort, saywercker binnen deser stede, ende heeft specialycken geconstitueert ende machtich gemaectt, gelijk hy doet by desen,



Willem Jepson, timmerman, ende Jan Keebell, wolle-  
 cammer, gevende henluyden ende elcx bysonder, vol-  
 comen last, macht ende bevel, omme in den naeme  
 ende vanwegen hem comparant t'innen, maenen, beu-  
 ren ende ontfangen van Jan des Obrys, vellebloter, de  
 somme van hondert carolus guldens, verschenen Mey-  
 dage voorleden, hem comparant competerende over  
 een jaer custings, van heuren ontfanck quitantie te ge-  
 ven, ende voorts generalycken in desen alles te doene,  
 dat hy comparant present zijnde zelfs zoude cunnen  
 ende mogen doen. Oock mede by faulte van betalinge  
 met middelen van justitie te behelpen, tot dien eynde  
 een off meer procureurs ad lites te volmachtigen, in  
 omnibus cum potestate substituendi in communi forma.  
 Belovende hy comparant etc. Behoudens etc. Aldus ge-  
 daen op den XXIII<sup>en</sup> July, a<sup>o</sup> 1620, ter presentie van  
 Andries Henricxz. van Brevelt, saytrapier, ende Arien  
 Ariensz. Schaeck, mijn clerck, als getuygen enz.

A. ARENSZ. SCHAECK  
 1620

WILLIAM BRADFORD  
 ANDRYES HEYNDRYCSEN  
 VAN BREVELT

My jegenwoordich

P. C. VAN RHIJN. nots.  
 1620.

*(Protocol notaris P. C. van Rhijn, No. 206.  
 acte 142. — Gemeente-archief te Leiden.  
 Het document is 32 × 20 c.M.)*

## DOCUMENT II (English translation).

Factum. XXIII July 1620 Nu° C 42

Appeared before me, the notary, and the witnesses hereinafter named, Willem Braedtfort, say-worker within this city, who has constituted, as he does hereby. Willem Jepsen, carpenter, and Jan Keebell, wool-comber, his special attorneys, giving them jointly and each one separately full authority, power and command in the name and on the part of him, the principal, to demand, solicit, collect and receive of Jan des Obrys, fellmonger, the sum of one hundred Carolus guilders, payable on May-day last past, due to him, the principal, for one year's payment on a mortgage; upon the receipt thereof to grant a discharge and further in general to do herein all that the principal, being himself present, could or might do. Also in default of payment to resort to legal proceedings; to that end to empower one or more attorneys at law, in omnibus cum potestate substituendi in communi forma. The said principal promising, etc. Provided, etc. Thus done on the 24<sup>th</sup> of July anno 1620, in the presence of Andries Henricxz. van Brevelt, say draper, and Arien Ariensz. Schaeck, my clerk, as witnesses, etc.

A. ARENSZ. SCHAECK

WILLIAM BRADFORD

ANDRYES HEYNDRYCSEN VAN BREVELT

In my presence

P. C. VAN RHIJN, notary  
1620.

*(Protocol of Notary P. C. van Rhijn, No. 206,  
instrument 142. — City archives, at Leiden.  
The instrument measure 32 × 20 c.M.)*

## DOKUMENT III.

Nota. Sy op franchijn geschreven, 't is gedaen.

No. CXXXI.

In den name des Heeren, Amen. By den innehouden van desen yegewoordigen openbaren instrumente, sy cundich ende kennelic eenen yegelijcken dient behoort, dat op huyden den XXVIII<sup>e</sup> Octobris anno XVI<sup>c</sup> XLIII des namiddachs, de clock omtrent IIII uyren, voor my Jacob Franssz. van Merwen, openbaer notaris by den Provincialen Hoove van Hollant, op te nominatie van de E. E. heeren van de Gerechte der Stadt Leyden geadmitteert, binnen derselver stede resideerende, ende voor den nabeschreven getuygen, in eygener persooone gecomen ende verschenen is de eerbare Brechgen Alexandersdr., wedue van za(liger) D. Johannes Robbens, in sijn leven predicant in de Engelsche gemeente binnen deser stede, wonende alhier in de Engelse poort<sup>1)</sup>, gesont van lichame, gaende ende staende, haer verstandt, redenen ende memorie wel machtich ende ten vollen gebruyckende, naer allen uytwendigen schijn, dewelcke verclaerde, dat zy acht nemende op d'algemene swac ende broosheyt vant leven des menschen op deser aerden, die als een schadue verganckelijc, ende de gemeene schulde der natuere, namentlick de doot, ten allersekersten onderworpen is, ende daer jegens niet onsekerder te sijn dan de tijt ende uyre van

