

1584 : 1586

[The extracts printed below are taken from a volume at Mercers' Hall which is devoted mainly to matters concerning St. Paul's School. For the High Master, John Harrison, see M. F. J. McDonnell, *The Story of St. Paul's School* (1909), 136-43, where Harrison's disputes with the Mercers and his protection by his cousin, Alexander Nowell, Dean of St. Paul's, are outlined. But Mr. McDonnell does not appear to have consulted the Mercers' records. For example, he attributes (143) the small number of distinguished pupils sent to the university from St. Paul's under Harrison's rule to the fashion setting against the universities: but see the second dialogue printed below for Harrison's own explanation. On 11 March 1584 the third of Sir Walter Mildmay's scholars went from St. Paul's to Emmanuel College (Mercers' Acts 1513-1622, 210^a). The complaint made against Harrison in 1584 that he had introduced newfangled teaching methods was repeated after the 1586 exercise, and in 1590 he was ordered to teach Lilly's grammar and not Ramus. But he continued to give dissatisfaction, and was finally given six months' notice to leave on 5 February 1596 when he 'answered in a scoffing maner' (ibid. 261^a). The Mercers approached Richard Mulcaster on 26 March and appointed him High Master on 5 August.

Harrison wrote no dialogue in February 1585: he was readmitted after a complaint about his scholars doing 'but metely well' and his being ill (ibid. 211^b).]

11 February 1584, Mercers' Acts 1513-1622, 207-9^b.

Court of Assistentes holden at Poules scole on tewsdaye the xjth
daie of ffebruarye 1583

Scole maister M^r Iohn Harrison highe scole M^r M^r Levesey
surm^r and George Sheppard teach^r of the Petite
after resignacon and humble submission of them selues and their
seu'all romes & placç were all appointed to attend on the com-
pany at their Court of assistentç at the mercers haule on fridaye
next and there to vnderstand the companies determynaçon touch-
inge their readmissions into their romes agayne And fault
found w^t M^r Levesey surm^r for his soddeyn aunswere after
thexercise of the children after dynner to an allegory or dreame
there sett forthe w^{ch} hereafter followeth /

an exercise of the schollers
before the company at poules

The exercise of the Children after
poules scole dynnar after an ora-
cion in Latten as followth v³batim
w^t the copy. ih /

Philomathes Short and swete broth^r Philomathes least yo^r
length be as tedious to such as vnderstand you
not, as yo^r swetenes maie be pleasaunt to the Learned hearers

Polumathes. Is that you Philomathes, yo^r speach is more short
then swete, and more homelye then welcome, but
no marveile that yo^r daintie eares canne abide me no longer
seyinge I never pleased my self lesse then at this tyme /

Theopompus. Nay you must p^don Philomathes to daie for
thoughe yo^r oration were as swete as marchpaine
yet wold it not season his mouth nor please his tast at this ffeast
his stomack hath bynne so cloyed all daie w^t a melancholy
moode /

Philomathes. The desease ys not in my stomack but in my
braynes w^{ch} haue byn in travaile all this daie, but
not as Iupiters brayne w^t mynerva, but w^t a very follissh [fantasy]
yet somewhat straunge fantasy /

Ephorus. If you be in labo^r no dout you long to be deliuered,
but I wold not wishe you to be at cost to bringe vp
the Child if it be nothing but a folishe fantasy that ys to be borne
into the world.

Euralus. Tushe it wilbe the pretier to dandle a while, if it be
not to wayward a ffantasy

Theophilus. Well Philomathes poure out whatsoeu^r is in yo^r
brayne into Polumathes bosome, and if it be not a
monstruous myshapen fantasy, he will fasshion it I warrant you
into some frame and swadle it vp like a good mydwif full hand-
somelie yo^u shall see /

Philomathes. It is a dreame w^{ch} I hadd last night w^{ch} hath
troubled my sprite all this daie /

Theophilus. Dreames are more then fantasies, sometyme they haue byn in steed of prophesies heretofore, and now I thinck they are not in vayne, for nothing is in o^r nature so vayne but we may therby gath^r some proffit / Therefore tell polumathes yo^r dreame I pray you /

Philomathes As I was studyng the last night by what meanes and howeso^eu^r I might become the best scoller in poules scole that from thence I might be preferred to the vniuersitie, in the myddest of my muses I fell into a sound sleepe and shortly after me thought there came to me a grave man and shoke me and bydd me awake and goo wth hym, and take my penne and Inck and bok^e wth me / And I for the reverence I had to his gravity and desire to knowe what he meant I was easely intreated and soone ready to go whith^r he wolde leade me, By the way me thought he told me that I should go w^t him to a feaste and he promysed me comfit^e & Marmalad and sucket and many such Ioncket^e, but I thought it straunge to rise so earley from sleepe to go to a feast, for my thought I had rath^r haue had an houres slepe then a whole marchepaine as well as I love it, but yet I durst not say so, but wth hym I went and he ledd me to a goodlie house There were writing^e me thought over the doore but we staid not to reade them / for the greate gate stode open and in he lead me by the hande into the greate hall, a [laphe] [^] [large] a high and a statly Rome wherein I sawe one empty table, and three tables furnished with guest^e like myself and varyety of meat^e tow messe furnished, at eache of the ij lower tables and fower [^] [messe] at the highest three that wayted & Carved, at eache table one, At the lowest table the began to feed well & were likly to prosp but milke was their Chefe fode. At the next they fedde so grossly that they surffited even of their milke, at the hiest thoughte there were varyety of dayntes yet many of them delighted rayther in milke there stomack was so tender. but there I was placed & fede on that w^{ch} stode before me full hungerly. Then the good grave ffather led me owte into his orcharde where he had planted x Rowes of tres of diuerse

