

**SIR FRANCIS
BACON'S CIPHER
STORY, BOOK V.**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649002269

Sir Francis Bacon's cipher story, Book V. by Orville W. Owen

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
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ORVILLE W. OWEN

**SIR FRANCIS
BACON'S CIPHER
STORY, BOOK V.**

Sir Francis Bacon's Cipher Story.

The series of deciphered writings from the Shakespearean Plays, the stage plays of Marlow, the works of Peele, Green, Spenser and Burton, has reached the sixth book, and others in process of translation. The character and scope of the matter so far deciphered, will be indicated by the following

SYNOPSIS.

BOOK I.

<i>Francis Bacon's Letter to the Decipherer.</i>	1
Embracing the plan of the work, explanation of methods, and reasons for writing the narrative in Cipher.	
<i>Epistle Dedicatory.</i>	45
To him who shall find the Cipher.	
<i>Description of Queen Elizabeth.</i>	56
<i>The Curse.</i>	61-67
Upon those who have caused his humiliation.	
<i>Francis Bacon's Life.</i>	97
Discovery that he was son of Elizabeth. Confirmation by his foster mother, Lady Ann Bacon.	
<i>Description of the Reign of Elizabeth.</i>	154
<i>The Queen's Last Days.</i>	170
<i>Strangled by Robert Cecil.</i>	184
<i>Lady Ann Bacon recounts to Francis</i>	190
The early life of Elizabeth and the end of the reign of Mary.	

BOOK II.

<i>Continues</i>	200
The account of Elizabeth; the wooing of Leicester in the Tower; bribes the Holy Friar to take him to Elizabeth; frightens him into performing the marriage ceremony; plotting the death of Leicester's wife, Ayme Robsart; Ayme Robsart visits the Queen; stormy interview; death of Ayme Robsart.	202
	224
	228
	235
	248

<i>Second Marriage of Elizabeth and Leicester.</i>	
By Sir Nicholas Bacon, in the presence of Lady Ann Bacon and Lord Puckering. Account interrupted by a summons from the Queen.	250 252
<i>Elizabeth and Francis. Banished to France.</i>	256
<i>The Spanish Armada.</i>	268
Prologue. Phillip II demands, through ambassadors, the hand of Elizabeth in marriage. The alternative of refusal, the wresting of the Crown from her "unlawful hands" by war. Elizabeth's reply to the ambassadors. Pedigree of the Queen. Appearance of the Spanish Fleet.	
<i>The Great Storm.</i>	377
Bacon's description. Bacon rescues Don Pedro, the Spanish Commander.	

BOOK III.

<i>The Spanish Armada Continued.</i>	401
Bacon visits the Queen and pleads for his prisoner Don Pedro whom he rescued from drowning. Entrance of Lord High Admiral, Capt. Palmer and Sir Anthony Cook.	489 489
Don Pedro before the Queen. Plea for mercy.	492 493
"The quality of mercy is not strain'd."	494
The Queen "awearry of his speech," wishes to hear the Admiral's report of the battle, which is described.	495
Capt. Drake tells of the second day's battle. Allegorical description giving the names of Spanish and English vessels engaged. Admiral Howard recounts his part in the fight. Capt. Drake describes the storm.	498 499 512
Capt. Palmer's experiences in the German Seas.	526
Don Martin, a prisoner before the Queen.	530
Bacon again begs for Don Pedro.	552
Enter sailors with letters.	558 566
"The end has come."	
So by a roaring tempest on the flood, A whole Armado of convicted sail Is scatter'd and disjoin'd from fellowship.	

<i>Epilogue.</i>	567
<i>Francis Bacon's Life at the Court of France</i>	571

BOOK IV.

<i>Massacre of St. Bartholomew.</i>	603
<i>Mary Queen of Scots.</i>	631
<i>Francis Bacon recurs to his own life.</i>	650
<i>Hamlet.</i>	652
Discovery by the Queen that Bacon wrote it, and the fate of the first copy.	
<i>Tragedy of Mary Queen of Scots.</i>	672

Synopsis of "The Historical Tragedy of Mary Queen of Scots."