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<sup>1)</sup> Hierna is doorgestreept: my notaris welbekent.

dien, derhalven van sinne ende meninge geworden te wesen, deselve onsekere uyre des doots voor te comen mit dispositie testamentair, ende sulx niet van dese werelt te scheyden, sonder van de tijtlicke goederen haer van den almachtigen genadelic verleent, gedisponeert te hebben, doende sulx, soo sy opentlic verclaerde, uyt haer eygen vrye gemoet ende wille, sonder yemants opmakingen off misleydingen, bevelende alvorens hare onsterffelycke siele in de genadige ende barmhartige handen Godes almachtich, haren schepper ende salichmaker, ende hare doode lichaem de aerde mit een eerlicke begravinge, revocerende, casserende, doot ende te niet doende by desen alle ende soodanige testamenten, codicillen ende gelycke maeckingen, als sy voor date deses gemaect, gepasseert ende verleeden soude mogen hebben, niet willende noch begerende, dat deselve in eenich point gevolgt off naergecomen sullen werden in geenre manieren, van nieuws disponerende, heeft eerst ende voor al gelegateert, gemaect ende besproocken, sulcx sy doet by desen, aen Jan ende Maria, beyde kindren van D. Johannes Robbens, doctor medicine, wonende in Engelant, haren soon, ider een silvere lepel. Wyders aen Maria ende Martha, beyde kindren van Brechgen Robbens, haer dochter, mede elc een silvere lepel. Noch aen de huysvrouw van Ysaac Robbens, haren soon, wonende in Nieu Engelandt haer comparantes heuyc ende swart laken roc. Noch aen Dr. Johannes

Robbens, haren soon voorseyt, het Reemse Testament. Verclaert voorts sy comparante ende testante voornoemt te prelegateren ende vooruyt te maken by desen aen Isaac Robbens, haren soon voornoemt, ende aen Veer Robbens hare dochter, elcx een somme van veertich gulden van XL grooten Vlaems tstuc, ende dat in gelijkstellinge ende vereffeninge van gelycke somme, die Brechgen Robbens, ooc haer dochter, van haer comparante ende testante over haer vaders erffnisse heeft genoten. Wyders aen Veer Robbens voornoemt noch alleen haer comparantes silvere beecker, mitsgaders alle den huysraet ende inboedel, mit tgunst daer daeraen cleeft, die sy comparante de laetste vier jaren voor date deses heeft aengecocht off aengemaect, ende naer desen ende sulcx tot haer overlyden toe noch soude mogen coopen off maecken. Sijnde haer comparantes meeninge ende begeerte, dat hare erffgenamen deselve hare dochter Veer Robbens op haer simpel woort ende verclaringe sullen moeten geloven, wat ende hoeveel huysraet ende inboedel by haer comparante ende testante sedert de laetste vier jaren herwaerts, ende ooc naer date deses, tot haer comparantes affsterven toe aengemaect off gecocht sullen wesen, sonder haer dochter te dwingen tselve mit eede te moeten verclaren, sulx wel expresselic verbiedende, ende d'voorsz. hare dochter daarvan ontlastende by desen. Ende ten laetste prelegateert sy comparante ende testante voornoemt noch