fruiete, and appoynted three to grafte them, prime them, and water them, but two Rowes of them weare withered & laye waste other ij weare watred & primed and beganne to budde, the next towe after their watering and primynge brought forth lytle, and yet that vnsavory frute, but w^t some storme many fell from the trees before the Were ripe. Then my guide wente before me first into a litle empty Close, then into a greater fylde w^{ch} was environed wth a high stone wall where I sawe eight severall hearde of younge hinde milke, white & tame, and three men fedinge them vp by hande, one fedde two hearde w^{ch} were very younge. but yet they began to growe, a nother fedde other two w^{ch} ware [of] greater grothe, but yet they thrived not, the thirde fedd the other fower hearde whereof some were very younge & some better growen but all all most for their grothe, in good lykinge, harde by the highest hearde I sawe a greate gate fast locked, and my brother *Polumathes* as I thought knockinge thereat, and a mayden looked in at a little Windowe, w^{ch} was in the gate, and tould him that he shoulde have passage shortly at that gate my guide vanished awaye and lefte me with [my] brother *Polumathes*, of whome I demaunded whether he knewe the man, that brought me thether, And he aunswered that E.R. Coulede tell me of him, and then the Clocke strooke five & I awoke & Could not be in quiet vntell I had toulde you *Polumathes* my dreame. for I hope that you bothe Can and will interpret the same.

Polumathes I am nether *Protosymbolus* nor *Sereimus* nor yet well studded in *Apolemases* or *Artemidorus* and yet I guesse that in three Allegoryes you have sene the state of Paules scoole. The statly hall, the fayre orcharde, & the greate ffylde, do resemble the scoole, the vnfurnished table, the Rowe of withered trees, and the empty Close, showed you the *Vestibulo* vestibule w^{ch} hath lyen longe empty & vnfurnished. The eight messe of Childeren at three tables, And the three waytters in the hall, the eight Rowes of trees in three parte, and three laborers in the orchard the eight hearde of

hindes, and three keppers, in the fylde, do note the 8 formes
 And the three teachers in the scoole, the milke & dayteys before
 the Childeren, the watteringe & pryminge of the trees, & the
 fedinge of the hindē by hande, do signyfie the learninge taught
 in the scoole, the prosperinge and surfitinge of the Childeren, the
 savorye and vnsavory frute of the trees, and the grothe & leannes
 of the hindē, do declare the furderaunce, & hinderaunce of the
 Scollers. the grave psonage who guided you was our famous
 founder Iohn Collet, whose lyfe is wrytten by E.R. that is by
Erasmus Roterodam w^{ch} is here translated into English, w^{ch} I
 praye you *Philoponus* reade distinctly, if it maye please this
 Worshipfull Companie to give the heringe /

O famous Iohn Colet o worthy doctor o noble founder, what a
 flauntinge oration Coulede I make of this matter soft *Theopompus*
 you had neade of a bridell are you so deepe in your Retoricke
 alreedy as though none coulede make orrations but you, we are all
 as muche delighted wth this matter as you, thoughe not so for-
 ward in suche vauntinge speaches /.

Ephorus you have as muche neade of a spure as your brother
Theopompus of a bridle, for when shoulde We be forward in
 speaches of prayse so longe, as we kepe our selues in the bounde
 of Christianitie if not nowe havinge harde the godly lyfe the
 famos actē and the Religious mynde of a man of suche piety.
 a doctor of suche learninge & of a founder of ours of suche
 singuler bounty & liberallytie / you saye well [for] *Theopompus*
 yet had I rayther followe you *Theophilus* you have in so
 fewe wordē given our worthy founder so effectuall & so Iust a
 Comēdaçõn

It is well done *Æmulus* that you followe the best & give suche
 hope of your good disposition. but yet thende of my dreame is not
 expounded and I marvile what *Polumathes* knockinge at the
 greate gate might signyfie & the aunswere of the Maydens [dr]
 heade, w^{ch} me thought appered at a windowe And promised
 that *Polumathes* should have passage shortly /.

Eubulus loketh as thoughe he Could tell that better then I if you have a mynde to here his oppenion

Polumathes dothe modestly in puttinge it of ffrom him selfe because it semeth so nerely to Cöcerne him.

The greate gate fast locked which you sawe in your dreame, is the passage to the vniversitye w^{ch} yet is not oppened to the scollers of Paules scoole and *Polumathes* knockinge therat is the earnest sute of the scollers thereof for preferment for suche as by learninge are fytted for the vniversity and the virgyn answeringe at the windowe that *Polumathes* should shortly have passage is the Comfortable promise of preferment w^{ch} you our worthy ffathers & governors who in your armes do give the Maydens heade have often made vnto vs for our incorragement Wherefore we eight in the name of the eight in the name of the eight fourmes of our scole are once agayne become humble suters to this worthy mystery of right Worshipfull mercers, that this w^{ch} we have seene, as in a mystery we might once enioye in truth that your fatherly herte and bountifull hande, would ioyn in a holly Care & Christian liberalltye to provid in the vniu'sytie some Roomes wth your exhibition, for suche as shoulde be fitted in manners & learninge in this your famos scoole. that they might all ayme [agayne] at that marke wth duty & diligence that this hope of honnor might so incorrage them that our *Theophilus* might learne to love, and feare the lorde, that *Æmulus* might follow wth Cherefulness, that *Ephorus* might abide the spurre and *Theopompus* the bridle willingly, that *Philomates* might love to learne and *Philopompus* to travile that *Eubulus* might give sounde advise and so in thende *Polumathes* Come forthe as a furnished scoller, that after the swete milke of this our [furnished scoller that after the swete milke of this our] fyrst nurcery, we might be wayned and trayned vpp & fedde wth the stronger meate of the vniu'sytie, the right honorable Sr Walter M. as well knowne by his gracious and liberall patronage & maynten^ance of pooer scollers in the vniu'sytie as by his grave Wisdome & Counsayl in the state of England doth now offer his honorable hande to the furtheraunce

of this godly Worke, god no dowte wilbe wth those w^{ch} shalbe of *Emanuel* college in Cambrige beinge erected for the truth of *Emanuel* by a trewe professor of the gospell, onely for the increse of true relligion in this flourishinge Common Wealth. If eu^r your W. had fitte oportunity to pforme your godly purpose nowe occasion is offered by a most honorable & grave Counsellor of the lande. nowe theirefore we humbly beseche you to take Counsell in the Case that by your providence & bounty god maye be honored the Comon wealth benyfited the Churche encreased the vniu^sytie enriched your scole advaunced and your fame published throughout the Realme.

