

“conserant, ut apes ingeniosæ e toto Gymnasio Oxoniensi convolantes ex eo exugere atque excerpere poterunt. Quod non tam ipsi in alimentum, quam Anglorum Universitati in commodum, decus et honorem, ad Dei optimi maximi laudem, convertant. Quorum trium unus sit Latinæ linguæ seminator et plantator, qui Lector seu Professor artium humanitatis appelletur, qui in aulâ nostri Collegii aut alibi loco publico in Universitate, si ita videatur Præsidenti et majori parti septem seniorum, publicè legat Secundus autem herbarius nostri alvearii Græcorum Græcæque linguæ erit et appellabitur Lector Herbarius denique tertius nuncupabitur et erit Lector sacræ theologiæ Sint hi tres Collegii Socii; quorum singuli, ultra convictus et vestis portionem, ac ultra pensionem et singula aliâ emolumenta quæ de nostro Collegio alias essent percepturi, certam pensionem et stipendium, pro lecturis et cæteris quæ eorum officio hujusmodi incumbunt, de bonis communibus nostri Collegii, per manus Dispensatorum, singulis annis ad quatuor anni terminos per æquales ejusdem stipendii portiones, recipient. Et si ad cujusvis Lectoris vacans officium nullus nostri Collegii idoneus, Præsidentis et eligentium prædictorum judicio, reperitur; vel si quispiam in nostro Collegio idoneus, multo tamen et doctior et ad id muneris quasi incomparabiliter aptior foris eorundem judicio inveniat, qui in Socium nostri Collegii eligi et ascribi cupiat, nec mores refragentur; tunc eum omnibus nostri Collegii Sociis et Scholaribus ad id officium præferri, et in Lectorem publicum, ac etiam in vorum ac perpetuum Socium nostri Collegii pro loco suæ diocesis aut comitatus, si tunc in Collegio vacaverit, sin minus pro alio loco vacante, quem electores in ejus electione prævalentes ei assignare maluerint, intra quindecim dies post ejus electionem ad officium, per Præsidentem vel Vicepræsidentem, absque ullâ aliâ electione, assumi et admitti volumus: gradu, patriâ, beneficio unico quocunque, ac statuto de temporibus et formâ electionis scholarium ad biennem probationem, non obstantibus: dummodo in Angliâ, Græciâ, vel Italiâ ultra Padum, natus fuerit, quem etiam tum ab obligatione præstandâ, tum a vinculo juramenti prædicta concernentis, per præsentem absolvimus. Permittimus, quoque, ut si tales reperiantur extranei, cujusunque patriæ, incomparabiliter in literis Græcis aut Latinis excellentes, qui tamen pro eo salario ac cæteris a Collegio emolumentis, lectiones Græcas aut Latinas uti præferuntur interpretandas, una cum cæteris ad ea officia attinentibus, suscipere noluerint, tunc in eo casu Præsidentis et electores stipendium talis excellentis de bonis Collegii augere poterunt. Lectores tamen nostri Collegii publicos, tantisper dum illo munere et officio fungantur, nec ad sacros Ordines suscipiendos, nec aliquam hujusmodi concionem habendam, arctari atque distringi volumus.”

Hisce verbis præfatus est, atque ad hunc modum mentem suam explicavit, munificentissimus ille Fundator, illud plane contemplatus ut non modo domesticis suis verum etiam toti Academiæ Lectores ab illo constituti prodessent, impedimenta quæcunque removenda significans quæ optimo apertissimoque adversari viderentur ne eligeretur, vel ne electus permaneret. Cum vero Lectores hujusmodi, secundum Statuti formam et regulam legentes, vix satis Academiæ profuerint, illa autem Professorem linguæ et literarum Latinarum constituendum duxerit: Cum etiam Præsidentis et Socii Collegii hujusce, propositi illius memores quod

“the bees of the whole University may have recourse to us, and, gathering of our sweetness, support themselves, and better still, gain honour and profit for this English University, to the praise of Almighty God. Of these three, one is to plant the germs of the Latin language, and to be called Lecturer or Professor of Humanity; he is to lecture publicly in the Hall of the College, or in some other public place within the University, if the President and majority of the seven senior Fellows think fit. . . Our second gardener is to be Lecturer in the Greek language. . . The third is to be Lecturer in Sacred Theology. . . These three are to be Fellows of the College, and each is to receive quarterly payments from the Bursar for lecturing and discharging the other duties of his office, in addition to the provision for clothing and maintenance which he would otherwise have. And if upon a vacancy of one of these offices, the President and before-mentioned electors determine, either that no member of the College is fit to succeed to it, or that a person of good character, though a stranger to the College, is, in learning and other qualifications, much fitter for the office than any member of the College, then that stranger is to have the preference above all the Fellows and Probationers of our College, and is to be admitted a public Lecturer; and not later than fifteen days afterwards the President and Vice-President are to admit him as an actual Fellow for his own diocese and county, if vacant, or if not vacant, then for any such diocese and county as may be vacant, the Statute concerning the mode of election of Probationers notwithstanding, and notwithstanding his degree and place of birth and his property be not as required by Statute; provided only that he be a native of England, Greece, or Italy beyond the Po. And by these Presents we release him from giving a bond, and from the obligation of the oath respecting the before-mentioned points. We also permit the President and electors to increase the salary for a foreigner, in case one who is above all comparison excellent in Greek or Latin literature, is unwilling to undertake the office of Lecturer without an increase of salary. The public Lecturers, so long as they exercise their office, are not bound either to take Holy Orders or to preach.”

With these words of preface, our munificent Founder set forth his wishes, plainly meaning that his Lecturers should be serviceable to the whole University, and not his own College only, and providing for the removal of every obstacle which might interfere either with the election of the best candidate, or with his continuance in office after election. On the one hand, however, these Lecturers, whilst discharging their office according to the rules of the Statute, have scarcely been of sufficient service to the University: on the other hand, the University has itself established a Professor of Latin language and literature; wherefore