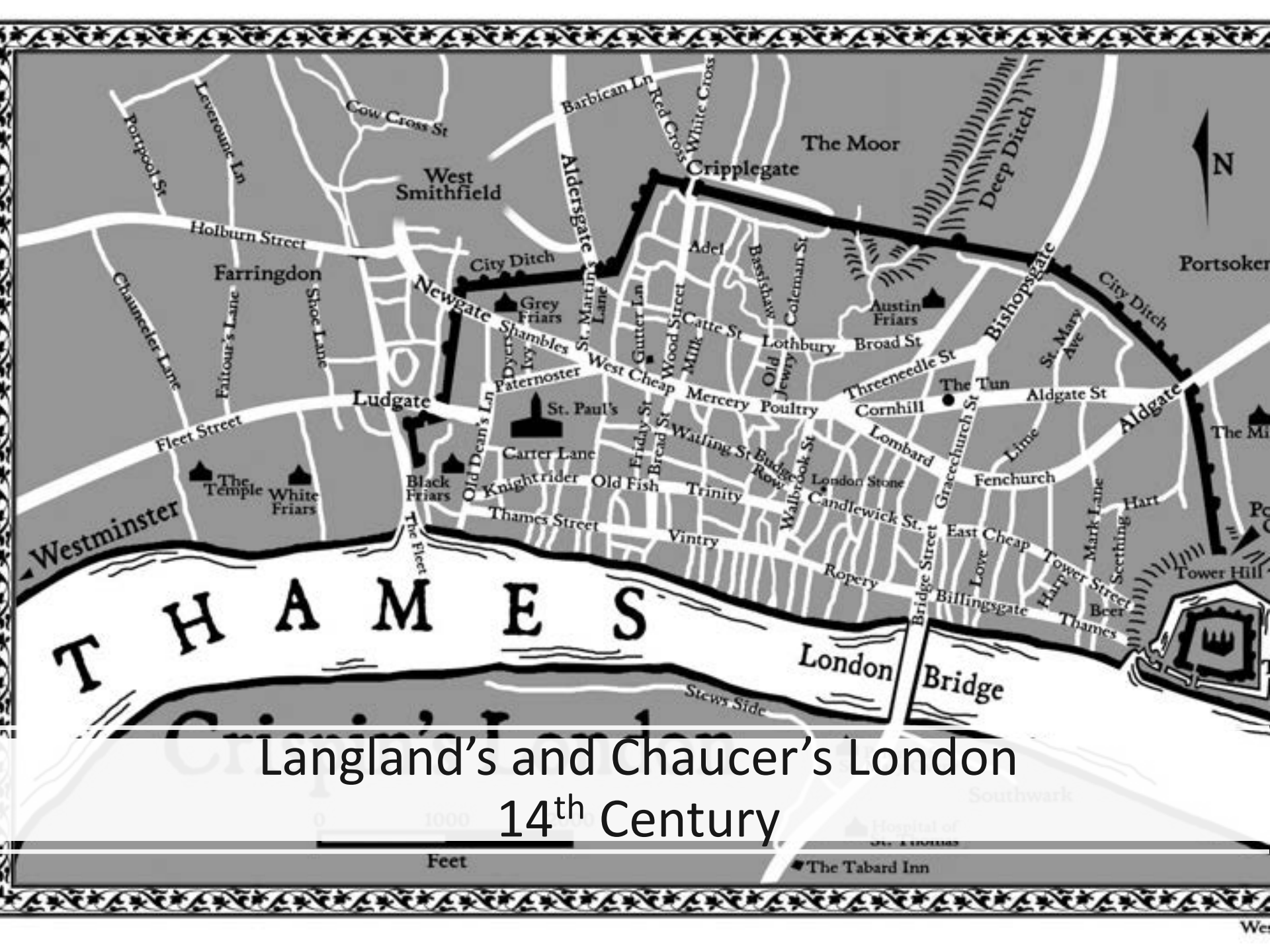


Literary London:  
Imagining the City

Drs. Christopher and Hope Hodgkins

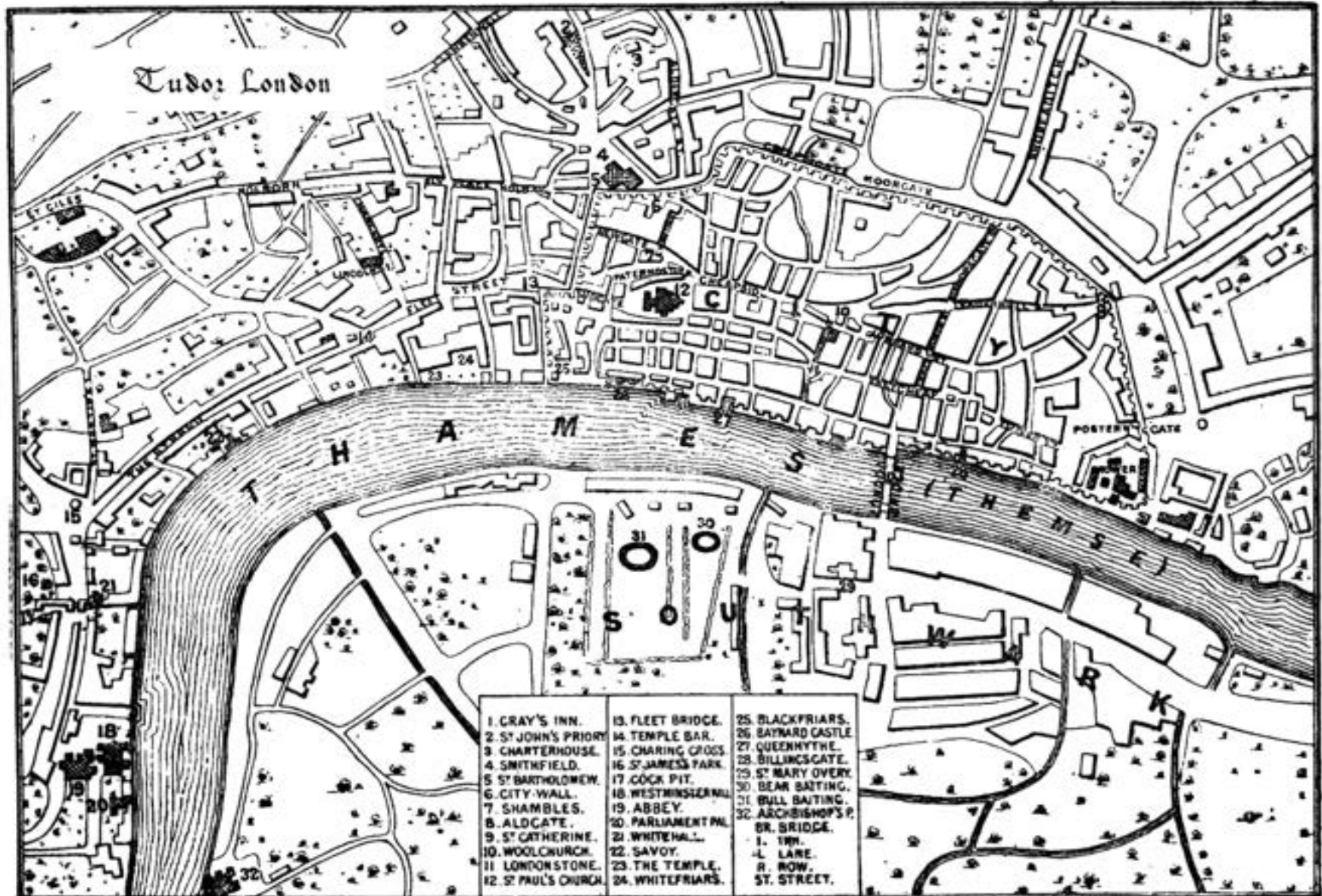
Wednesday, March 29

**Renaissance, Reformation,  
and Civil War**



Langland's and Chaucer's London  
14<sup>th</sup> Century

# Early Tudor London--1485-1550



# 15<sup>th</sup>-Century Tower of London, based on a contemporary painting





London with Customs  
House, London Bridge,  
from the Tower,  
looking west

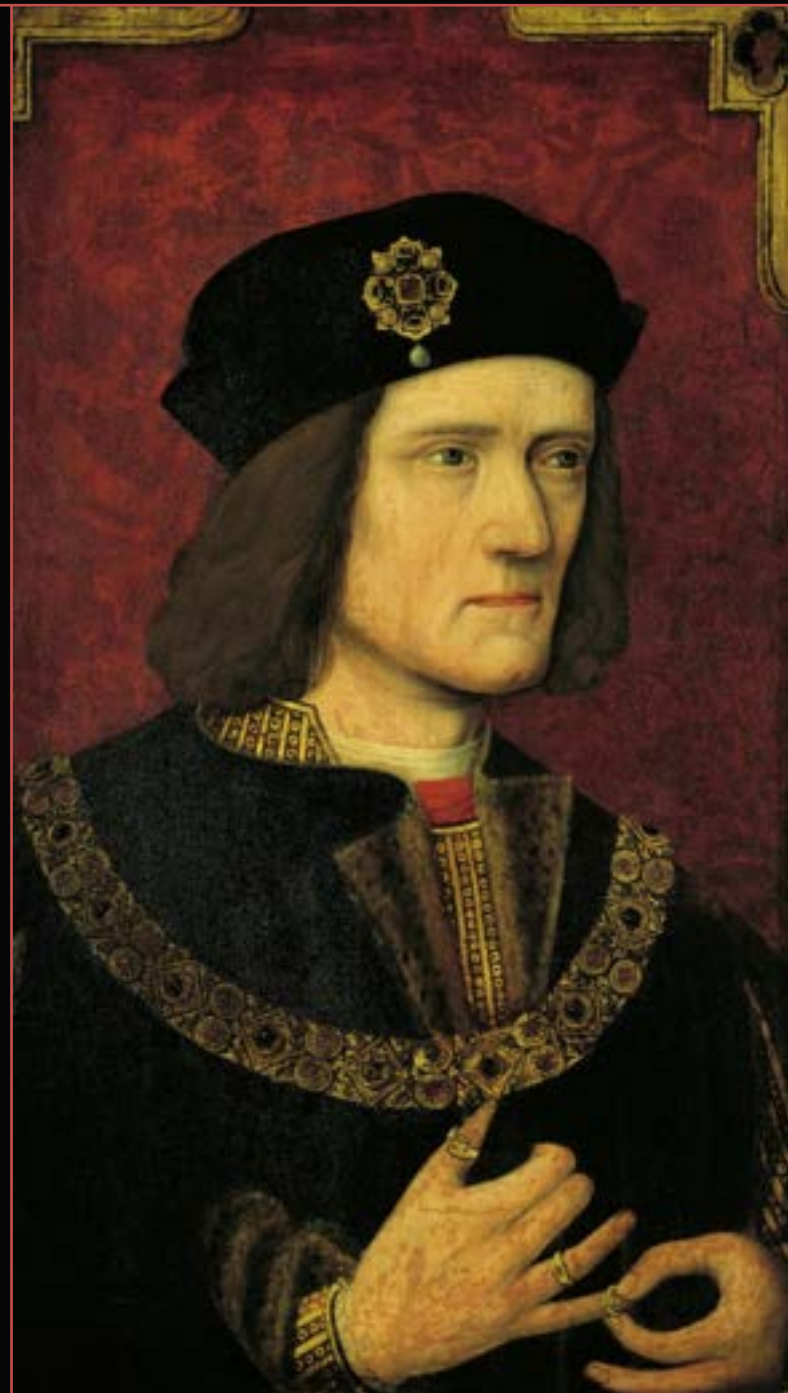
# London Street Scene late 15th Century





Edward IV and Elizabeth Woodville, King and Queen 1461-1483

Richard III—  
King 1483-  
1485







Richard III's Death at Bosworth 1485

# Richard III's Grave under a “car park,” the former Greyfriars Church, Leicester





Henry VII,  
First Tudor  
King—1485-  
1509



Sir Thomas More—1478-1535  