ACT I.—Scene 1.—Interview between Queen Elizabeth and Counsellor Francis Bacon. The Law of Treason. * * * Queen Elizabeth commands the presence of Leicester, who arranges to bring Mary to his house in London for an interview.

Scene 2.—Banquet room at house of Leicester. Leicester and Mary at banquet table. Queen Elizabeth secretly enters; hides behind statue. Mary proposes marriage to Leicester; they to be rulers of the French, English and Scottish realms. Elizabeth steps forth,

"*Doth Scotland make your Majesty our judge?*"

Mary in surprised alarm,

"*Alas, I am undone! It is the Queen.*"

Interview between Elizabeth and Mary; withdrawal of Elizabeth and Leicester.

ACT II.—Scene 1.—In front of Tower; time, midnight. Stormy interview between Queen Elizabeth and Leicester; the jealous Queen declares his banishment; thrusts him away and enters. Leicester in rage:

"*I'll empty all these veins, and shed my blood*

"*Drop by drop & th' earth ere I will go!*

"*Let my soul want mercy if I do not join*

"*With Scotland, in her behalf.*"

Enter Francis Bacon, who counsels a different course. Leicester requests Bacon to plead for him to the Queen.

Scene 2.—Audience room of Palace. Bacon pleads for Leicester; calls upon himself the wrath of the Queen; takes leave.

"*No power I have to speak, I know.*

"*And so, farewell, I, and my griefs will go.*"

Enter Leicester; begs that he be not banished. Queen repents.

"*Restrain thy apprehension; I will lay down upon thee.*

"*And thou shalt find I will preserve and love thee.*

"*I have conferred on thee the commandment of mine army beyond the sea.*"

ACT III.—Scene 1.—Council Chamber of Palace. Lords seated at table: Queen on the throne; Elizabeth announces that Leicester is to command her armies in Ireland. Strongly opposed by the Lord Chancellor; Leicester accused of treason. The Queen overrules the council; makes him General and administers the oath.

Scene 2.—Council Chamber—twelve months later. Queen Elizabeth presents the treasons of Mary Queen of Scots; gives letter of commission for her trial.

ACT IV.—Scene 1.—Room in Fotheringay Castle: lords, knights, captains, lawyers and gentlemen in attendance. Queen Mary before the Court; notes the absence of the English Queen; demands her presence—Will be tried by her peers, and not by servants of lesser degree; Council show warrant. Mary denies the charges; so impresses and moves the Court that Chief Justice suddenly adjourns the Court to London, fearing that by her eloquence and beauty she be acquitted.

Scene 2.—Room in Tower of London; Court convenes to convict Mary; Montague speaks strongly for her; members cry Guilty! guilty!

ACT V.—Scene 1.—Palace of the Queen, Elizabeth and train.

"*O, E. Pie, what a shag in Warwick, he comes not*

"*To tell us whether they will that she shall die or no.*

"*Ah! In good time here comes the sweating lord.*" (Enter Warwick.)

He announces the decision of "guilty." Enter Lords of Council; they present Elizabeth the warrant for Mary's death. She does not sign it.

"*O, E. My lord, I promise to note it cunningly;*

"*But here come the ambassadors of our brothers of France and Spain.*"

Enter ambassadors, who plead for the life of Mary.

Scene 2.—Street in London. Enter Burleigh and Secretary of the Queen (Davison); met by Leicester. All enter a public house.

Scene 3.—Private room; Burleigh and Leicester force the Secretary to forge the Queen's name to the warrant for Mary's execution.

Scene 4.—Chamber in Fotheringay Castle—Queen Mary and maids. Enter English Lords.

"*O, M. Welcome, my lords.—Why do you come, is't for my life?*

Lord Shrewsbury. "Tis now midnight, and by eight tomorrow thou must be made immortal."