aen Brechgen ende Veer Robbens, hare dochteren voor-  
noemt, alle de clederen, beyde lynen ende wollen, tha-  
ren lyve, ruggē ende geryve behoorende, uytbesondert  
de heuyc ende swart laken roc hiervoren aen de huys-  
vrou van Isaac Robbens, haren soon gelegateert. Int  
vorder verclaert sy comparante ende testante voor-  
noemt, dat den voorsz. Dr. Johannes Robbens, haren  
soon, soo aen landen ende goederen in Engelandt ge-  
legen, als aen penningen aen hem verstreect, alrede vry  
meerder van haer comparante ende testante off van haer  
za(ligen) man genoten ende getrocken heeft als hare  
andre drye kinderen op verre na van haer comparante  
ende testante sullen cunnen trecken off genieten. Sijnde  
oversulcx hare comparantes ernstige wille, meeninge  
ende begeerte, dat denselven Dr. Johannes Robbens,  
haren soon, daermede sal affstaen ende uyt haren boe-  
del blyven, sonder daervan int cleyn off groot, yet  
meerder te trecken off genieten, als verclarende sy  
comparante ende testante voornoemt denselven haren  
soon, off by desselfs voorsterven, syne naer te laten  
kindt off kindren in alle de voorsz. by hem getrocken  
ende genoten goederen tot hare particuliere mede erff-  
gename te institueren by desen. [Ende indien denselven  
haren soon, off by sijn voorsterven desselfs kindren  
mittet gunt voorsegt staet, haer niet te vreden en hiel-  
den, maer daer jegens deden off poochden te doen in  
eeniger manieren, soo verclaerde sy comparante voor-

noemt haer meeninge ende begeerte te wesen, dat denselven haren soon, off by sijn voorsterven desselfs kindren in haer comparantes gemeenen boedel sullen moeten brengen alle ende soodanige goederen, als denselven haren soon van haer comparante off haren za(ligen) man genoten heeft, twelc geschiet sijnde, denselven haren soon, off by sijn overlyden desselfs kindren, in alle de goederen des geheelen boedels (de legaten ende prelegaten affgetrocken sijnde) sal off sullen delen, soo rijc als haer comparantes andre kindren d'selven haren soon, off by sijn vooroverlijden desselfs kinderen (in dien gevalle van nieus disponerende) in een gerecht vierde paert van hare naer te laten boedel ende goederen, instituerende by desen] <sup>1)</sup>.

Ende in alle de verdre goederen, die sy comparante ende testante voornoemt mitter doot sal comen te ont-ruymen ende naer te laten, verclaerde sy comparante ende testante tot hare eenige algehele ende universele erffgenamen gemaect, genomt, ende geinstitueert te hebben, sulcx sy doet by desen, de voorsz. Isaac Robbens, haren soon mitsgaders Brechgen ende Veer Robbens, hare twee dochters, als elc voor een gerecht derde paert van dien, ende by voorsterven van d'selve off eenige van hun, hare respective naer te laten kindt off kindren, by representatie ende sulcx in de stede van haer voorgestorven ouders. Alle twelc sy comparante ende tes-

<sup>1)</sup> Het gedeelte tusschen [    ] is in het handschrift doorgestreept.

tante voornoemt seyde ende verclaerde haer testament, laetste ende uysterste wille te wesen, ordonnerende ende begerende, dat sulx daer voren valideren ende effect sorteren sal, tsy als solemneel testament, codicille, fideicommiss, gifte uyt saecke des doots, off eenige andre gevingen off makingen, ende soo yemants uysterste wille best bestaen ende plaets grypen mach, nietjegenstaende eenige gebreken off versuymenissen. Versouckende sy comparante ende testante voornoemt, mit wettige stipulatie ten dien eynde aen handen mijns notaris als een publyc persoon gedaen, van tgunst voorschreven staet kennisse gedragen, gemaect ende geexpedieert te werden openbaer instrument, een off meer in gewoonlicke forme. Aldus gedaen, verleden ende gepasseert binnen der voorsz. stadt Leyden, ten huysse ende comptoire mijns notaris, staende aldaer opte Langebrugge over de Wolsteech. Present Steven Buttervelt, bockenvercoper ende Jan Meester, saeywercker, als getuygen van goeden gelove neffens my notaris ten desen versocht ende gebeden. Welcke getugen verclaerden de comparante wel te kennen ende dat deselve die persone is, die hiervoren is genomt ende gehandelt.