by Hans Holbein



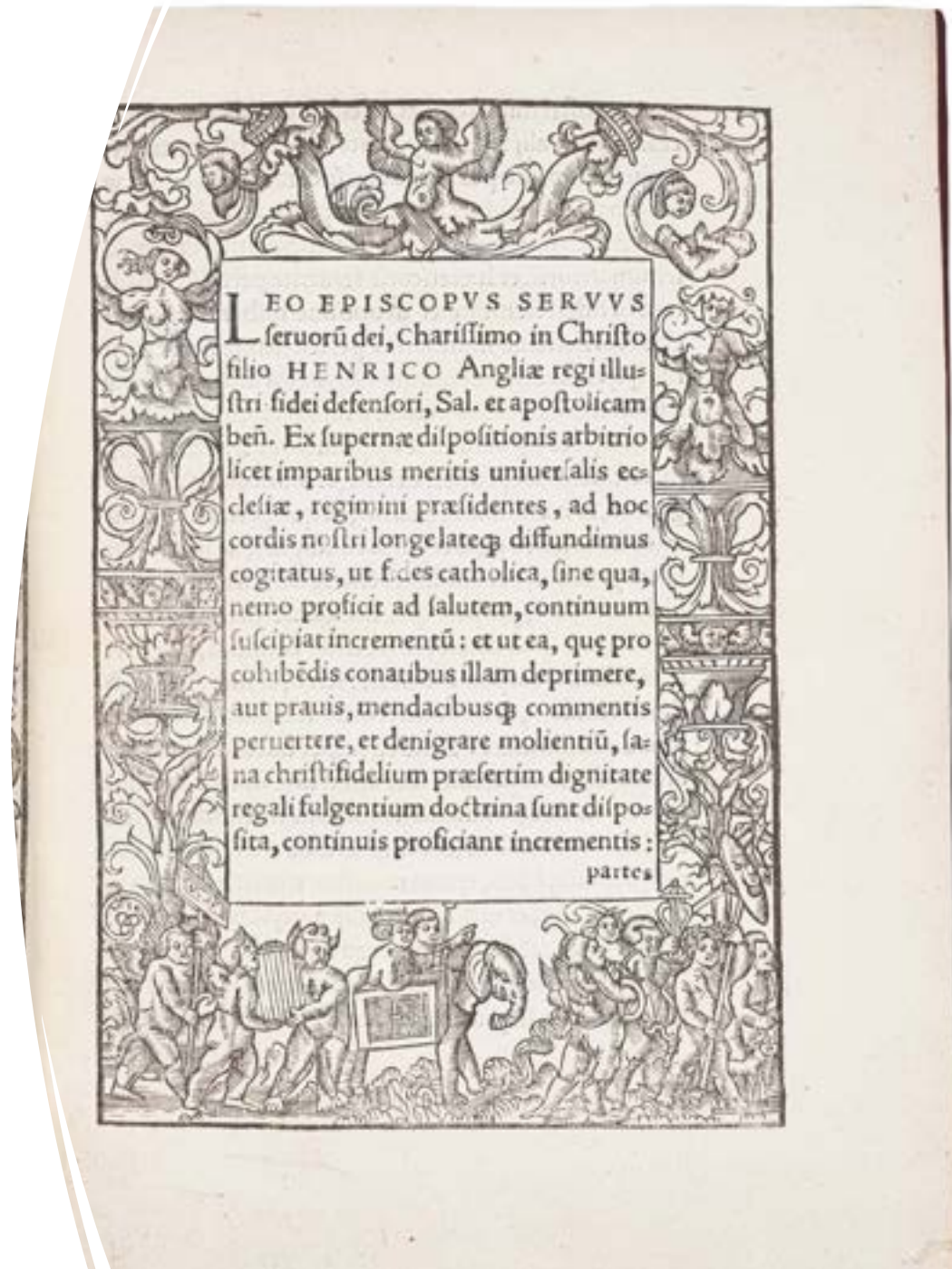
Lawyer (More's statue opposite the Royal Courts of Justice) ...

# Family man ... c. 1527



...anti-  
Protestant  
polemicist...

- *Defense of the Seven Sacraments*, written with and for Henry VIII (1521)



Friend to  
the  
Catholic  
Reformer  
Erasmus of  
Rotterdam  
(1466-  
1536) ...







Lord Chancellor  
(1529-1532) ...  
(see that chain)



—

...and Catholic  
Martyr  
(Paul Scofield  
in *A Man for  
All Seasons*,  
1966)

---

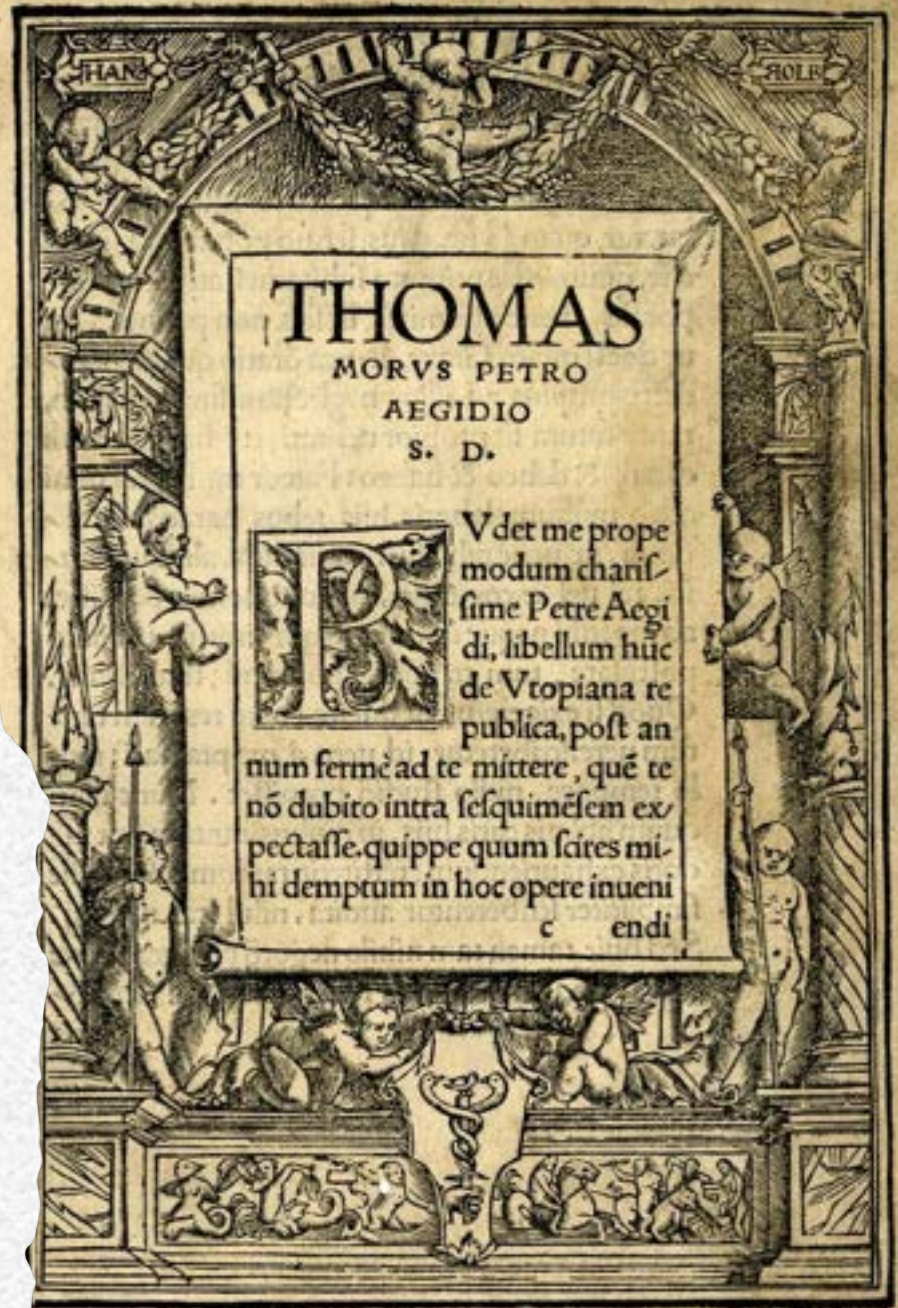
...beheaded on this spot on Tower Hill in 1535



But before his great rise

**And fall...**

... he was  
creator of  
*Utopia*  
(1516)



# The ideal state ...

---

- (frontispiece of 1516 First Edition)





...on an  
artificial  
island far  
away  
(1518 edition  
map)



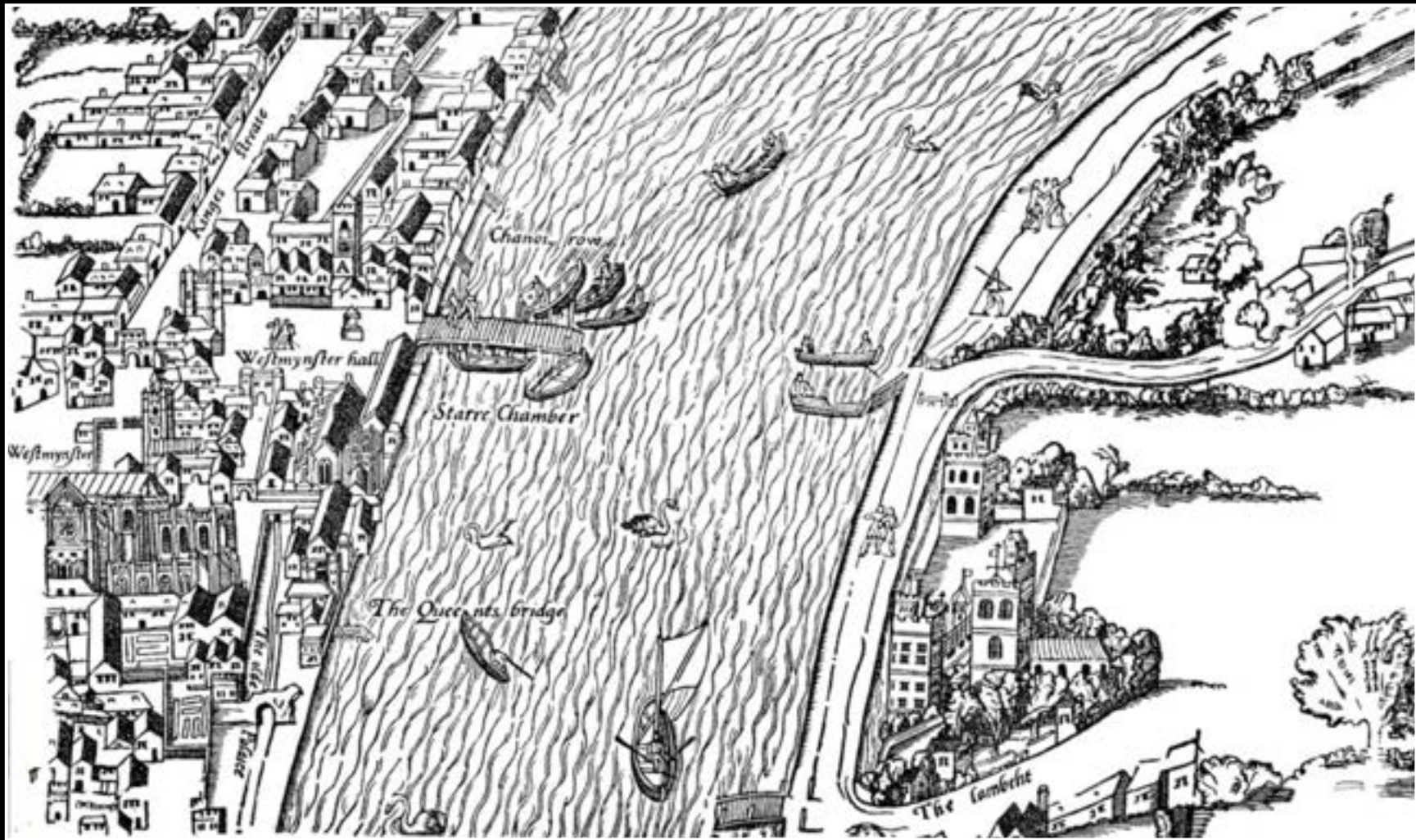
Amaurotā vrb.