[117. dayteys *sic.*]

[163. in the name of the eight in the name of the eight *sic.*]

[175. *Philomates sic.*]

14 February 1584, *ibid.* 209^{a-b}.

M^r Harrison Wheare at the laste assemble at Poules scole
high scole the xjth of february laste, M^r Harrison highe
M^r readmitted / maister and the rest of the scole maisters at
 Poules vpon theire resignaçons and submis-
sions were referred to the order of this Court. And nowe the said
M^r Harrison came before this Assemble, to whom it was obiected
his exercise made by his scollers before the company at poules
scole dynnar the said xjth of february last Wheare in handlinge
 a dreame as before appearith he somewhat
admoniçon touched the surm^r for his insufficiency for teach-
to M^r Harrison inge and the Company for not restoringe the
 vestibulo: / for the ffirste wherof he was ordered
before this that all olde matters of variaunce betwen them shold
lye deade and [no^r] more to be ripped vpp, for thoth^r the Com-
pany at a late assistent^e shewed him of theire order taken more
then xx^{ty} yeres since whereby it appered the same vestibulo scole
was not thought necessary nor had [byn^r] [not] from the founda-
çon of the scole but then of late set vpp by M^r Coke highe scole
M^r in the tyme of M^r Clemente Newne surveyo^r and therefore was
nowe thought good & ordered not to be sett vp or restored

Harrison had also introduced newfangled teaching methods: he promises reformation. Mr. Levesey, surmaster, is dismissed to avoid strife. He and Harrison sign a testimony of friendship at the end of the minute.

8 February 1586, *ibid.* 214^a.

M^r Harrison And the said M^r Harrison ys referred to the referred to the next Court of assistentē as well for his dialogue next Assistentē as oth^r matters w^{ch} dialogue he hathe p^mised to bring it or a cobby therof to morrow. /

17 March 1586, *ibid.* 214^b-20^a.

M^r Harrison . . . And nowe the said M^r Harrison came before high scole m^r this assembly, to whom was obiected his dialogue and late exercise of his scollers at poules scole before the company at poules scole dynner last where in a dreame he ^rin a mann⁷¹ chardged the company wth diuerse vntruthes & surmises to their discredit.

Various other things are objected against him: then follows his submission:

M^r Harrisons Beyinge charged by the right worshipfull company of mercers the Patrons of Poules scole, that Submission I haue offended them wth many thingē in my last dialogue, and in my supplicaçon wherin they take them selues to be touched in credit I am very sory for the same and by my hand hereto subscribed do testify that it greveth me in harte Also that I haue so offended their worships, and I promise wth my harte and by my hand hereto subscribed that I will deale no more wth such dialogues . . .

By me Iohn Harrison

a dialogue bill The copie of w^{ch} said dialogue and bill and and petiçon of supplicaçon here after follow. de v^obo in Harrison scholem^r / verbum /

Speakers. *Eubolus Polumathes. Philomathes. Ponophilus. Ephorus Parillus. Theopompus. Ludio | Eubolus.* I Perceave Polumathes we shall haue a noth^r Themistocles of you. for whilst we are trifling in the strete you are alwaies about some oration or other how will the gallant

comensem^t oracion of the vniu'sity hereafter make you not onely to break yo^r sleapes but also to forget yo^r tyme of foode & recreaçon /

Polumathes. Well said Eubolus, in sharpening others yo^u are like a whetstone and yet like a rasour in sharpenes of wit: your example in all diligence & good endeuo^r may waken vs all from o^r sloth and whett vs forward to a proffitable imytaçon of you for I will not beleave that you are wont at any tyme to trifle in the streate.

Theopompus. In deede it was no boies play that was right now in the streate for ioly fellowes w^t greate sachells challenged both Eubolus and vs all to a solempne disputaçon if we durst for the siluer penne

Euphorus. That was sport alone for you Theopompas you were the chefest Champion in that fray I am sure /

Theopompus. ye but my aduersaries had mo booke in their sachels then learning in their heade I suppose

Ludio Booke and brick batē begynne w^t a letter.

Parillus. felt you brickbatē Ludio when you weare fidling about their sachels

Ludio. Esopes asse carryinge the Image of Diana thought hym self no small fole when he saw the people as he went, kneele to the Image on his back

Parillus. [You will pdonne Ephorus I hope, for Eubolus hym self drew back] Well, well they dassht poore Ephorus quite out of countenance among them.

Ephorus. You will pardon Ephorus I hope for Ebolus him self drewe backe more then I and reproved bothe them and vs for suche foolishe wranglynge; /

Parillus. / But that was to litle purpose for my lord mayor and the shrefes had not byn able to have appeased them they were so eagerly bente agaynst vs

Ludio. | Marked you not the fellow y^t was *fatuus in facie*, foole faced, how eager he was with *Audes mecū disputare*, and *antequā disputamus disputatio quid est*, and bycause we awnswered not his bablynge how he trouled out *victus. ta-tum plus. plus plurimq; semper tu es asinus.*

Polumathes. This was foolishe bablinge in deed I marvail how you could abide it. |

Theopompus. But what say yo^u to hym that sett *Ephorus nō plus* with *cuius artis candidatus es.* and *in quibus musarum vndis navem tua direxisti:* |

Polumathes I say and thinke that both he and yo^u *Theopompus* doe lacke the bridle of iugdment and discretion. But what was the end I pray yo^u of this controversie |.

