

104 The Education of Sir Nicholas' Daughter

A substantial expansion of education took place in England between 1560 and 1640. The Bacon family was one that contributed considerably to this trend. The forces that created administrators and professional men such as Sir Nicholas Bacon in the sixteenth century were at work in the families of these individuals also. As Professor Lawrence Stone has stated: "a child began to be regarded less as a piece of property of the father and more an individual whose potentialities should be developed." Such an interest is manifest in this letter written by Sir Nicholas Bacon to his son, Nicholas, about a volume containing the five books of Moses which he was having sent to him, and concern for the progress of his daughter in learning to write.

A You shall doo well to cause soome care to be taken of your systr that she spend the day well & vertuously les els whylst she seekez hure healthe she myght marre hure maners For the amendment of healthe good dyet & conveyent exerceyce ys that that must help Me thynkes yf she did bestowe euery day sume tyme to lerning to wryght amonges othere thynges yt were well doone

The poomp maker shall haue hys charges alowyd when so euer he cumes but the sooner he cumes the better yf he shuld be bound to performe the woork yt wold be vnderstond whethere he be of sooche substance As A man may trust to hys bond & what you can lern hery sygnifye by your next letter when he cumes vpp for because the depthe ys xxviijty fetdone I fere he shall hardly be Able to doo yt well

There remeynez in my study A booke in the saxone language wreton in parchement conteynyng the bookez of Moysez thys booke I wold haue saffly sent vpp by the next messenger with grete charge that yt be well lookyd vnto yt lyythe lowe Amongst my wreton bookez comend me to your mothere & to your wyff wryton the xj of Marche 1565 by

Your Fathere
N Bacon C. S.

yo^r shall doo best to cause some case to be taken of
yo^r self & the spendy & day best & rightmish loo' sh' the
the & becker hy' healths the myght may' hy' man
for & amendm^t of healths good & st & cond'nyent
they are yo^r & must help / ye try by yf the did best
any day in time to loo' to l'k' yf among other
things yf the best soon
The poomp may
shall have hy' charges alowd' taken so end he cut but
he soon he cut & best / yf he shuld be bound to p'forme
yo^r best & l'k' be endy stand l'k' yf he be of dyce
obstinate do. A man may trust to goe bond & l'k'at yo^r
can l'k' - hy' & dyce & by yo^r next l'k' l'k'at he cut
dyf for because yf dyce yo^r dyce ~~yo^r~~ I l'k' go
shall l'k'at be able to doo yf best
m my endy a booke m yf dyce l'k'at l'k'at m
p'p'ment cont'nyng yf & becker of wyse l'k'at booke
& l'k'at l'k'at dyce dyce dyf by yf next m'p'ment l'k'at
charges yf yf best l'k'at l'k'at yf l'k'at l'k'at amongst
m l'k'at booke comend me to yo^r m'p'ment & to yo^r l'k'at
l'k'at yf dyf of wyse 15 05 by

yo^r ratg
P. B.

1107

To my sonne Nicolas
Baron yeke
45/11