Fons Anydri.

Ostium anydri

R.O.V.





Yet Book 1 of *Utopia* takes place at Lambeth House, home to the Archbishops of Canterbury (right)



...across the Thames from Westminster

...over dinner with  
Cardinal John Morton  
(c. 1420-1500),  
Archbishop of  
Canterbury (1488-  
1500)



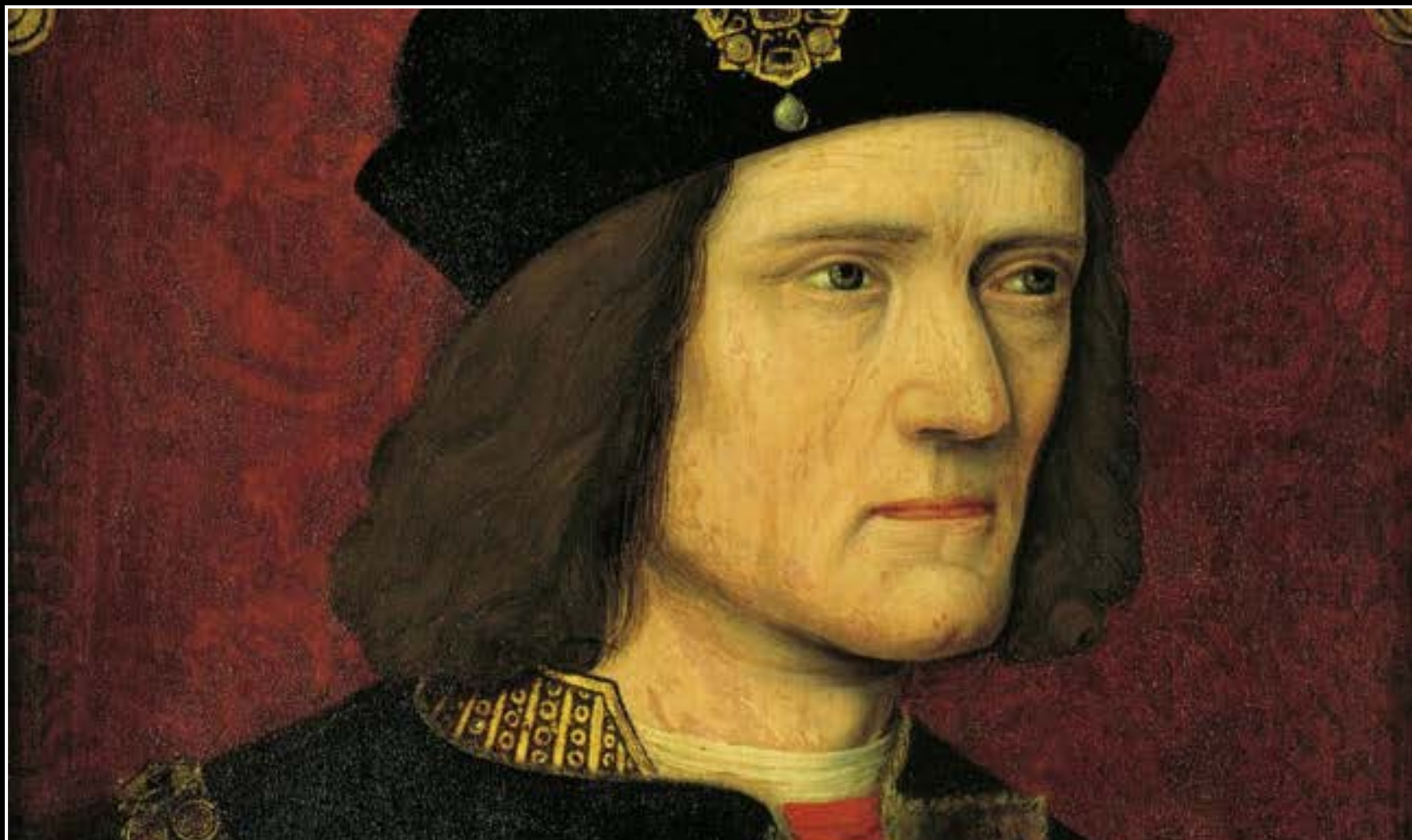
...debating the goods and  
evils of

**COMMUNISM**



More also  
wrote  
*The  
History of  
Richard III*  
(1513)





...yes, him again...

...source of Shakespeare's play...which includes the affair between

**King Edward IV**

and

**Elizabeth (Jane) Shore**



# Alternately imagined as

**Hunky**

**and**

**Underdressed**







Jane Shore's Public Penance at Paul's Cross, 1483



More grew  
up under  
Henry VII...



Followed  
by this  
fellow...



Henry VIII,  
about  
1509, by  
Meynnart  
Wewyck



...who by 1546  
looked like this,  
according to  
Holbein



Who could  
fit into  
this...

And had by then gone through  
six wives...

Divorced, beheaded, died, divorced,  
beheaded, survived...a.k.a...





# Catherine of Aragon, Anne Boleyn, Jane Seymour, Anne of Cleves, Catherine Howard, Katherine Parr





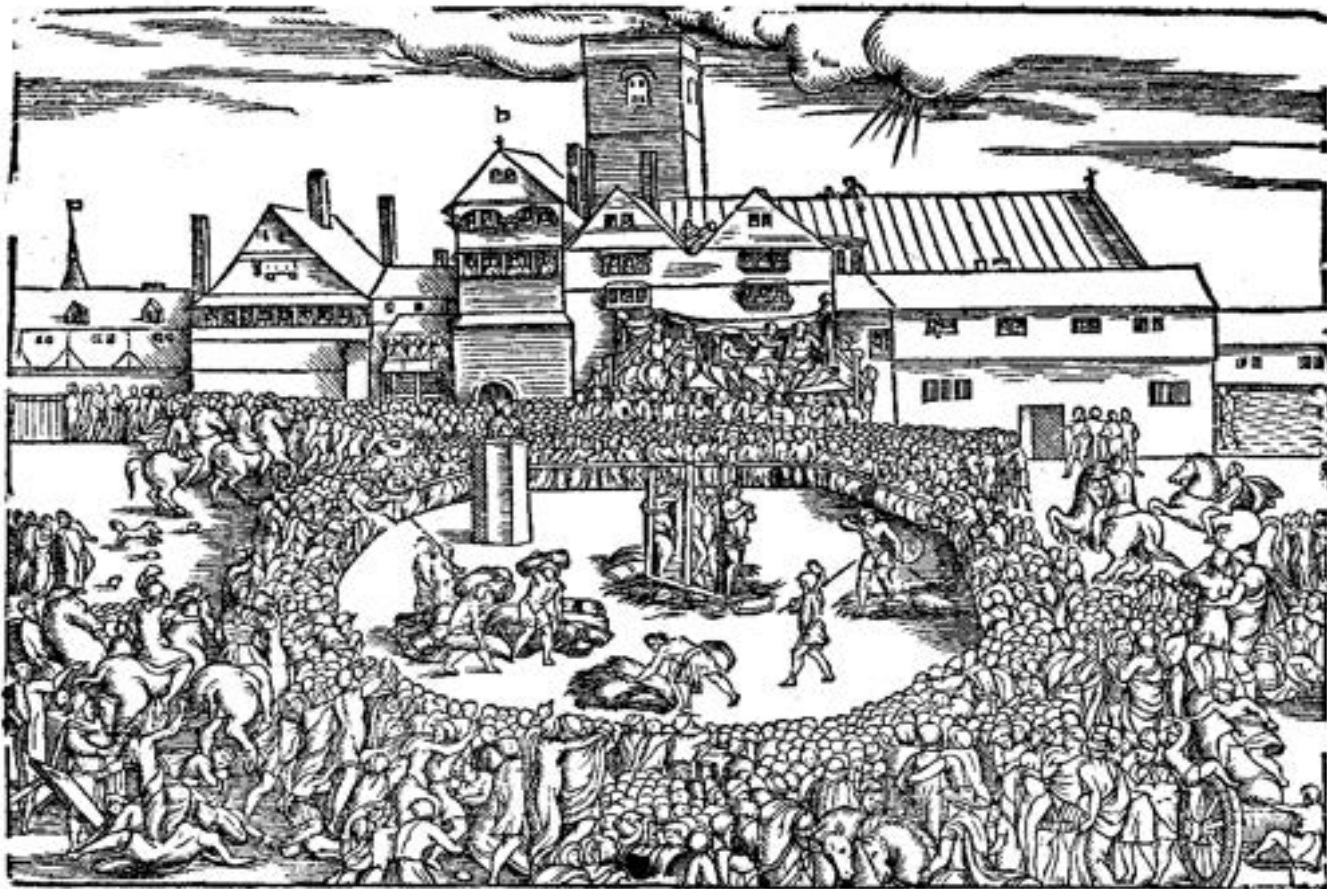
Anne Boleyn's "luxurious" Execution, 1536



...on this lovely spot in Tower Green

# ...vs. burning of Baptist Anne Askew outside the city in Smithfield, 1546

☛ The order and maner of the burning of Anne Askew, Iohn Lacels,  
Iohn Adams, Nicholas Belenian, with certayne of the Councell  
sitting in Smithfield.





Smithfield Market today—  
London's Butcher Shop

Henry VIII died in 1547, passing rule to his very Protestant 10-year-old son, Edward VI...



...who died in  
July 1553,  
followed by...





Lady Jane Grey, Reigned July 10-18, 1553





...followed soon by her beheading, leading to...



## Mary Tudor Queen 1553-1558

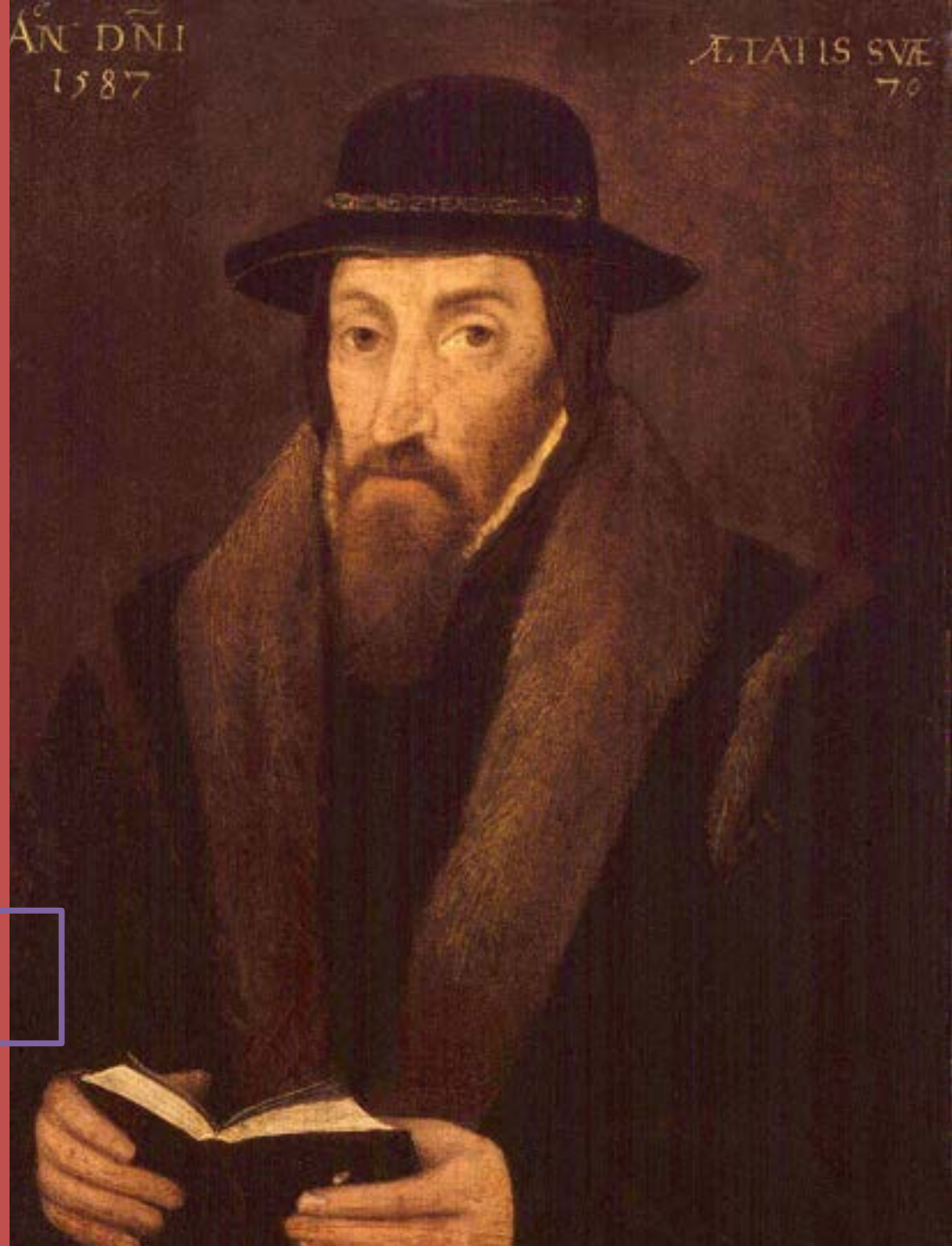
- Very Catholic  
Daughter of Henry VIII  
and  
Catherine  
of  
Aragon