Ephorus. When they saw that we disliked disdayned and refused suche quarrelouse dealinge with such clamorous Companions alleginge that we we^ra^re forbidden yt bothe by our ffounders statute, and by our maisters cōmaundemente thei burst out into railinge speches against our maister, schole, and vs. |

Polumathes. | But as men shut both dores and windowes agaynste the winde, so yo^u I trowe shut yo^r eyes and eares agaynst them, and the foolishe blastē of their reprochfull termes. |

Theopompus The *Crocidill* of *Nilus* persueth those wth flye, but flyeth yf they returne agaynst her: soe theis bragging companions who soe brawled agaynst vs when we said nothing, might easely have bene foyeled yf we had set vppon them wth a lustie courage: but you come tardie *Philomathes* I marvell that you were neth^r benethe wth vs nor here wth *Polumathes* |

Ponophilus *Philomathes* hath bin in a nother world, I found hym in the study in suche a traunce that I thought I should never haue waked hym. |

Parillus What aylethe you *Philomathes* what melancholike moode hath trobled your sprites.

Philomathes /. I haue bine I knowe not where, I have seene I
kowe not what ravished euen now wth infinite
delightę, trobled now wth no lesse gre^ri^lfes. /

Ephorus Make vs therfore pertakers wth r^ou of^l your delightes,
and some of vs perhapps may some what ease yo^u of
your grefes /.

Philomathes My minde was Carried I thinke from my bodye
into a pleasaunte paradice full of flourishinge and
frutefull trees full of sweat and sightly flowers. In the middeste
thereof I saw a sto^ro^lne wall inclosinge a plat of grounde, as
rounde as a circle, whether bycause I saw many resorte I also
repayred, where I saw divers about the outside of the wall,
diversely occupied, some boyes were tryinge to spyt ouer the
wall, but still the spittle fell agayne into their owne bosomes, :
other men, and women, were prying into by holes in the wale,
other triflynge fellowes, I saw shutinge potgunes againste the
wall, others of better countenance, reachinge over the wall and
gatheringe bothe vnripe frutę and tender spriges. Thos thinge
made me desirouse to see what was wthin, At the gate there stode
a great Anvill, w^{ch} divers as they passed by stroke at w^t great
hamērs, as thought they would have broken yt, but all was in
vayne, for the Anvill stirred not.

Parillus. These weare veye straunge speculaçõs, but I pray
you, can you remember what you saw wthin the wall,
which was besef^elged wth suche stronge a^rtillery. /

Philomathes. / Next wthin the wall in a rounde compasse there
grew all kynde of moste holesome hearbes, and
corne, most pleasaunte flowers, most frutefull younge plantes, in
suche order as was most delightfull to behould, but most hard to
discribe, wthin y^t circle was a most sightly rounde ranke of divers
tamed beastę, as fawnes, lambes, leverytę, connyes, and suche
like wth singynge byrdes vppon perches, and in Cages rounde
about. It was straunge to see how they kept their order, beyng
of soe differaunte kyndes, and natures: Wthin them agayne was

an other rowe of bee hiues, wth good store of bees gatherynge honny of divers quicke sette, and flowers, that grew rownd aboute them, in y^e middest of all was a most clere sprynginge fountayne: by y^t w^{ch} lay a white hind, & ove^r yt was a verie bright cloud, from w^{ch} Issued a sweate dew, waterynge all the garden. /

Parillus. / Saw yo^u noe man in the garden ?

Philomathes. Yeas, I saw the gardener wth his cicle in one hand, and hys waterynge pott in the other, one of his eares trobled him, for yt hownge downe like a limber Clothe, at his girdle hong a greate wayght of leade, and as he was wateryng his hearbes, flowers, and plant^e, and primynge his vines, his peare trees, and plum trees, a nother ^rtime^l fedyng hys byrdes, and beast^e, a nother tyme, tendynge his bees, and gatheringe hys honnye, he was often driven wth hys right hand to hould vp the wayght at hys girdle, and wth hys left hand, to putt vp his eare, w^{ch} much trobled hym, yet still walked rounde in y^e three circles /

Parillus. What did he gather none of the fru^ri^lte there.

Philomathes. Yeas he gathered a bunshe of grapes, and a fewe peares, and plumes, wth some flowers, he toke also a faier singynge byrde of one of the perches, w^{ch} satt very tamelie one his finger, he toke also a honny combe, and put that wth the fruit in a erthen dishe, and as he approached to the fountayne, where he had water, to water the garden, the cloud brake open, w^{ch} was over the fountayne: and in the middest of the cloude appeared, a most beautifull virgin, to whome, he presented the byrd one his finger, and the dishe of fruite in his hande, w^{ch} she receaved; and the byrd she put in a golden cage, and the fruite in a silver dishe, and in recompence of his preasente, she putt her hand to his eare, and yt was preasentlie as sownd as the other: and she toke the hevie wayght from his girdle, and putt yt aboute the necke of the white hind, and yt was sodenlie chaunged into a goulden bell, wth a verie swe^ra^lte sounde, and soe the gardener went lightlie aboute his worke, and the white hinde followed hym tyncklynge the bell after him wheresoeuer he wente.

Ephorus. / This was a strange vision brother *Philomathes* I haue neve^r hard of ^{ƚy^eƚ} like, but is there yet any thing behinde. /

Philomathes. No, but *Ponoph^{ƚi}lus* is therefore the more to blame, for he vioentlie waked me before the end to hasten me hether. /.