O, M. How! My lord! Tomorrow? tomorrow! Oh! that's sudden.

Oh! this subdues me quite.

Good, good my lord, if I must die tomorrow,

Let me have some reverend person

To advise, comfort and pray with me." (This is refused.)

Scene 5.—Hall of Fotheringay Castle, hung with black. Platform and block at end. English Lords and Gentlemen, executioner, and assistants.

Enter Queen Mary dressed in black and red velvet gown. The executioner assures her

"*I will be as speedy in your death as all the poisonous potions in the world,*

"*And you shall feel no pain.*"

Mary addresses the Lords, denies the charges, asserting that they shed innocent blood.

"*And if you tell the heavy story right,*

"*Upon my soul the heavens will shed tears,*

"*Yea, even my foes will shed fast falling tears,*

"*And say it was a piteous deed to take me from*

"*The world, and send my soul to heaven.*"

(She kneels and prays):

"*Oh God, have mercy upon me, and receive my fainting soul again! Oh be thou merciful! And let our precious souls be satisfied with our true blood which, as Thou know'st, unrightly must be spilled! Oh God, send to me the waters from the well of life, and by my death stop effusion of Christian blood and stablish quietness on every side! Let me be blessed for the Peace I make.*" Amen.

(Rises.)

"Farewell, sweet Lords; let's meet in heaven.

Good my Lord of Derby, lead me to the block."

(Speaks to Executioner.)

<i>Queen Elizabeth's Dream.</i>	762
Her indignation and horror at the death of Mary.	
"Queen. Who hath made bold with the great seal, and who Hath inscribed my name?"	764
Leicester. Your servant, th' secretary, Brought the warrant to us, the great seal stamp'd upon't.	
Q. Then there was a league between you to hasten her Untimely death."	
<i>Foreign Ambassadors Presented.</i>	765
The Queen explains to them that her savage council have cruelly slain Mary, and declares her intention to hang her secretary for insubordination,	
<i>Bacon Resumes his "Life in France."</i>	767
Interview between Bacon and Navarre.	771
Prayer of Navarre.	782
Intrigues to effect his escape from France.	786

BOOK V.

<i>Continues Bacon's "Life in France."</i>	801
Bacon discloses to Navarre that he is heir to the throne of England, lawful son of Elizabeth and Leicester.	
Tells of his banishment and espouses Navarre's cause.	
<i>Navarre's Attempt to Escape Frustrated.</i>	834
The grand hunt; Navarre's flight.	
<i>Bacon's Visit to the Huguenot Camp.</i>	871
Report of same to Henry III, and to Margaret of Navarre.	
Plan of the latter to escape to the camp.	
<i>Bacon Discloses his Love to Margaret.</i>	926
Ladder of cords. Disappointment. Interview with Friar. Farewell to Margaret.	