...opening an era of burning and  
butchering Protestants at Smithfield

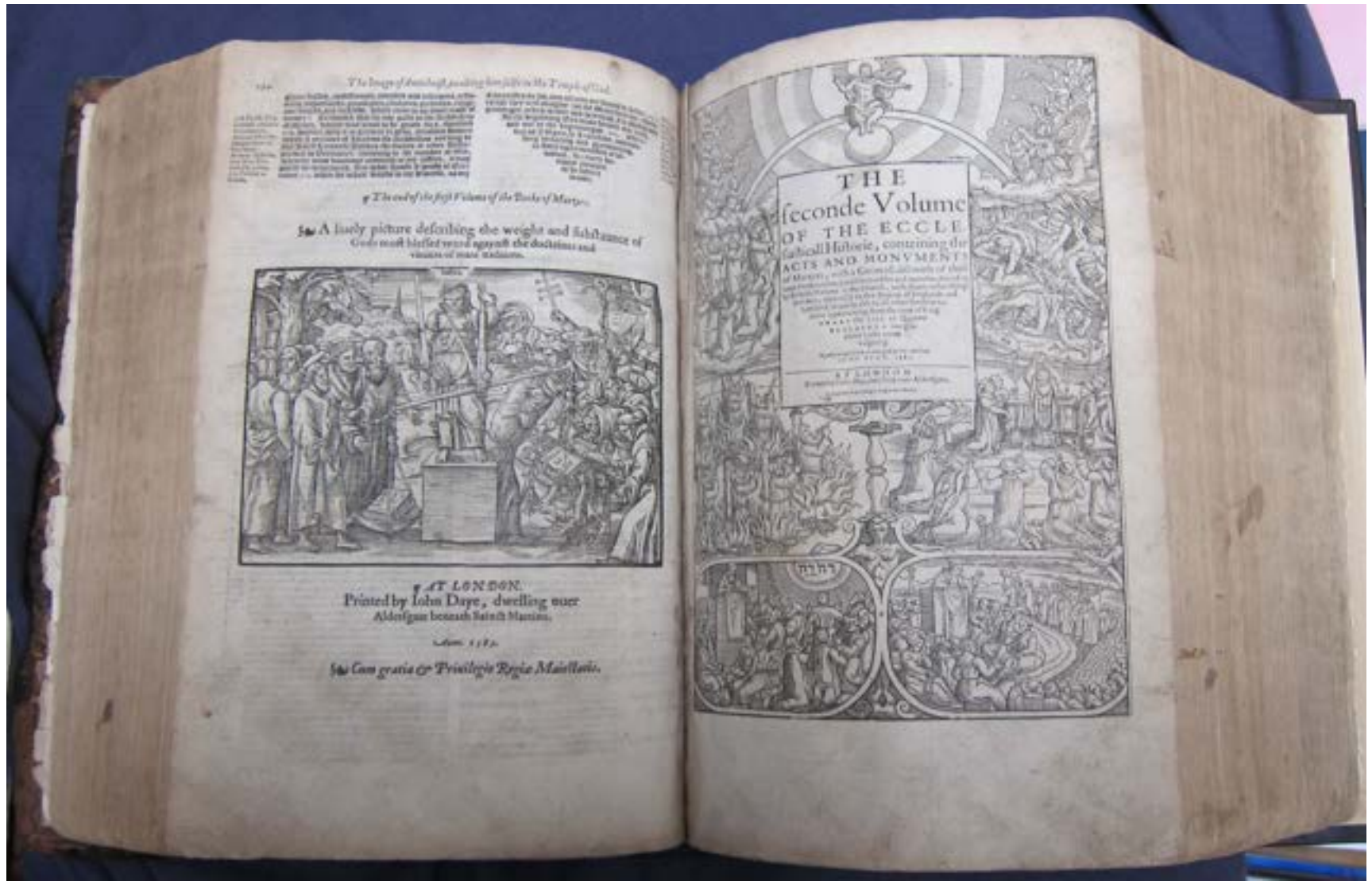


...recorded and  
published by  
John Foxe

(1516-1587)...



# ...in *Acts and Monuments* (*Book of Martyrs*) 1563, 1570



# Foxe: John Rogers, First Marian Martyr, 1555



# Foxe: Burning Bucer's Bones, 1557





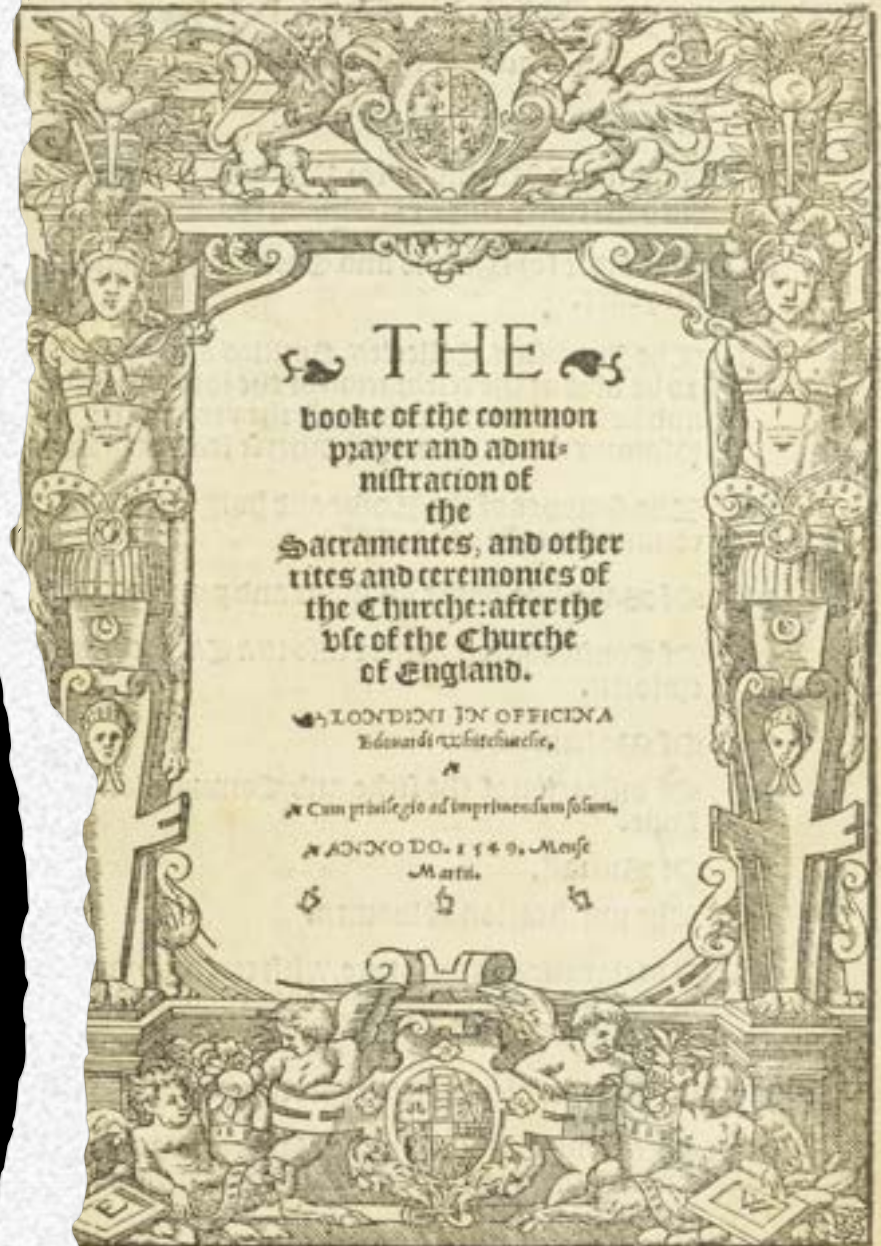
Mary's 1558 death brought her half-sister Elizabeth to the throne...



# Beginning what has been called a Golden Age for England and London...



...establishing a  
Protestant  
Church of England  
with an English  
*Book of Common  
Prayer* (1559)



...opening the Royal Exchange in  
1571...



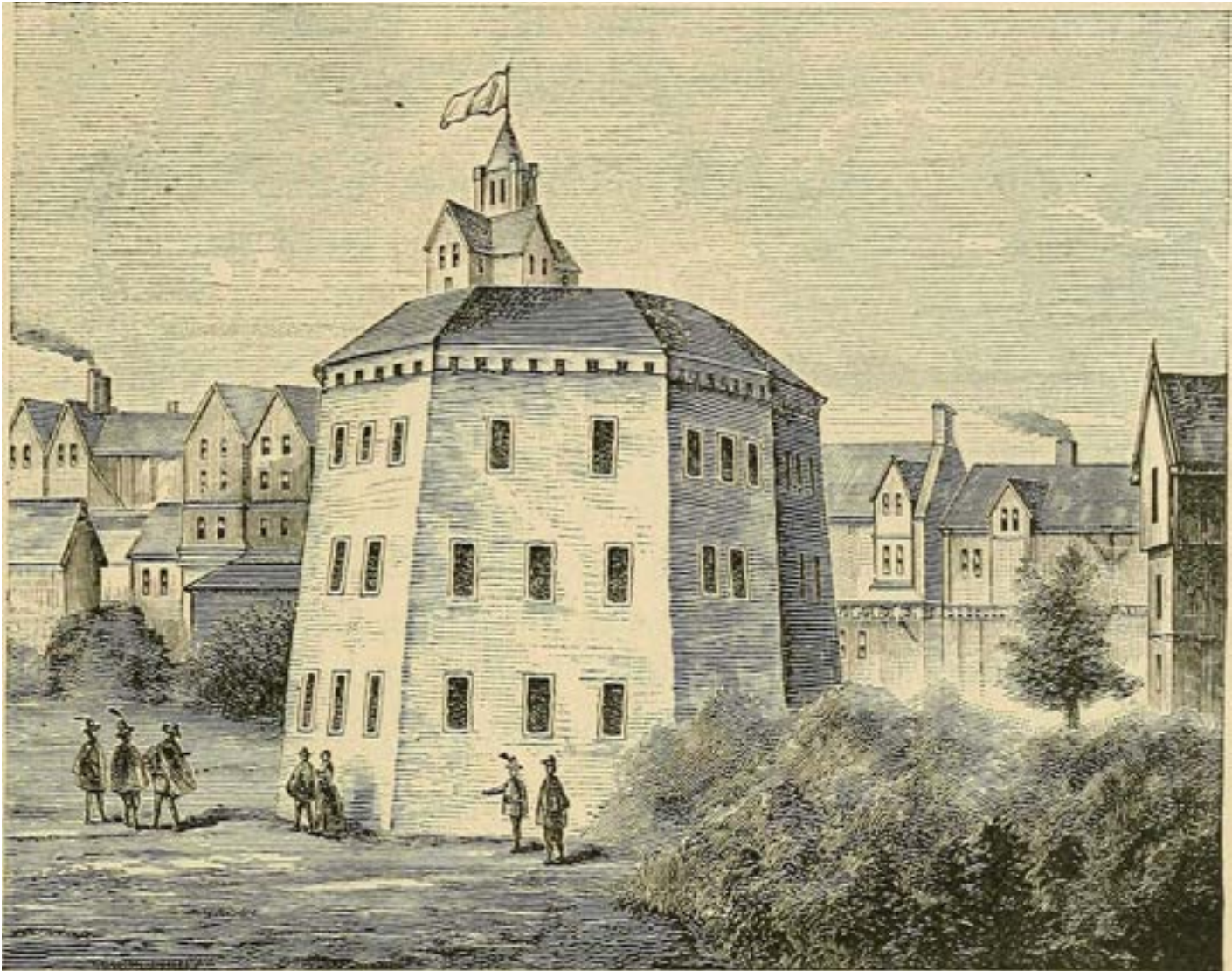
and visiting new public playhouses  
such as The Rose (1587)...