Ponophilus. Yo^u dreamed this dreame wakinge, or I am deceived, for yo^r eies were wide open, and yo^u satt vpright, but I marveiled that yo^u neither hard me, no^r sawe me, nor felt me, when I called so lowde, and shooke yo^u so harde.

Ephorus. Well my brethren this was no Idle fancie, *Polumathes* yf he will cann picke out some Englishe from hence I doubt not. /

Polumathes. Yf *Eubolus* will ioyne wth me, and yo^u also laie to yo^r hande, as occation shall serve, I will doe the best I cann.

Eubolus. I hope I shall be able to say some thinge, by ƚthatƚ tyme yo^u haue broken the yse before vs.

Ponophilus. Yf we once see day by yo^r meanes, thoughe but at a little hole, yet will wee Indevo^r also to encrease the lyght as muche as we can.

Ephorus. Goe to then *Polumathes* what was that pleasaunte paradice w^{ch} *Philomathes* sawe?

Polumathes. That is the flourishinge cytie of London, out of all doubt.

Ephorus. And what was that goodly garden, Compassed wth the round stone wall?

Polumathes. It is also out of question, that signifieth our famous scole. /

Ephorus. By this light which yo^u haue lett in alredie, wee see, that *Philomathes* heade herein was neither vaynly nor idelly, no^r fantasticalle occupied; but what can yo^u gather of those wanton boyes, who tried to spitt over the wall?

Polumathes. In them yo^u may see that w^{ch} yo^u knowe by experiens, that foolishe boyes of petie scoles, seke to disgrace oures, and other publike scoles, but they spitt soe high, and vpright, that the shame cannot but fall vppon their owne face.

Eubulus. / It is easie to guesse, that those w^{ch} peepe in at the holes in the wall, signifie, suche vnskilfull folke, as are allwaies pryng, into o^r M^{rs} dealinge & carpyng thereat, to discredit hym yf they co^ru^lde, wth other^s that are both wise and wo^rshipfull.

Theopōpus What meane those, who shoute potgunę agaynste the wallę? /

Polumathes They are but we^ra^lke adversaries yet suche as bycause they cannot vphould their owne estatę wthout our discredit, of envye, they shute at our scole wales, suche reproches, as they can devise, but their pelletę are but paper, their poudre but winde, their gunes nothings but rotten sticę. /

Theopōpus. But what are they whoe reach over the wall and gather both the younge fruite and tender sprigę. /

Polumathes. Thes are they whoe hurt vs most, beyng men both of countenance, and wisdom, manny tymes, whoe havinge brought their sonnes fyrste to our scole, as sone as they begin to springe, they pull them oute agayne over the wall: that is against o^r statutes, and plant them in some oth^r scole, where there is hope that they shalbe removed into a more fruitfull orchard, that is to the vniversity, this though it bee a p^rvident care in y^e parentę yet it is a greate hinderaunce and inurye to our sc^hole. /

Eubulus. This is true Polumathes. The scolle^{rs} goe soe fast away before they be ripe that I wonder greatly both that the sc^hole is soe full, for the number, and the sc^hollers so forewarde in their learninge, esppecially consideringe their ages, and smale continuance.

Ephorus. In former tymes the scolle^{rs} weare wonte to stayer only in the eight forme, some sixe some seven, some eight yeares, and more; now there are not sixtene good, and bad, y^t have bin yet ij yeares vnder our maister in all the vpper scole.

Theopōpus. How mannye are gone from the scole since my maisters comyng it were infinite to reken but wold yo^u thinke that notwthstandinge, this the sc^fh^lollers yet should soe have p^fited that oute of the eight forme onely since my maister came, there shoud be gone 80 sc^fh^lollers more than 20^{ty} of these to y^e vniversities, diuers to the Ines of the Courte, y^e rest as their freindes could bestowe them.

Ephorus. Indeade I marvayle hereat the more, by cause Eton, Westminster, and marchaunte Taylo^{rs} sc^fh^loles, intise so many away, wth the livinge and prefermente provided / there before they can be brought to perfection here. /

Parillus. Yea they goe away to other sc^fh^loles also besides these by yo^r leave.

Ephorus. Yo^u say true, some fewe doe soe, but y^t they gayne thereby they may putt in their eyes, yf all were knowen, but farre fecht, and derely bought, is good for ladies.

Theopōpus I tell yo^u I would be ashamed, y^t any of those petye sc^fh^lole for instruction in religion, fo^r orde^r in goverment, for manne^r in teachinge, should be able to stand in comparison wth ours, yf all thinge weare du^re^lly examined. /

Ponophilus. I woulde any of them durst put them selues once into indiferent ballance wth vs, but yet this bredeth many evill reporte against O^r M^r amonngest those that are vn-skilfull, in these thinge, bycause hereby he beyng constayned, he removeth the sc^fh^lollers from one forme, to a nother, before they be ripe, and that w^{ch} is wors he is fayne to admit tag, and rag, (as they saye) be they never soe dull, neve^r so ould neve^r so co^rr^rrup^tly taught before they come hither, yet yf they can wright and reade a little all is fishe that cometh to the nett.

Parillus. Surelie yf our maister in the amission of sc^rh^lollers
 「should」 stand vppon the streyght poynte of statute
 to receve none except they can reade pfectly both Englishe &
 latin and wright competently a^rn^d also answeare 「to」 their cate-
 chisme wherof there is so little care in London there would be
 founde verie fewe to be admitted into our sc^rh^lole except many
 and large exhibiçions were given for our sc^rh^lole the hope where-
 of myght move the parente to have more care of their children
 before they bringe them hither & to suffe^r them to tarry longer
 after they haue brought them. /

Theopompus. Well thus we see suffitiently that o^r sc^rh^lole is like
 a bledynge vine, whose braunches are vnseason-
 able torne away from tyme to tyme.