BRIDGET ROBINSON  
STEVEN BUTTURVELDT  
JAN MEESTER

Twelc ic getuyge

J. F. VAN MERWEN, nots. pub. scripsit  
1643.

*(Protocol notaris J. F. van Merwen, No. 541,  
acte 131. — Gemeente-archief te Loiden. Het  
document is 31 × 20 c.M.)*



## DOCUMENT III (English translation).

Nota. Be it written on parchment. It is done.

No. CXXXI.

In the name of the Lord, Amen. By the contents of this present public instrument be it known to all whom it may concern, that, on this, the 28<sup>th</sup> day of October of the year 1643, about four o'clock in the afternoon, appeared in person before me, Jacob Franssz. van Merwen, notary public, admitted by the Provincial Court of Holland, on the nomination of the Honorable Gentlemen of the Court of the city of Leyden, residing in the aforesaid city, and before the hereinafter mentioned witnesses, the honorable Brechgen<sup>1)</sup> Alexanders d(aughter), widow of D. Johannes Robbens of blessed memory, when living pastor of the English congregation within this city, dwelling here in the Engelse Poort, being of sound body, able to walk and stand, in full possession and exercise of her mind, senses and memory, as far as outwardly appears, who, considering the common weakness and frailty of the life of mortal man on this earth, who passes as a shadow, and is wholly subject unto the common guilt of nature, namely death, and nothing being more uncertain than the time and hour thereof, therefore being desirous to anticipate the uncertain hour of death by way of a testamentary disposition, and therefore not wishing to depart this earth, without previous

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<sup>1)</sup> Bridget.

disposal of her earthly possessions, graciously granted unto her by the Almighty, has of her own free inclination and will, as she publicly declared, without inducement or misleading of anyone, whomsoever, first committing her immortal soul into the gracious and merciful hands of God Almighty, her Creator and Savior, and her body to a Christian burial in the earth, revoking and cancelling by these presents, all and such wills, codicils or testaments heretofore made, executed and drawn up by her, not willing or desiring that these should be followed or executed in any point whatsoever, disposing anew, has first and before all bequeathed, given and ordered, as she does by these presents, to Jan and Maria, both children of D. Johannes Robbens<sup>1)</sup>, doctor medicinae, residing in England, her son, each a silver spoon. Furthermore to Maria and Martha, both children of Brechgen Robbens<sup>2)</sup>, her daughter, also each a silver spoon, besides, to the wife of Isaac Robbens, her son, residing in New England, the long cloak and skirt of black cloth of appearer, also to Dr. Johannes Robbens, her son aforesaid, the Rhemish Testament. Furthermore, she, appearer and testator, declares, she bequeathes and gives in advance by these presents to Isaac Robbens, her son aforesaid, and to Veer Robbens<sup>3)</sup>, her daughter, each a sum of forty guilders of XL groots Flemish a

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<sup>1)</sup> John Robbinson.

<sup>2)</sup> Bridget Robinson.

<sup>3)</sup> Fear Robinson.

piece, and this in equalization and adjustment of an equal sum, which Brechgen Robbens, also her daughter, has enjoyed from her, the appearer and testator, out of the legacy of her father. Moreover only to Veer Robbens aforesaid the silver cup of her, the appearer, together with all the furniture and household goods, with everything appertaining thereto, which she, the appearer, has bought or made in the last four years before this date, and whatever she may buy or make after this day till her death. Being the opinion and wish of appearer, that her heirs shall believe her daughter Veer Robbens on her simple word and evidence, what and how much furniture and household goods shall have been made and bought by her, the appearer and testator, during the last four years and after this date till her, the appearers death, without compelling her daughter to confirm this by oath, expressly forbidding this, and discharging her aforesaid daughter therefrom. And lastly, she, appearer and testator, bequeathes in advance and in addition to Brechgen and Veer Robbens, her daughters aforesaid, all the clothes, both linen and woolen, which she has for her personal use and convenience, except the long cloak and skirt of black cloth, herefore given to the wife of Isaac Robbens, her son. Furthermore she, appearer and testator aforesaid, declares that Dr. Johannes Robbens, her son has already enjoyed and received, in the form of properties in land and goods lying in England

and money provided him, much more from her late husband, than her other three children can receive or enjoy from her, appearer and testator. Being therefore the express will, opinion and wish of appearer that he, Dr. Johannes Robbens, her son, shall surrender all claims upon her estate, and not participate in it, without drawing or enjoying anything further, small or great. The appearer and testator aforesaid declares and institutes, by these presents, her son, or in case of his prior death, his child or children to be her private coheir in all goods aforesaid, which he has received and enjoyed.