...the  
Swan  
(1595)...



# and The Globe (1599)...





...now accurately rebuilt on the Thames South Bank



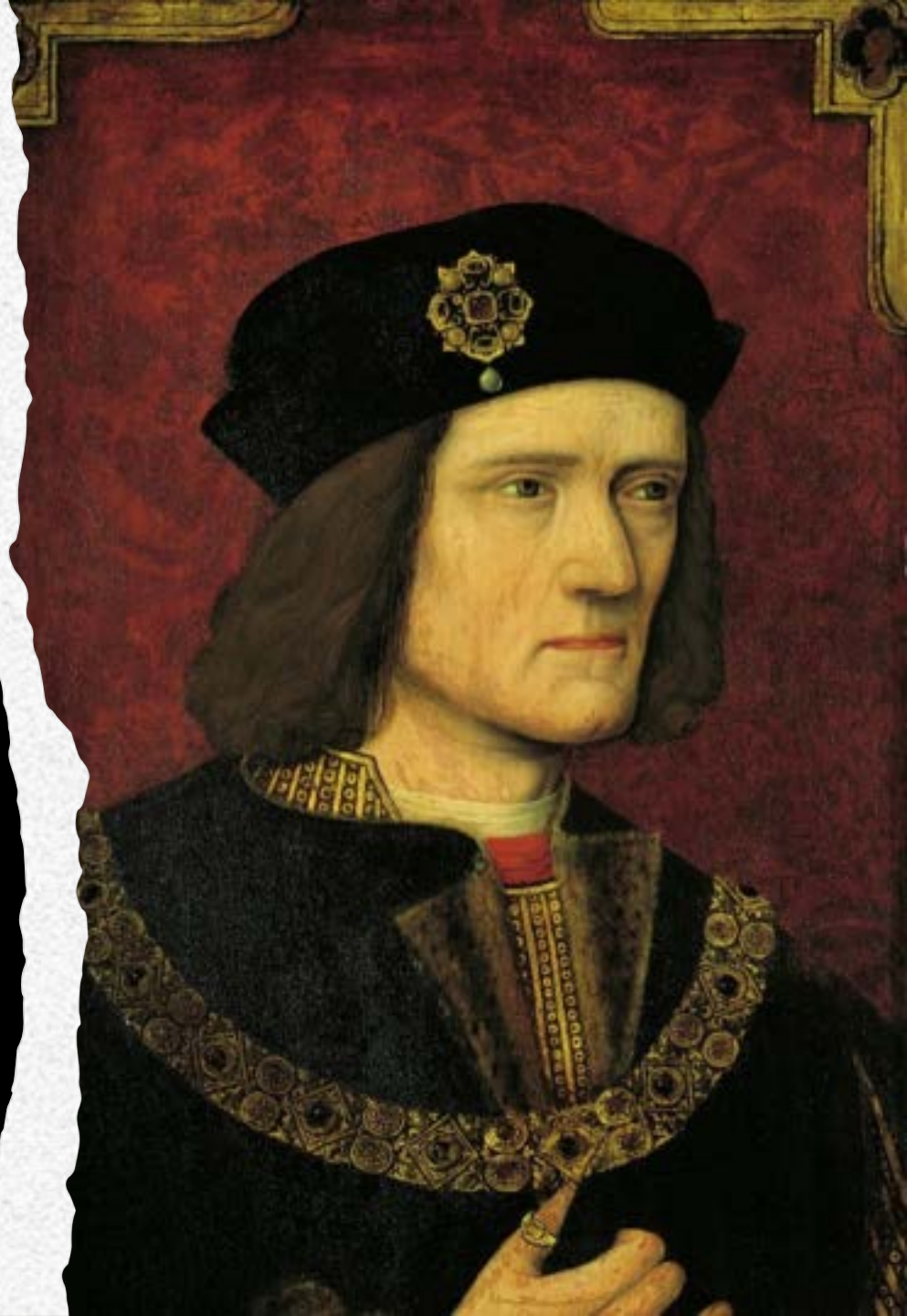






...where Shakespeare (1564-1616) and The Lord Chamberlain's Men could thrive

Now he could  
retell More's  
story of  
Richard III...

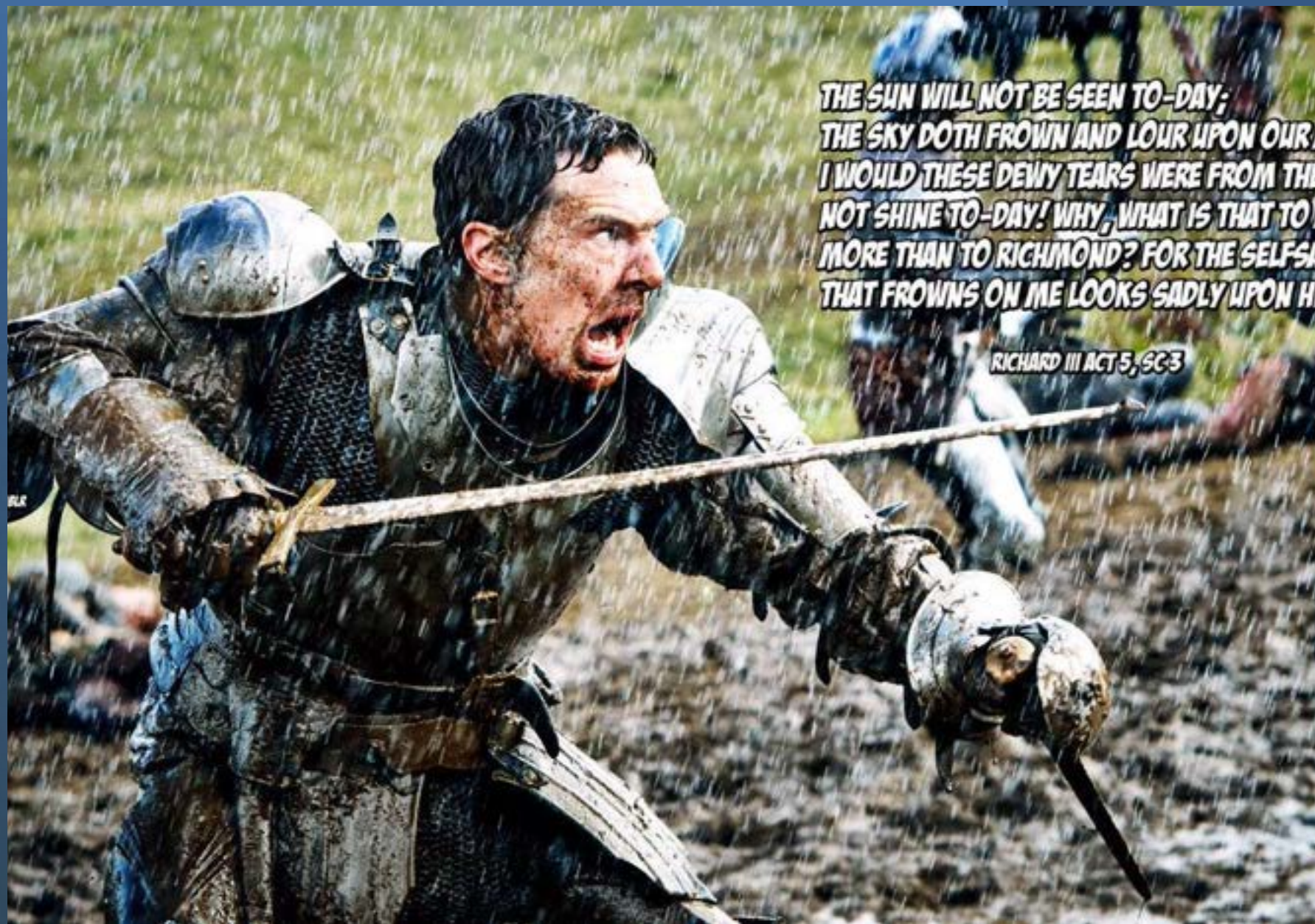












**THE SUN WILL NOT BE SEEN TO-DAY;  
THE SKY DOETH FROWN AND LOUR UPON OUR  
I WOULD THESE DEWY TEARS WERE FROM THE  
NOT SHINE TO-DAY! WHY, WHAT IS THAT TO  
MORE THAN TO RICHMOND? FOR THE SELFS  
THAT FROWNS ON ME LOOKS SADLY UPON H**

**RICHARD III ACT 5, SC 3**





...with Richard's  
audacious  
wooing of Lady  
Anne  
in the street...

...and sending those poor princes to  
the Tower...



...and a  
very early  
grave under  
the stairs  
(discovered  
1674)