Ephorus. But some say these are but excuses, for by statute the
 parente are bounde, yf there children bee founde apt
 that they shall abide here vntill they have competant literature:

Ludio. That statute is like a copweb w^{ch} a humble bee quicklie
 breaketh throughe

Ponophilus. It is a statute muche like a barrell y^t is well ioyned
 but lacketh shure hoops, to hould it togethe^r: and
 these thinge are not alleged fo^r excuse ether of o^r M^r or vs ffor
 howsoever thinge fall out by suche occasions as o^r M^{rs} diligence in
 trayning vs vp both in religion and learnynge is his iust defence
 against all reporte, soe our younge yeares and short continuance
 wth o^r maister shall answeare for vs before your worshipes to pro-
 voke yo^u to provide exhibiçions for vs. ffor as a shipe is cast away
 oft in y^e very haven, so wee many tyme when y^e worst is past,
 lose all agayne for want of prefermente. /

Theopōpus. / As Iron, timber, Clothe, in the handes of y^e
 Smythe, Carpenter and 「Tayler」 yf they abyde
 not till they be wrought, they will neither bee key, dore, nor gar-
 mente, so is the scholler in the handes of his mayster, he can
 never be learned, except he abyde vntill his maister have wrought
 hym to his perfection; but I pray yo^u, what meaneth the anvyll

w^{ch} remayned vnmoveable, [not]wthstandynge so many violente strokes of y^e hañers.

Eubulus. It is a good conscience, w^{ch} cannot be shaken wth euerie Idle reporte, and y^t is that maketh our master soe confidente notwthstandinge, he is made like an anvill, wherevppon manye strike vppon wth the hañers of their tonges. /

Parillus / All this was wthout the w^ra^llle, what say yo^u to that wthin I pray you.

Polumathes. ffyrst the roundnes of y^e wall and the circles within sheweth the endles travaile of y^e schole maister: for whersoer a circle beginneth, there it endeth, and where it endeth, there it beginneth, so where a scholemaiste^r beginneth, there he endeth, and where he endeth, there he beginneth, his worke agayne.

Eubulus //. Then y^e younge vines, trees, corne, flowers, in one circle must neades be y^e sc^rh^lolle^s, fructifyinge and growīg by good instruction in y^e schole: y^e younge beastē, and byrdē, keepinge their order, and sittynge [so still, and] tamely are the scholle^s by governmente and discipline made tractable and rulie: the bees in y^e hives, yeeldinge plenty of honie, ar the scholers by the good blessinge of god yeldinge that encrease of knowlegd in religion, & learnynge, w^{ch} our patrones here expect, o^r parentē at home desire, our maister at y^e schole laboreth to obteyne.

Ponophilus Yt is then easie to guesse, y^t y^e gardener w^{ch} yo^u sawe, is o^r maister, his cicle wherewth he prymeth trees is his rood, of correçcon, his watering pot, is his orde^r in teachinge, but what is mente by his eare y^t trobleth hym, or y^e wayght at his girdle, I doe not well vnderstande: /

Ludio But doe you passe so soëlie by y^e cicle w^{ch} yo^u call the rood of correctiō, as thoughe yo^u approved yt, I would that yo^u y^t like of it soe well, had inough of yt, for me, I promise yo^u I will geve hym leve therein to spare his paynes, yf y^t cicle were in y^e fyer, I would like all y^e rest well ynough. /

Ephorus. Yf y^t were in y^e fyer yo^u would be *Ludio* both in word and deed but as y^e threshers flayle thriethe out y^e corne, from the chaffe, and y^e Smythes fyle, scowrethe the ruste from y^e Iron, so y^t vsed in tyme fetcheth out y^e good seede of o^r wittē & clenseth o^r mynde, from y^e rust of impiety & Idelnes. but I can tell yo^u how yo^u need not feare y^t.

Ludio. / Tell me y^t & my mothe^r shall give yo^u a hole march-pa^riⁿe for yo^r labor to bestow among yo^r fellowes. //

Ephorus. Lett not yo^r wittē rust in Idlenes, but trie out y^e good seede of reason, w^{ch} god hath sowed in yo^r harte, from y^e chaffe of yo^r naturall corruption, & be ordered by o^r maiste^rs precepte & ^ryou^l shall bothe save hym from troble and gre^ri^lfe & yo^r selve from stripes and payne,

Ludio. Yo^u would have me a S^t I thinke, & allwaye to be poryng vppon my booke, as yo^u doe: but yt is an ould proverb. A young S^t, a old devell, & a ragged coult, maketh a good horse. I had rathe^r be beaten now and then, then lose my play, but lett my M^r hould his hande & be good in his office, or I will tell my mother of him, & I will come no more to schole rathe^r then I should be beaten /

Parillus Will yo^u doe as ij or iij did of late. yo^u remember whoe beyng asked of his mother, whie he plaied y^e trewaunte, answered, bycause his master was never at schole.

Ludio Nay trulie, I will not so slaunderously belye my maister, but yf he will take lesse paynes, I will conn him the more thanke, I cannot in conscience desire so much payne of hym seyng my fathe^r geveth hym no money: /

Ephorus. But what say yo^u to hym neither father no^r mother cold cause to come to schole, but sayd y^t he profited not, and his maister taught hym not, and what should he doe at schole.

Theopōpus I say that bothe he and y^e othe^r lacke y^t cicle we talked of & truly they are foolē y^t bore holē in their owne shippes. /

Ephorus. A nother said my maister durst not beate [him] [you knowe whome], bycause he is a mercers sonne, least he should cause hym to be expelled. /

Theopöpus. The vip eateth out her mothers bowels, and evill scholle^{rs} their M^{rs} credit, a bird in a cage, never liketh her food, be it never so good. and y^e foolę provender doth ever pricke hym: but suche vaine tayles, are but winde, except they comme to the eares of suche as will Credit them.

