

**REMAINS HISTORICAL AND LITERARY,  
CONNECTED WITH THE PALATINE  
COUNTIES OF LANCASTER AND  
CHESTER; VOL. VII. ITER LANCASTRENSE:  
A POEM, WRITTEN A.D. 1636**

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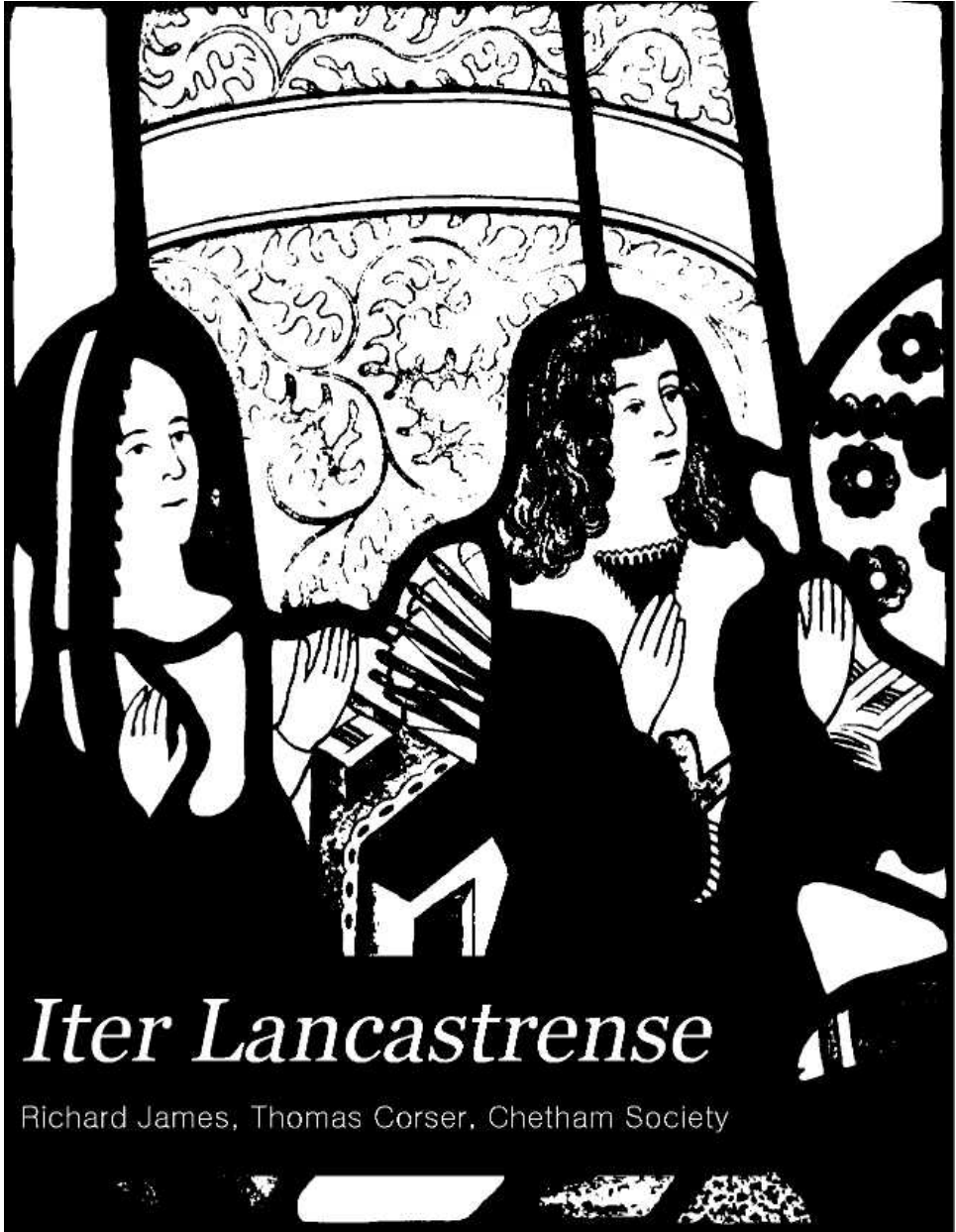
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**RICHARD JAMES & THOMAS CORSER**

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# *Iter Lancastrense*

Richard James, Thomas Corser, Chetham Society

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ITER LANCASTRENSE ;

A

P O E M,

WRITTEN A.D. 1836.

BY THE REV. RICHARD JAMES, B.D.,  
FELLOW OF CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE, OXFORD.

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EDITED,

WITH NOTES AND AN INTRODUCTORY MEMOIR,

BY

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AND PERPETUAL CURATE OF STAND, LANCASHIRE.

"Dupliet circumdatus esse  
Carminis et Verum." — MAVILIUS.

*C. Lancaster.*  
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## INTRODUCTION.

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**F**OR the singular and curious Poem which is now, for the first time, presented to the public in the following pages, we are indebted to the learning and talent of the Rev. Richard James, B.D., an eminent scholar and antiquary of the earlier part of the seventeenth century. He was a distinguished Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, and most of his autograph MSS., including the one now printed, are preserved in the Bodleian Library in that University. The Poem here selected from that Collection, is replete with curious and learned observations, showing the author's extensive knowledge of our early legendary lore, and his skilful acquirement, not only of the classical, but also of the Saxon and Gothic languages. Its touches also of dry sarcastic humour, together with the quaint and affected style in which it is written, render it highly characteristic and interesting; and relating, as it does, to the

scenery and local history of portions of the two Palatine Counties of Lancaster and Chester, and to the manners, customs, and family connections of their inhabitants, at a period when so little evidence of that nature has descended to us, it possesses a further recommendation to those who are more especially interested in the history of that part of the country, and will not, we trust, on these accounts, be thought to be unworthy of publication by the members of the **CHEATHAM SOCIETY**.

With respect to its learned author, a memoir of one who was the friend of Ben Jonson, the correspondent of Selden and Usher, and Spelman and Camden, and the companion and librarian of Sir Robert Cotton and his son, cannot, we think, prove otherwise than interesting to our readers. And as our author derived much of his character, his energy, and devotedness to study, and his peculiar literary and critical tastes and pursuits from his uncle, Dr. Thomas James, of New College, Oxford, it will be necessary, in the first place, to give a short account of this learned divine and critic, as furnished by the pages of Anthony Wood, to whom we are chiefly indebted for our information.

The family of James had been seated for some generations at Newport, in the Isle of Wight, and the following Pedigree, taken from the Visitation Book of the County of Hants, made in 1662 by John Philipot, Rouge Dragon and Deputy to Camden, now in the College of Arms, London, will sufficiently show the various branches of this family, and the connection which existed between the more learned and distinguished members of it.