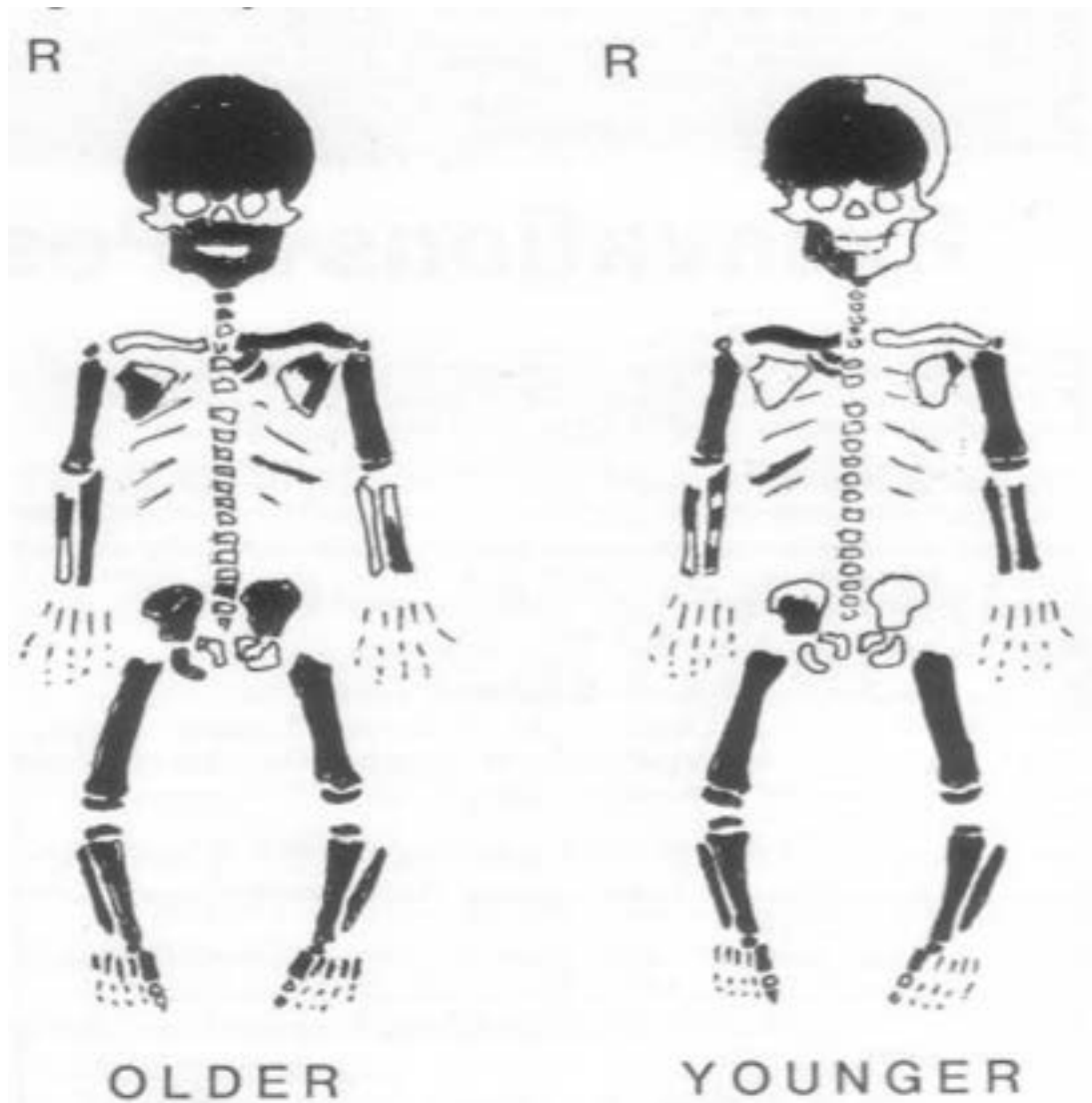


Fig. 1: the skeletal remains of two juveniles found in the Tower of London.



Shakespeare could revisit the Boar's Head Tavern in Eastcheap...



...as rebuilt  
today...



...where in *1 Henry IV* Prince Hal hides in plain sight among the ruffians...

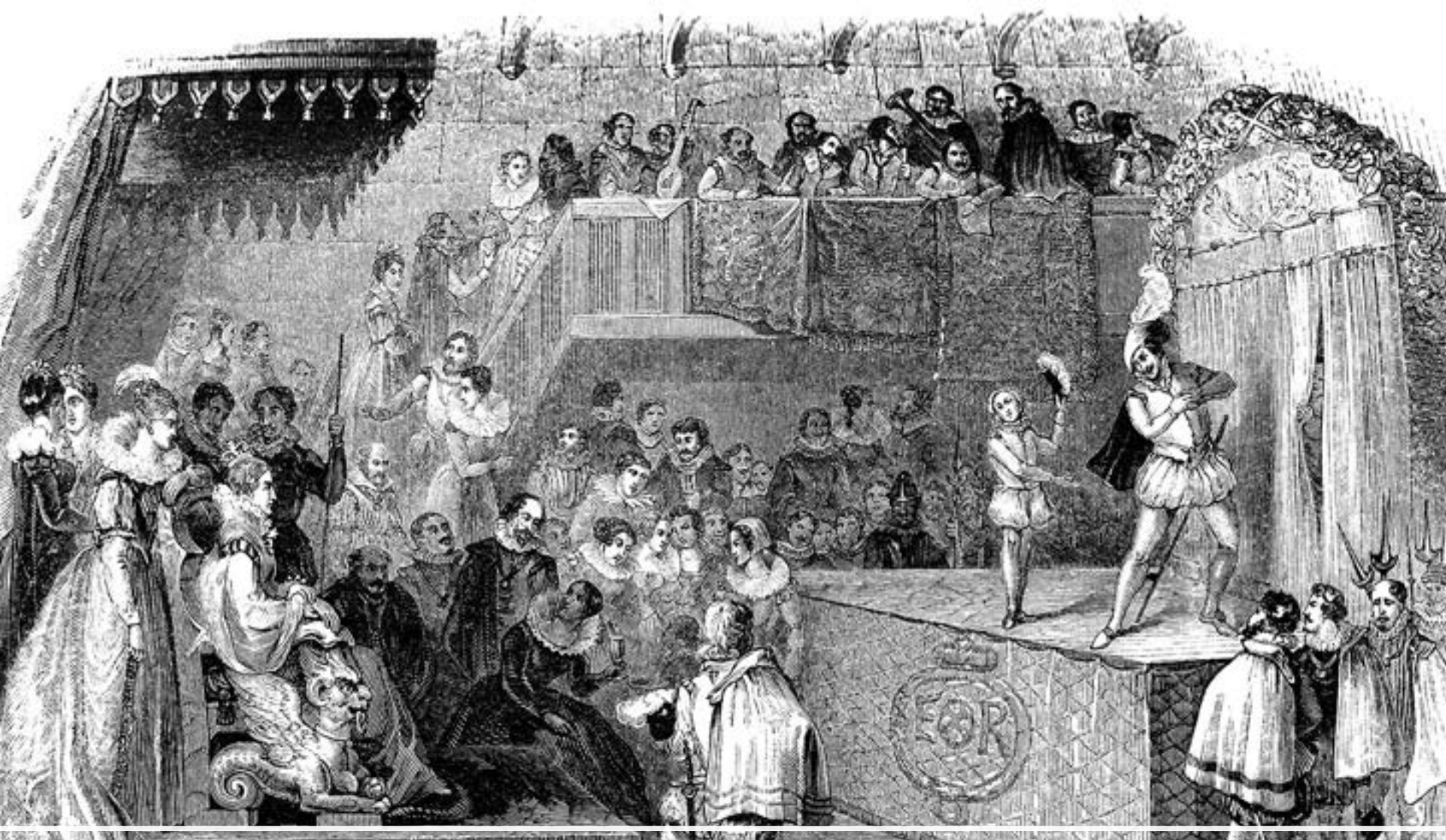
...until, at  
the end of  
his father's  
troubled  
reign, he  
can rise like  
the sun



Shakespeare can even reflect in  
*Hamlet* on the all-boy productions...







...competing with his company's business



Meanwhile John Donne (1572-1631)...



...is making  
each of his  
*Songs and  
Sonnets*  
into a little  
theater...

# ...and making “one little (bed)room an everywhere” ...

- **Break of Day** By John Donne

- ‘Tis true, ‘tis day, what though it be?
- O wilt thou therefore rise from me?
- Why should we rise because ‘tis light?
- Did we lie down because ‘twas night?
- Love, which in spite of darkness brought us hither,
- Should in despite of light keep us together.
- 
- Light hath no tongue, but is all eye;
- If it could speak as well as spy,
- This were the worst that it could say,
- That being well I fain would stay,
- And that I loved my heart and honour so,
- That I would not from him, that had them, go.

- Must business thee from hence remove?
- Oh, that’s the worst disease of love,
- The poor, the foul, the false, love can
- Admit, but not the busied man.
- He which hath business, and makes love, doth do
- Such wrong, as when a married man doth woo.

...commenting on the new national obsession with “business” ...





and making  
the  
overcrowded  
graves of  
London...

...a place for relics and...

**RELIC**



***By John Donne***

# ...a shared space...

- **The Relic** By John Donne

- **When my grave is broke up again**
- **Some second guest to entertain,**
- **(For graves have learn'd that womanhead,**
- **To be to more than one a bed)**
- **And he that digs it, spies**
- **A bracelet of bright hair about the bone,**
- **Will he not let'us alone,**
- **And think that there a loving couple lies,**
- **Who thought that this device might be some way**
- **To make their souls, at the last busy day,**
- **Meet at this grave, and make a little stay?**
- 
- 

- **If this fall in a time, or land,**
- **Where mis-devotion doth command,**
- **Then he, that digs us up, will bring**
- **Us to the bishop, and the king,**
- **To make us relics; then**
- **Thou shalt be a Mary Magdalen, and I**
- **A something else thereby;**
- **All women shall adore us, and some men;**
- **And since at such time miracles are sought,**
- **I would have that age by this paper taught**
- **What miracles we harmless lovers wrought.**



# ...for miraculous discovery

- **First, we lov'd well and faithfully,**
- **Yet knew not what we lov'd, nor why;**
- **Difference of sex no more we knew**
- **Than our guardian angels do;**
- **Coming and going, we**
- **Perchance might kiss, but not between those meals;**
- **Our hands ne'er touch'd the seals**
- **Which nature, injur'd by late law, sets free;**
- **These miracles we did, but now alas,**
- **All measure, and all language, I should pass,**
- **Should I tell what a miracle she was.**



He went from  
young “Jack”  
to older “Dr.  
John” Donne...

*Viri seraphici Joannis Donne Qua-  
dragenarij Effigies vera. Qui post  
eam aetatem Sacris initiatus Eccl-  
esiae S<sup>ti</sup> Pauli Decanus obiit.  
Ano D<sup>omi</sup>ni 1631<sup>o</sup>  
Aetatis suae 59<sup>o</sup>*

Dean of St.  
Paul's and the  
most popular  
preacher of his  
time...



King's sermon before the King from St Paul's Preaching Cross as foreseen in 1616. Again, note the presence of the  
for the sermon is Farley's suggestion, and not the one used in the event. Left-hand inner panel of diptych.

...in 1623, while ill of a fever, he wrote a meditation on the sound of bells...



## Meditation 17



PERCHANCE he for whom this bell tolls may be so ill as that he knows not it tolls for him. And perchance I may think myself so much better than I am, as that they who are about me, and see my state, may have caused it to toll for me, and I know not that. The church is catholic, universal, so are all her actions; all that she does, belongs to all. When she baptizes a child, that action concerns me; for that child is thereby connected to that head which is my head too, and ingrafted into that body, whereof I am a member. And when she buries a man, that action concerns me; all mankind is of one author, and is one volume; when one man dies, one chapter is not torn out of the book, but translated into a better language; and every chapter must be so translated; God employs several translators; some pieces are translated by age, some by sickness, some by war, some by justice; but God's hand is in every translation, and his hand shall bind up all our scattered leaves again, for that library where every book shall lie open to one another; as therefore the bell that rings to a sermon, calls not upon the preacher only, but upon the congregation to come; so this bell calls us all: but how much more me, who am brought so near the door by this sickness.

There was a contention as far as a suit (in which, piety and dignity, religion and estimation, were mingled) which of the religious orders should ring to prayers first in the morning; and it was determined, that they should ring first that rose earliest. If we understand aright the dignity of this bell, that tolls for our evening prayer, we would be glad to make it ours, by rising early, in that application, that it might be ours as well as his, whose indeed it is. The bell doth toll for him, that thinks it doth; and though it intermit again, yet from that minute, that that occasion wrought upon him, he is united to God. Who casts not up his eye to the sun when it rises? But who takes off his eye from a comet, when that breaks out? who bends not his ear to any bell, which upon any occasion rings? But who can remove it from that bell, which is passing a piece of himself out of this world?

No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main; if a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as well as if a manor of thy friend's or of thine own were; any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind, and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.

When Donne  
*was* dying in  
1631, he had  
a painting  
done in his  
shroud...




...which  
was then  
turned into  
a statue in  
St. Paul's  
Cathedral...



...which survived the Great Fire, and stands in Wren's cathedral today



During the lives of  
Shakespeare and Donne,  
religious divisions had  
not disappeared...







In 1605, renegade Catholics aided by Guy Fawkes tried to blow up Parliament...

...while Puritans scattered to Holland (1607) and New England (1620)...





