

**THE MINERAL BATHS OF
BATH. THE BATHES OF
BATHE'S AYDE IN THE
REIGN OF CHARLES 2ND**

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The Mineral Baths of Bath. The Bathes of Bathe's Ayde in the Reign of Charles 2nd by Charles E. Davis

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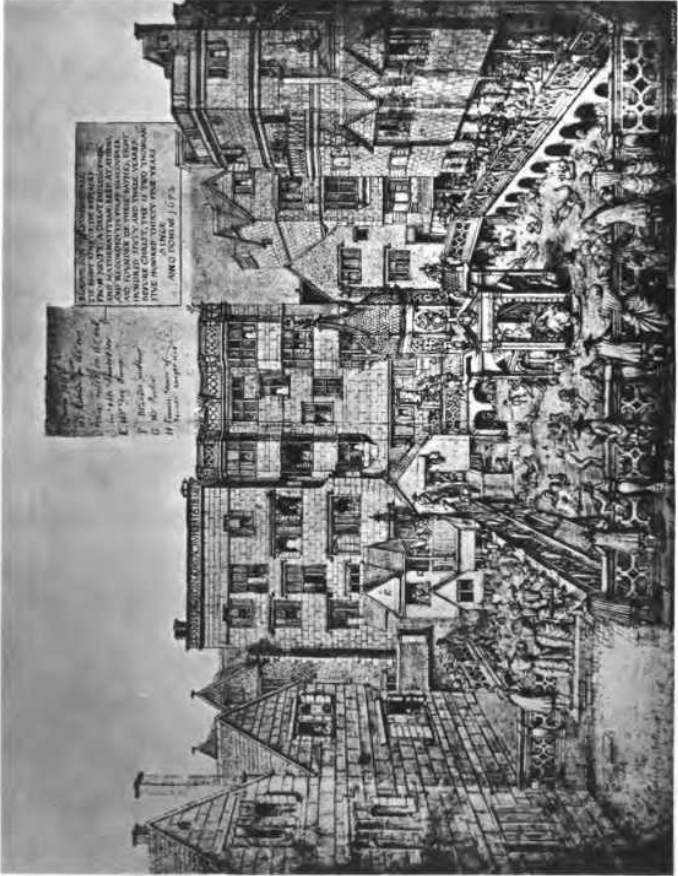
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CHARLES E. DAVIS

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BATHE'S AYDE IN THE
REIGN OF CHARLES 2ND**



THE GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY
FROM ST. PAUL'S TO THE CITY
AND MANCHESTER'S GREAT BRIDGE
HANDSOME STREETS AND TERRACE
FROM THE GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY
AND ST. PAUL'S
1847

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THE
MINERAL BATHS
OF BATH.

THE
Bathes of Bathe's Ayde
in the reign of Charles 2nd

As illustrated by a Drawing of the King's and
Queen's Bath (signed) 1675.

*Whereunto is annexed a Visit to Bath in the year 1675
by a "Person of Quality."*

By CHARLES E. DAVIS, F.S.A., &c.
City Architect, Hon. Loc. Sec. Soc. Antiq., Lon.

*"Behold the boyling bathes at Caerbadon,
Which seeth with secret fire eternally,
And in their entrailles, full of quick Brimston,
Nourish the flames which they are warmed upon,
That to their people wealth they forth do well,
And health to every forreyne nation."*

THE FAERIE QUEENE, 1590.

BATH :

Printed by WILLIAM LEWIS and SON, and to be Sold by them
at the Towne Gate, at the sign of the Herald.

MDCCLXXXIII.



DEDICATION.

I am anxious to dedicate the few memoranda I have noted of the Baths under King Charles II. to the Baths Committee of the Corporation of this City, hoping they will permit me, at no very distant date, to give my best endeavours towards a History of the Baths from the earliest to the present times.

I append the names of the Chairman and Members of the Committee for the present year, regretting I cannot add to the list the name of the late Mr. Alderman LEWIS, whose advocacy and support enabled me to excavate and discover the cordon of masonry which the Romans erected for the purpose of ensuring the purity of the Springs, and so utilising it that the healing waters are now in no way obstructed, and ascend in greater quantities than ever without the remotest possibility of contamination.

*The Right Worshipping the Mayor, Handel Cosham, Esq., F.G.S.,
ex-officio*

Mr. Alderman Wilkinson, Chairman, J.P.

Mr. Alderman Hooper.

Dr. Ashford, Councillor

Mr. Councillor Hancock, J.P.

Mr. Councillor Commans.

Capt. Lysaght, R.N., Councillor

Mr. Councillor Fry.

Mr. Councillor Bartrum, J.P.

Mr. Councillor Quin.

Mr. Councillor Bankart, J.P.

Mr. Councillor Rubie.

Mr. Councillor Andrews.

Mr. Councillor Wilton.

DEDICATION.

I have to thank many friends for valuable assistance. I specially mention two—Mr. F. SHUM, F.S.A., of Belcombe House, for the loan of several valuable books relating to the History of Bath, and Mr. B. H. WATTS, the Clerk of the Peace and Deputy Town Clerk, for the ready access he has at all times afforded me to the valuable Records of the City.

CHARLES E. DAVIS, F.S.A. &c.

55, Great Pulteney Street, Bath ;
June, 1883.





PREFACE.

The purchase by the British Museum of the Drawing sketched in 1675 of the King's and Queen's Bath, and the permission given to the Baths Committee of the Corporation to have it photographed, first induced me to write a little account of the King's Bath and the adjoining property, with a view to give additional interest to the Drawing.

What I first intended to confine to a few pages has grown to many. I trust my readers will not consider I have altogether wasted my time in writing or theirs in reading them; but small though may be the value of the notes I have strung together, I venture to think they partially fill up a gap in the History of our City and the Baths that has never hitherto been thought worthy of consideration.

A History has still to be written of the Roman City and Baths, and of the Mediæval City and Baths which were planted on the ruins; materials for the first are most obscure, and still in great part buried, and could be best revealed by the spade and mattock. The second period requires a scholar and an antiquary, whose future labours would be lightened were the Corporation of the City to publish their very interesting records. Nottingham has just issued a most valuable volume. The City of Bath could give one of little less value, including notes of its Hot Baths, which would be interesting alike to the antiquary, the man of letters, and the medical profession everywhere.

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