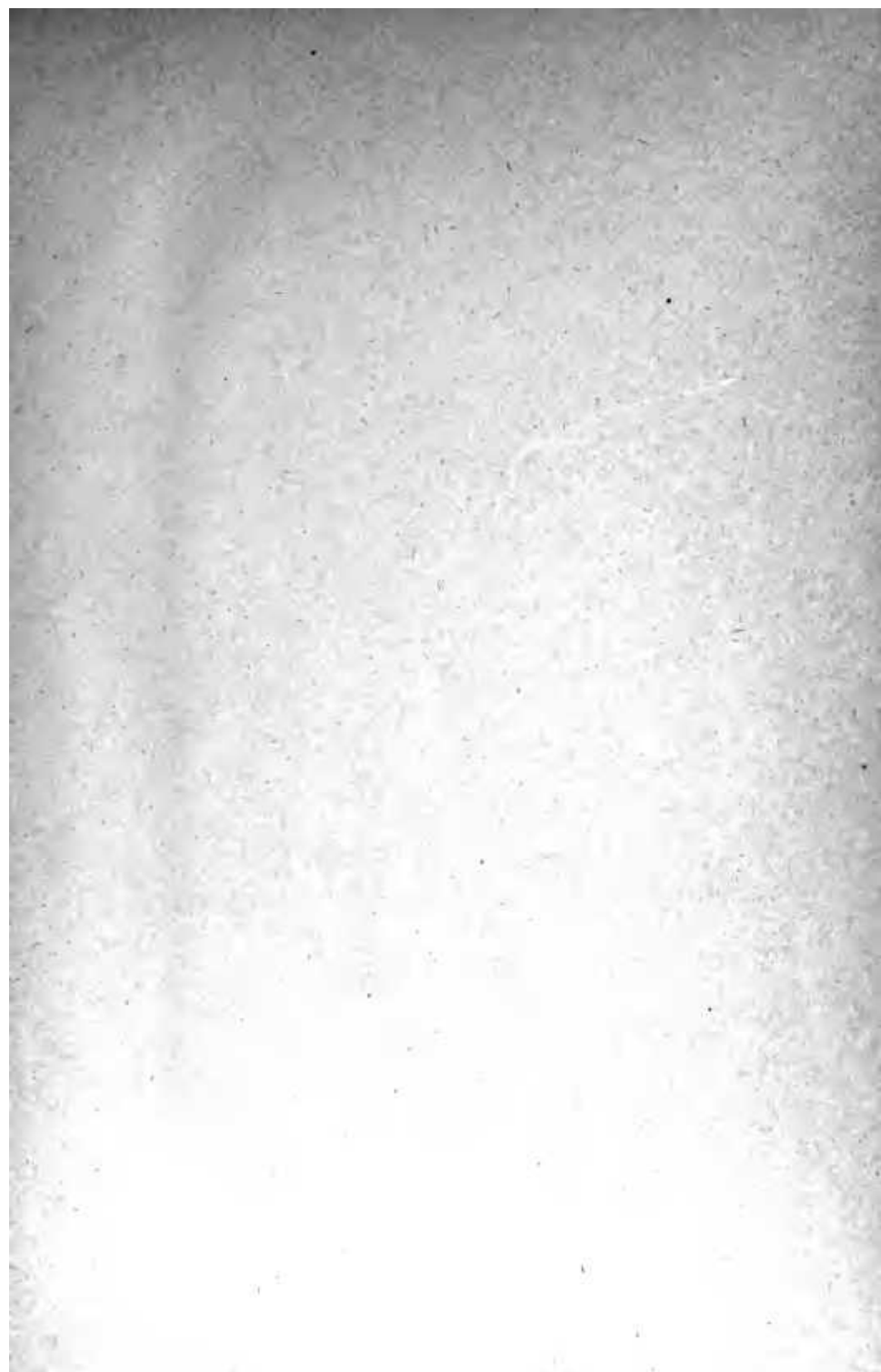
BOOK VI

(IN PREPARATION.)

<i>Conclusion of Bacon's "Life at the Court of France."</i>	1001
Anjou's desertion of the Huguenots; his trifling successes magnified; the triumphs or fetes in his honor.	
Catherine's revival of "The Court of Love."	
<i>Bacon Returns to England.</i>	
Stormy interview with Queen Elizabeth and Leicester. Paulet attempts to negotiate a marriage between Bacon and Margaret. Second banishment. Visit to Italy.	
<i>Bacon follows the Queen-mother to the South.</i>	
<i>Public Trial of Queen Margaret.</i>	
<i>The Assassination of the Duke of Guise and the Cardinal of Lorraine.</i>	
<i>Henry III. and Navarre join forces to besiege Paris.</i>	
<i>Navarre declared Heir to the Throne of France.</i>	
<i>Assassination of the King.</i>	
<i>Death of Nicholas Bacon; Francis Recalled to England.</i>	

HOWARD PUBLISHING CO.

Detroit, March, 1895.





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DISCOVERED AND DECIPHERED BY

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DETROIT:
HOWARD PUBLISHING COMPANY,
1895.