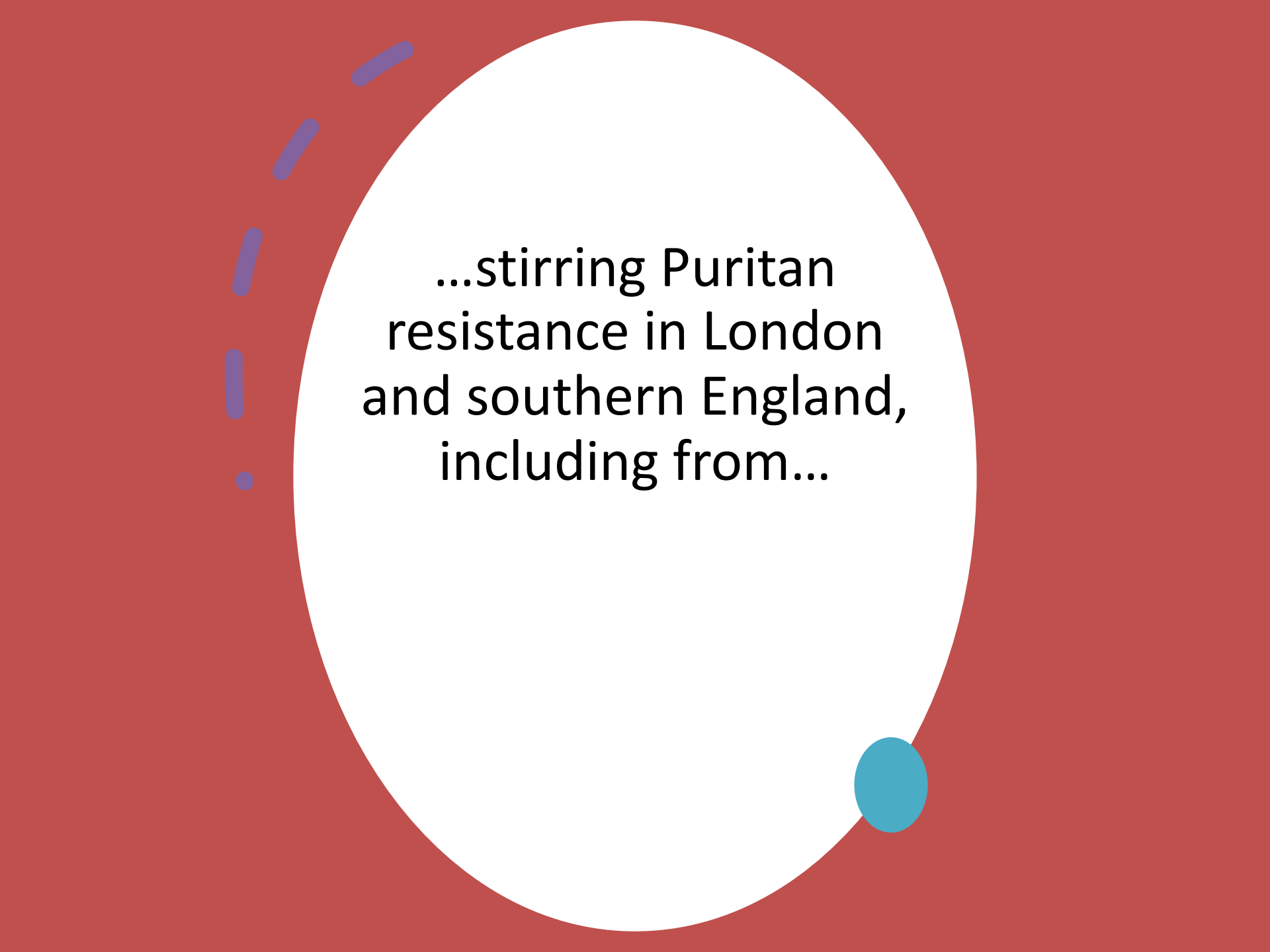
King James commissioned the very popular Authorized Version (1611)...

...but when  
he died in  
1625...



...his son Charles took a more aggressive tack...



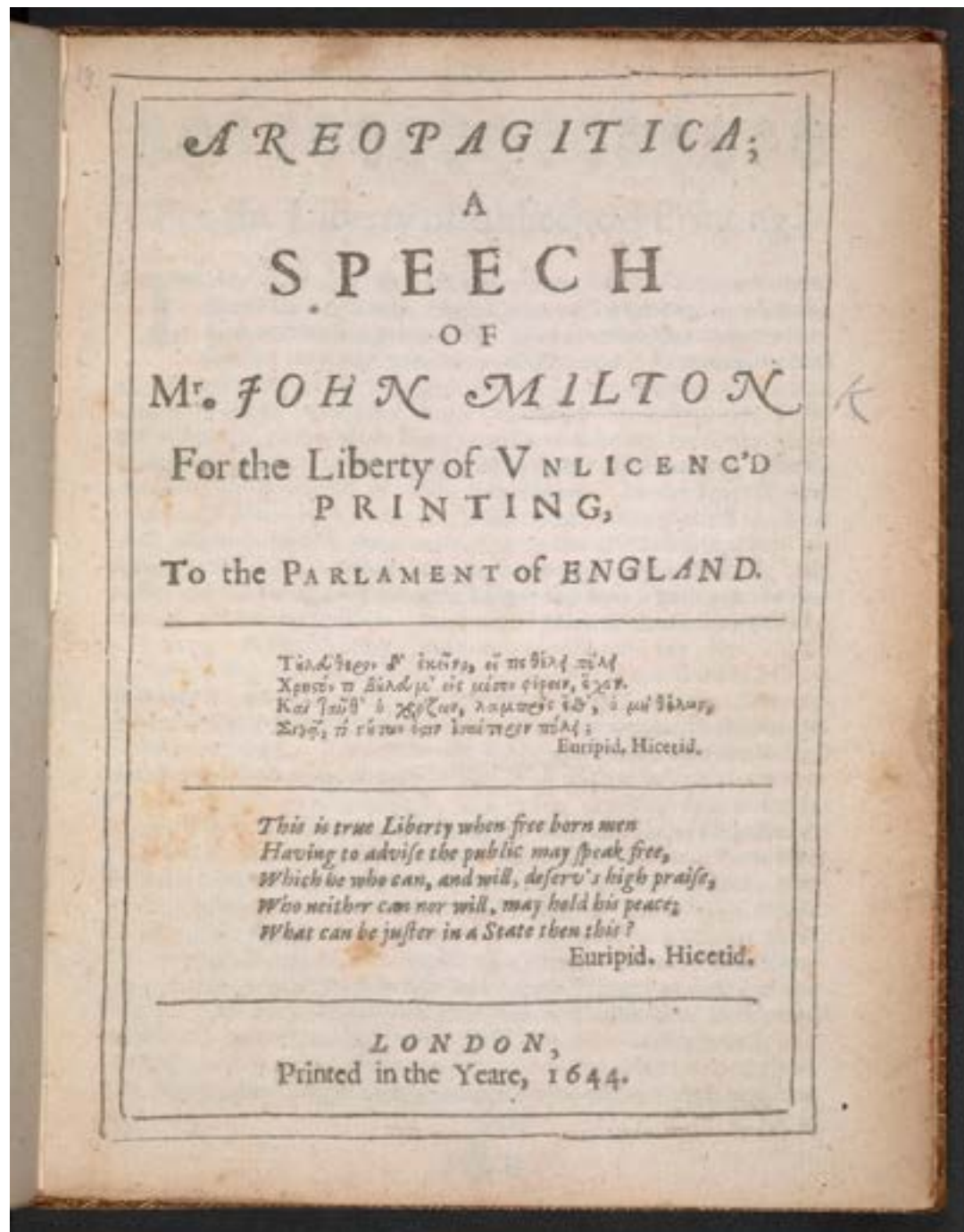


...stirring Puritan  
resistance in London  
and southern England,  
including from...



...the very  
independent  
John Milton  
(1608-1674)

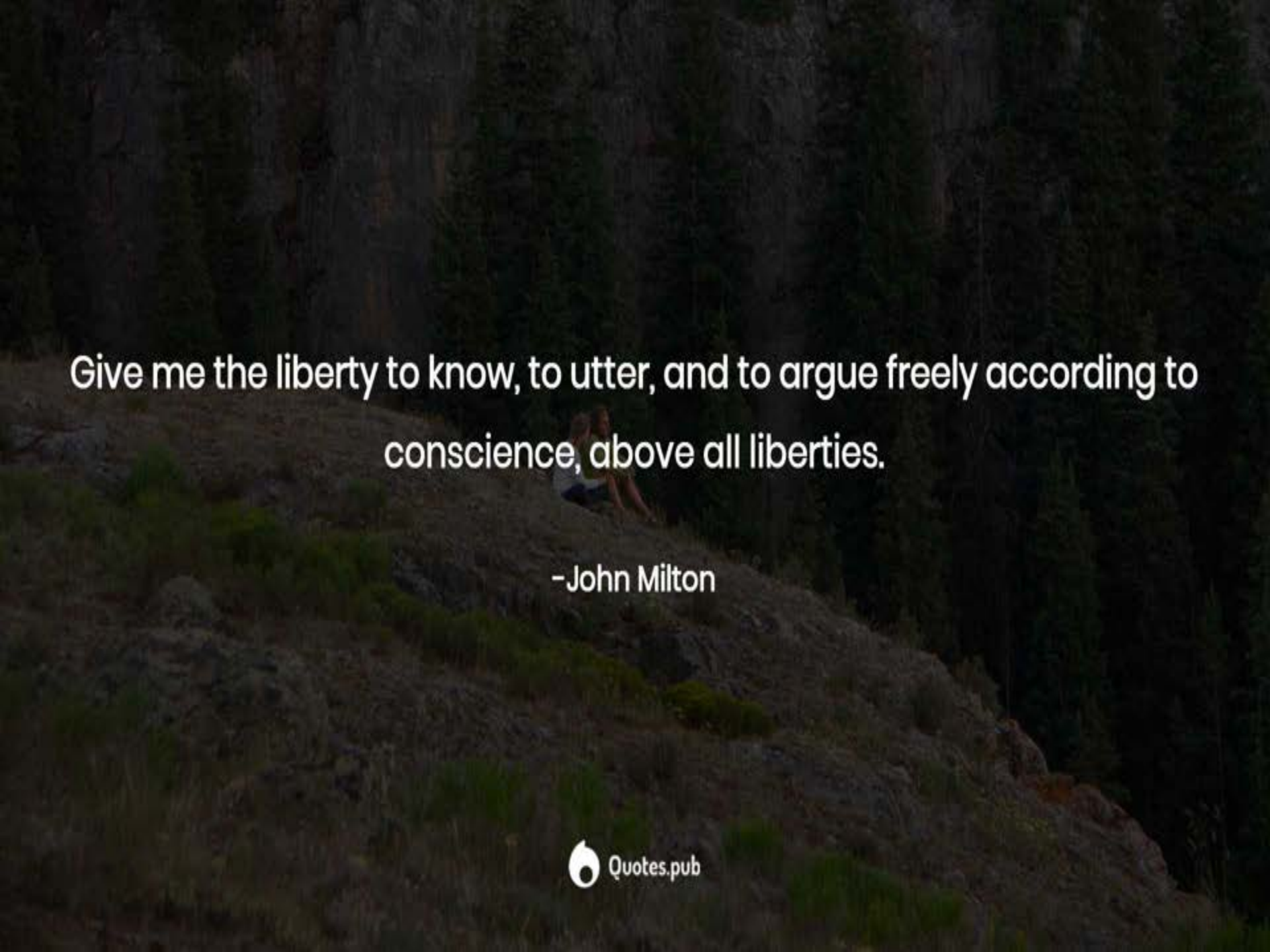
Milton  
attacked his  
fellow  
Puritans in  
*Areopagitica*  
(1644) for  
censoring the  
press :





For books are not absolutely dead things, but do contain a potency of life in them to be as active as that soul was whose progeny they are; nay, they do preserve as in a vial the purest efficacy and extraction of that living intellect that bred them.