Ponophilus. By y^t w^{ch} is spoken alreadie yo^u may knowe, that by hys eare troblinge hym is meante, suche tayles, and evill speaches as Scholemaisters are common subiectę vnto, for only the wynde trobleth the seaes, onlie false reportę disquiet a good conscience.

Parillus. What meaned the wayght at his girdle /.

Polumathes. That is o^r maisters chargeable burden of familie, and howse keepynge, w^{ch} cannot but be a cloge vnto hym, havinge both hys handę and head so full of such a tedious vocation, and wth all so smale allowance to defraye so greate expencę.

Eubulus. / Lastlye the fountayne in the middest I knowe by the white hynde of o^r fownders a^rmes signefieth his Liberall pvision for vs w^{ch} is a fowntayne eu⁷ springinge that cannot be dried vp & y^t bright Clowde wth y^e princelie virgin in y^t yo^u knowe whose armes these are yo^r eyes doe see them whose good countenance is as the favour of a prince and as the dewe of a bright clowd, both refreshinge and waterynge vs who otherwise should be as a barren soyle.

Ponophilus. The gardener offered her a preasent / flowers, grapes, plumbes, peares, and honny in an erthen dyshe, and a pretie tame synginge byrd, but she laide the fruite in a silu⁷ dishe, and put the byrde in a cage of gould, I can but give a guisse what this showld meane. /

Polumathes. Yo^u knowe o^r m^r this day in vs offered vnto y^e^{is}

worshipfull the fruite of his labo^r, w^{ch} we hope they will send to y^e goulden vniv[']sities, wth silv['] exhiby[']cons. /

Theopompus. Hope well, and have well, wee will hope y^t one daye wee shall have y^t preferment for o^r schole, w^{ch} othe^r scholes enioye.

Ponophilus. Wee had almoste forgotten how by touchinge the gardene^rs eare y^e mayden in the clowde healed yt, and wth all eased hym of y^e wayght at hys gyrdle by puttyng of yt about the necke of y^e white hinde w^{ch} was straight there wth all chaunged into a goulden bell.

Polumathes. This sheweth y^t yf y^e right worshipfull M[']c^{rs} will but laye their hande to be patrones of o^r m[']s credyt eu[']y light tayle shall not so easely disgrace hym in this cittye wheare they live in such worship and countenaunce and y^e burden of o^r M[']s howsekeepinge w^{ch} hangeth so heavelie at hys girdle wilbe but as a bell of gould about the necke of Iohn Collete white hynde w^{ch} may ringe so sweatly in o^r Maste^rs eare y^t it will rather encorage hym then burden hym any way for livinge and mayntenaunce yf it be sufficient may be as a golden bell w^{ch} though it heare nothings yt awakeneth othe^rs.

Ludio / What is my M[']s livyng so little and yet doth he take so much paynes I p[']mise yo['] he is not so wise as I thought [he had byn] he is so paynefull in his busynes and so praesise in keepyng his owres as thought it weare the best livinge in Englande.

Ponophilus. Indeed I knowe howe hard a thinge it is to entreate him to dyne fourth leaste he should be wth-holden to longe from the schole in y^e after nowne and howsoev['] he watcheth late as I knowe he doth sometymes even for vs yet wee all knowe to well y^t he outsleepeth not hym self at any tyme, in y^e mornynge, and althought he be alowed 30 dayes absence in y^e yeare yet havinge byn here nowe 5 yeares and a half in all that tyme except a while for his sickenes y^e last yeare he hath not byn absent half 30 dayes for 160 and od dayes w^{ch} by statute he myght freely have vsed in y^t tyme —. /

Parillus This is very extraordinary diligence but we knowe y^t to be true yet some are not so satisfied for they heare he plieth his privat studye in y^e schole.

Ponophilus. Trulye herein he myght vse his libtye more then he dothe yf he would for when he hath set vs owne worke yf in hys studye beyng so nere he should wright or reade some thinge for hym selfe what hinderaūce weare y^t to vs but trulie I thinke hym worthie of blame because he is so curious herein for I dare saye he bestoweth not xij^h lowres in xij monethes of schole tyme about his owne studye.

Ludio /. Why should not he I pray yo^u as othe^rs doe and have done, sometymes go to the bowlinge aley, sometymes to bearebatyng, sometymes to see playes and tumblers, for his recreation / and sometymes beare his frendę cumpanie to y^e taverne and such banquetę for my pt he shall have my voyce to take more liberty and lesse paynes, yf he would but give vs leave to playe oftener then we doe.

Ponophilus. ffe Ludio yo^u knowe how my M^r detesteth such dealyngę.

Ludio /. But by yo^r leave I would measure my paynes accordyng to my gaynes yf I weare as he is I have hard of one in a great mans howse who was wonte to have v^{li} a yeare for beatyng of stockfyshe and when his wageę was decreased he also demynished his paynes and beyng called to accounte before y^e stewarde he aunswered he could beate stockfyshe after v^{li} after iiij^{li} and after iij^{li} the yere and was not this a resonable aunswere.

Ponophilus. Yes truly to y^e steward it was, but it is conscience to god that leadeth o^r M^r rather then accounte to men.

Polumathes. Thus yo^u have eased me marvelouslye of my care and fullye interpreted my straunge vision /.

Ludio Yo^u have playd yo^r ptę in deed to y^e porpose, and I will remayne debtor to eu^y one of yo^u of a pece of march-payne, or a handfull of comfette at y^e least for yo^r paynes.

Philomathes. Now then *Eubulus* I pray yo^u preferre my M^{rs} sute to this worshipfull [companie] that his livinge may be accordynge to his paynes and *Polumathes* shall move o^r shute for exhibiçõs and prefermente to y^e vniversities.