[And if he, her son, or in case of his prior death, his children, are not satisfied with this, her disposition, but should act or try to act against it in any way, she, appearer, above-mentioned, declared it to be her opinion and wish, that he, her son, or in case of his prior death, his children, shall be required to bring into the common estate of the appearer, all and such goods as he, her son, has enjoyed of her the testator or of her husband of blessed memory, which having been done, he, her son, or in case of his prior death, his children, shall participate in all the properties of the entire estate (the legacies and grants in advance having been subtracted), as well as her, the appearer's other children, instituting by these presents him, her son, or in case of his prior death, his children (in this case anew disposing)

in a just fourth part of her estate and goods, which she will leave behind] <sup>1)</sup>.

And of all the other goods which she, appearer and testator above-mentioned, shall vacate and leave behind at the time of her death, she, appearer and testator, declared to have made, named and instituted as her only and sole heirs, as she does by these presents, Isaac Robbens, above-mentioned, her son, with Brechgen and Veer Robbens, her two daughters, each a just third part, and in case of their prior death or of any one of them, their respective child or children, which shall be left behind, by representation and this in the place of their parents, previously deceased. All of which she, appearer and testator, abovenamed, said and declared to be her last and final testament, which she orders and wishes to have full force and effect, whether as solemn testament, codicil, fideicommiss, gift for reason of death, or any other donations or dispositions, and as may be most suitable in a last will, notwithstanding some faults or omissions. She, appearer and testator, desires, with lawful stipulation to that end committed to my hands as a notary and a public person, bearing cognisance of all the aforesaid, that his be made and executed as a public instrument, in one or more copies of the usual form. This done, drawn up and executed within the

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<sup>1)</sup> The part between [ ] is crossed out in the manuscript.

abovenamed city of Leyden, at my, the notary's house and office, here on the Langebrugge, opposite the Wolsteech. Present Steven Buttervelt, bookseller, and Jan Meester, sayworker, asked and called for this purpose, with me, the notary, as trustworthy witnesses, who declared they know the appearer well and that she is the person hereinbefore named and mentioned.

BRIDGET ROBINSON  
STEVEN BUTTURVELDT  
JAN MEESTER

Which I certify

J. F. VAN MERWEN, not. pub. scripsit  
1643.

*(Protocol of Notary J. F. van Merwen, No. 541.  
instrument 131. — City archives, at Leyden. The  
instrument measures 31 × 20 c.M.).*









**GVIL. AMESII**

*ad Responsum*

**NIC. GREVINCHOVII**

**RESCRIPTIO**

**CONTRACTA.**

*Accedunt ejusdem assertiones  
Theologicae de Lumine  
Naturae & Gra-  
tiae.*



**Prostant**

**LYGDVNI BATAVORVM,**

*Apud Guiljelmum Brewsterum*

**In Vico Choralis.**

**1617.**

# COMMENTARII

Succincti & Dilucidi

IN

## PROVERBIA SALOMONIS.

AUTHORE

ex Bibliotheca communis S. Annuntiationis Parisiensis ordinis F. Prædicatorum  
**THOMA CARTVVRIGHTO**

Theologiæ in Academia CAN-

TABRIGIENSI *quondam*

*Professore.*

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Quibus adhibita est Præfatio clarissimi viri

IOHANNIS POLYANDRI,

S. Theologiæ Professoris LEIDENSIS.



LVGDVNI BATAVORVM.

ex Typographia D. J. Picquart D. et Soc. Jorubii 1699  
Apud *Guiljelmum Brevijsterum,*

In vico Choralis.

1617.