-John Milton



Give me the liberty to know, to utter, and to argue freely according to  
conscience, above all liberties.

-John Milton

I cannot praise a fugitive and cloistered virtue, unexercised and unbreathed, that never sallies out and sees her adversary, but slinks out of the race where that immortal garland is to be run for, not without dust and heat.

-John Milton

Milton also wrote  
Sonnets both  
praising and warning  
Puritan General  
Oliver Cromwell to  
fight Monarchy...



...and Milton wrote four books  
defending Cromwell's trial and  
execution in 1649 of Charles I ...



...outside the Whitehall Banqueting House that still stands today



John Milton



The power of Kings and Magistrates is nothing else, but what is only derivative, transferrd and committed to them in trust from the People, to the Common good of them all, in whom the power yet remains fundamentally, and cannot be takn from them, without a violation of thir natural birthright.

AZ QUOTES

# The Restoration

**But Cromwell died in 1658...**



**& Charles II crowned in 1660**

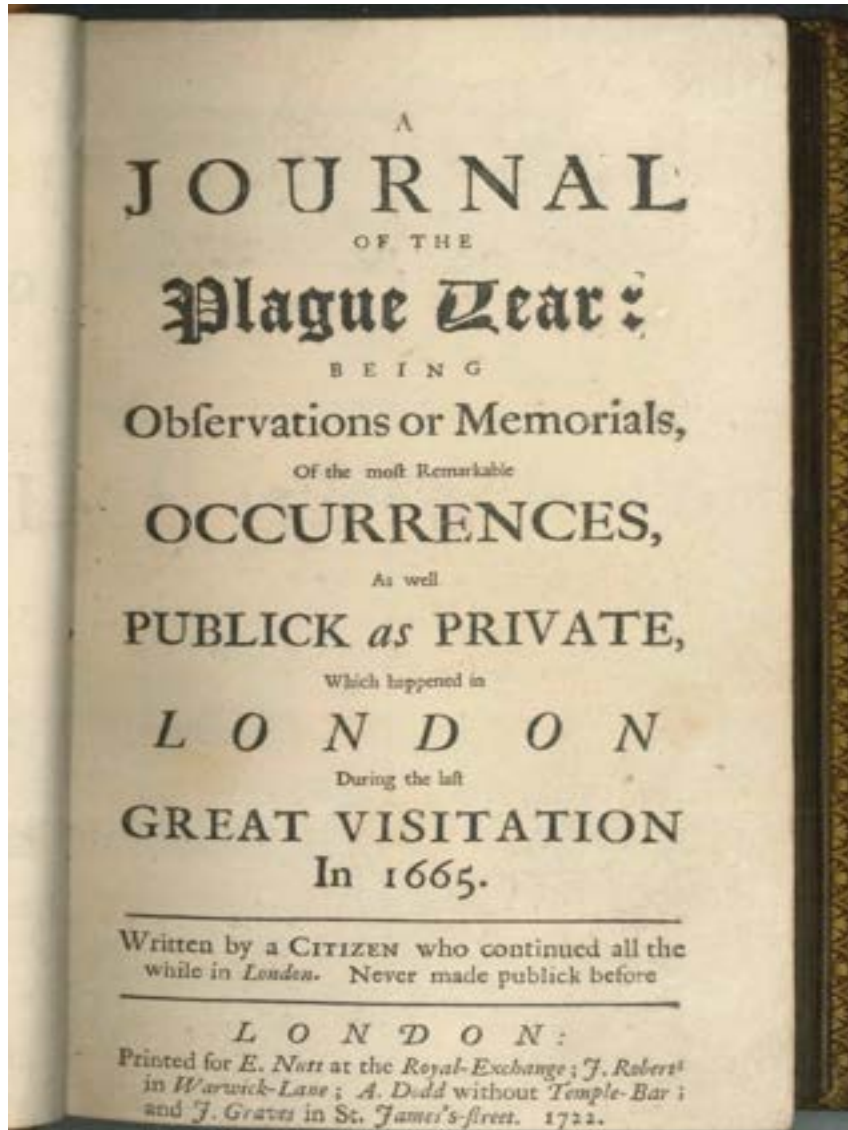




# A New Map of the Cities of London and Westminster and Ye Borough of Southwarke with their Suburbs (1675; based on Wenceslas Hollar's retrospective)



# Defoe, *A Journal of the Plague Year*



It was about the beginning of September, 1664, that I, among the rest of my neighbours, heard in ordinary discourse that the plague was returned again in Holland. . . . We had no such thing as printed newspapers in those days to spread rumours and reports of things, and to improve them by the invention of men, as I have lived to see practised since.

1665





LONDON'S Dreadful Visitation:

Or, A COLLECTION of All the

# Bills of Mortality

*George Morning*  
For this Present Year:

*Shoreditch & Co*  
Beginning the 20<sup>th</sup>. of Decem<sup>r</sup> 1664. and  
ending the 19<sup>th</sup>. of December following:

The usual number of burials within the bills of mortality for a week was from about 240 or thereabouts to 300. The last was esteemed a pretty high bill; but after this we found the bills successively increasing as follows:—

Buried. Increased.

December the 20th to the 27th	291	...
” ” 27th ” 3rd January	349	58
January the 3rd ” 10th ”	394	45
” ” 10th ” 17th ”	415	21
” ” 17th ” 24th ”	474	59



HOWING-EVENT.

"BRING OUT YOUR DEAD."

Painting and frame.com

1770



"In that very Moment, when we might very well say, Vain was the Help of Man; I say in that very Moment it pleased God, with a most agreeable Surprize, to cause the Fury of it to abate, even of it self . . . the very first Week's Bill decreased 1843, a vast Number indeed!

"It is impossible to express the Change that appear'd in the very Countenances of the People, that *Thursday* Morning when the Weekly Bill came out; it might have been perceived in their Countenances, that a secret Surprize and Smile of Joy sat on every Bodies Face; they shook one another by the Hands in the Streets, who would hardly go on the same Side of the way with one another before" (245).

"A dreadful Plague in London was,  
In the Year Sixty Five,  
Which swept an Hundred Thousand Souls  
Away; yet I alive!  
H.F."





“Samuel Pepys” (1633-1703)  
by John Hayls, 1666



# Medieval and Tudor “jetties”



A TRUE AND EXACT PROSPECT OF THE FAMOUS CITY OF LONDON, FROM S<sup>t</sup>. MARIE OVERS

L O N

Cathedral of S<sup>t</sup>. Paul



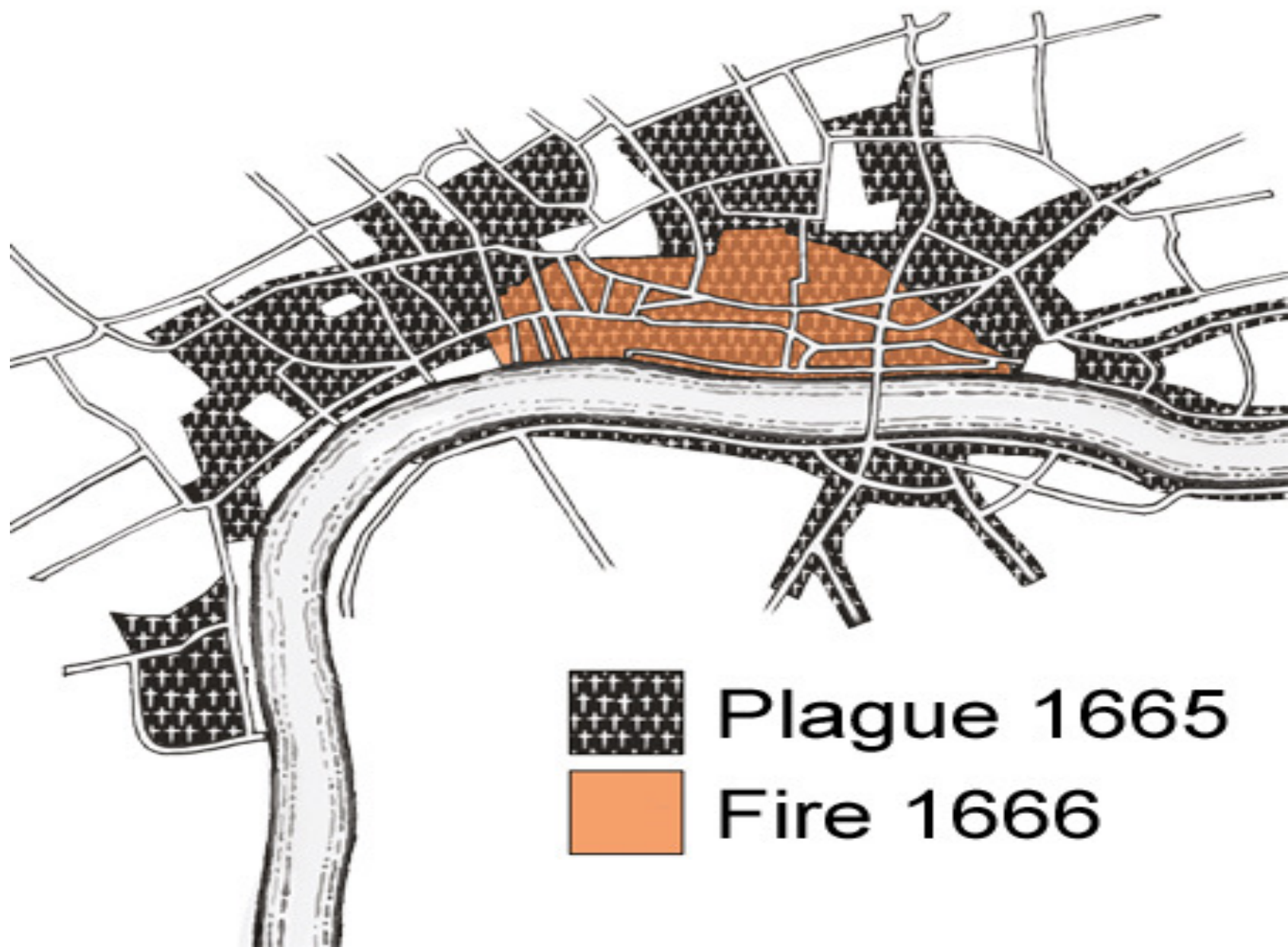
THE RIVER

ANOTHER PROSPECT OF THE SAID CITY TAKEN FROM THE SAME PLACE AS IT



- |                     |                          |                                  |                                   |                                   |                                   |                                   |                                   |                                   |                                   |                                   |                                   |
|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Temple Church    | 4. S. Beave              | 7. S. Martin by Ludgate          | 10. S. Nicholas                   | 13. S. Peter                      | 16. S. Mary Abchurch              | 19.                               | 22. Abchurch Lane                 | 25. S. Mary Woolnoth              | 28. S. Christopher                | 31. S. Michael Cornhill           | 34. S. Dunst.                     |
| 2. S. Dunstons West | 5. S. Andrew in Wardour  | 8. S. Andrew in Holborn          | 11. Chesham Church                | 14. S. Dunstons in the East       | 17. S. Thomas Apostle             | 20. S. Lawrence                   | 23. S. Andrew Colechurch          | 26. S. Licence                    | 29. S. Bartholomew                | 32. S. Dunstons in the West       | 35. S. Dunstons in the New Church |
| 3. S. Bride         | 6. S. Dunstons in Thanet | 9. S. Dunstons in the Old Church | 12. S. Dunstons in the New Church | 15. S. Dunstons in the Old Church | 18. S. Dunstons in the Old Church | 21. S. Dunstons in the Old Church | 24. S. Dunstons in the Old Church | 27. S. Dunstons in the Old Church | 30. S. Dunstons in the Old Church | 33. S. Dunstons in the Old Church | 36. S. Dunstons in the Old Church |

Scald by John Cowton, at the White Horse, in little Brittain, next door to little S. Bartholomew's gate.



“the better to preserve the memory of this dreadful visitation”





PUCKRIDGE. FOOT

HARRIS. L.





# St. Olave's Church (details)