Eubulus. ffyrst let y^e miserie of schole M^{rs} whereof manye have written whole booke move yo^r Wo^rshippe to such remorse y^t everye idle tale of vngratious boyes, or vnskilfull men or talkynge women, may not discredit hym wth yo^r worshippes but doe yo^u we besече you so heale his eare at the lest y^t he may here from you that w^{ch} may encorage hym, vntill he be not barelie reported but trulye convicted, to deserve the contrary agayne as yo^u have comitted to him yo^r seede corne, the tendynge of your orchard the gatherynge of yo^r hony, so remember his paynfull plowynge and doungeynge sowing and harrowing weddinge and waterynge reapyng and gatherynge, threshinge and wenowinge remember hys diggyng and plantynge his graftynge and priminge remember his feedyng and gatherynge for yo^r worshippes credit and for y^e good of y^e churche and comõn wealthe let not the spittle of malicious mouthes the pellette of potgunes, or the hamers of evill tounge be able to deface him amonng yo^r worshippes y^t w^{ch} is as a waight of leade at his girdle yf yo^u take it from hym it wilbe but as a bell of gould about the necke of Docter Collette hynde or in y^e hand of y^e virgin who sheweth her princelie maidens heade out of the bright cloud in yo^r worshippes armes, yo^r worshippes are not more able then willynge to doe this I am sure yf false reportẽ wthould yo^u not A word is inoughe to the wise god direct yee herein to his glorye. the good of his church the pfit of yo^r schole, & ye advauncement of yo^r owne W. & credit in this famous Cittie and comõn wealthe.

Polumathes. Our sutes for exhibiçõs and prefermente have often bin comẽdyd vnto yo^r worshippes How it may be compassed there are in preasente who can well advise only we most humblye besече yo^r worshippes to preasente the fruite of o^r M^{rs} Labo^{rs} in silu' dishes of yo^r liberall exhibitions to y^e golden nurseryes of Lernynge the vniversityes so wee

shall praye for you^r wealth and prosperitie this Citye and hole realme shall speake of yo^r fame & glorie & not wee only and o^r schole but y^e vniversityes also the Church the common wealth shall reape y^e fruite of yo^r bountifull liberalitie.

Philomathes. Behould here in this dishe, these grapes, plumes pearç and sightlie flowers, marke them well they feed the eyes & fill the dyshe but hath not the workman herein spent hys skylly only to please y^e sight. We are before yo^r worshippes as y^t artificiall fruite before yo^r eyes except yo^u of yo^r bounty provide for our preferment to the vniversities we doe but fill the schoole & serve fo^r a showe for all o^r paynes in Learnige and o^r M^{rs} skill in teaching yf by reason of o^r freinde vnabillitie we shalbe otherwise imployed hereafter will melt away as waxe before the sonne except yo^r worshippes lay [there] yo^r handes to this worthie worke that we may be fa^rr^lther fyned to suche perfection in the vniversities that we may not only glisten as Sylver & gold but that we may be indeede hereafter both Sylver Trūppetç of yo^r fame and praise & golden vesselles in the Church & co^mon wealthe. /

[68. iugdment *sic.* 92. kowe *sic.* 111. thought *sic.* 163. vioentlie *sic.*
 219. inurye *sic.* 246. fecht *sic.* 249. government *sic.* 254. constayned *sic.*
 260. amission *sic.* 315. knowlegd *sic.* 329. thriethe *sic.* 395. worshipfull *sic.*
 418. thought *sic.* 425. althought *sic.* 459. *Polumathes.* *sic.* 467. shute *sic.*]

21 July 1586, *ibid.* 222^a. The Company make Mr. Harrison a gift of £10.

16 November 1586, *ibid.* 223^b. Dr. Nowell, Dean of St. Paul's, persuades the Mercers to halt in the dismissal of Mr. Harrison.

23 November 1586, *ibid.* 224^a. Sir Francis Walsingham's support is obtained for Harrison.

Nota Mr Deane . . . affirmed that the scollers for their tyme & contynewaunce were as good as in other scoles . . . it were better in his opynion, the scollers should speake no latten in the scole at all, then Barbarouse latten /

Harrison's submission follows.

7 February 1587, *ibid.* 225^a.

opposers	M ^r deane of Poules	at this appositon	M ^r deane
	M ^r Docto ^r hollande	vndertoke that by the next yere	
	M ^r Docto ^r Iohnson	the scolders in poules scole will be	
	M ^r Wiboune	as good as the scollers in any	
	M ^r Turnebull	scole in this towne because of	
		thexhibiçõn nowe by him be-	
		stowed &c.	

On his submission, Harrison is readmitted to his post as High Master of St. Paul's School.

1585

[Anthony Munday was apprenticed to John Allde, stationer, on 1 October 1576 (*Arber*, ii. 69). He wrote several of the pageants: see under Lord Mayors' Shows.]

21 June, Drapers' Freedom List 1567-1656, †278. 53 (there is a similar entry with a record of the payment of the fee of 3s. 4d., in *Rep. G.* 51).

21 Iunij Mondaie Anthonie filius } a Poet by Criplegate. /
 Mondaie Cxposers p̄ patrimon' }

1587

2 July, Ordinances of the Clothworkers' Company 2nd July, 29 Eliz. A.D. 1587 (as printed in *The Ordinances of the Clothworkers' Company* (1881), 87).

48. An Ordinance to avoyde misrule of servauntes upon the Saboth daies and holy-daies.

(*They were to go to church*) and also to spende the reste of the same Sundayes and Holy dayes in some honest and lawfull exercises with their masters lycence And not in hauntinge of Ale-houses Tavernes Plaies unlawfull games or such like