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JoAnna Dutka, editor

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# Records of Early English Drama

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1985's first issue contains notes by Marion Colthorpe (Cambridge, England) on a hitherto-unprinted entertainment for Queen Elizabeth I; by Robert Alexander (Point Park College, Pittsburgh), editor for REED of Bath's dramatic records, giving corrections of errors in printed records from that city; by J. A. B. Somerset (University of Western Ontario) on computer files for headings. Also in this issue is the second part of Abigail Young's study of Latin terms for plays, players and performance drawn from REED and Malone Society record collections.

MARION COLTHORPE

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## An entertainment for Queen Elizabeth I at Wimbledon in 1599

Queen Elizabeth I stayed with Thomas Cecil, second Lord Burghley, at his manor-house at Wimbledon in Surrey from Friday afternoon 27 July 1599 until Monday 30 July.<sup>1</sup> Verses of welcome spoken by a 'Porter' called John Joye are preserved at the Bodleian Library.<sup>2</sup> The Queen had also been greeted by a Porter and presented with a key at Kenilworth in 1575 and at Cowdray in 1591. At both Kenilworth and Cowdray the Porters' speeches were part of much longer entertainments, and it may be that the Wimbledon Porter's verses were merely the opening of the Wimbledon entertainment. Several letters from Lord Burghley about the visit have survived, but they are concerned solely with the provision of food and with the difficulties caused by the Queen's continual postponements of her visit.<sup>3</sup>

The queenes enterteinement at Wimbleton. 99. [Endorsement]

Moste Noble prince I am porter  
ech man must be knowne in his office  
my witt is weake and needes Supporter  
to speake to *your* majestie by some advise

But what skills soe I think well  
and speake as I thinke  
twixt the thought and the word  
can be noe better linke

My name is Jhon Joye  
to see *your* Grace heere  
a feaste of a trew hart  
shalbe *your* best cheere

The bunch of keyes that comands *every* gate  
dewty, love, loyalty, constancye to ye state  
If any will ask whoe wrought these keyes  
the vertues of *your* minde the faire power of *your* eyes  
It is the fittest and the finest smith  
to bolt and lock in mens harts therewith  
But that *your* highnes may not stay to knock  
take this double key and open every lock  
Even the lock of his hart to whose house you ar come  
where of fayth you shall finde a sound built Rome.

#### NOTES

- 1 N.E. McClure (ed), *Letters of John Chamberlain* (Philadelphia, 1939), 1, 79.
- 2 MS Tanner 306, vol 2, f 266, printed by permission of the Bodleian Library, Oxford.
- 3 HMC *Calendar of Salisbury MSS*, ix(1902), 225, 236, 239. HMC *Calendar of Buccleuch MSS*, 1(1899), 235. The name John Joye sounds like a deliberate coinage, (no one of this name appears in the Wimbledon parish registers, printed by the Surrey Record Society), but a real John Joye wrote from Belvoir Castle to the Earl of Rutland on 27 March 1604 (HMC *Calendar of Rutland MSS*, 1(1888), 394).

ROBERT ALEXANDER

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## Corrections of Bath dramatic records 1568–1620 in printed lists

Students of Elizabethan and Jacobean travelling performers will find useful the following corrections of John Tucker Murray's list of payments to players in Bath published in *English Dramatic Companies 1558–1642* (London, 1910), 2, 200–5.<sup>1</sup> Murray's list is based on that of Belville S. Penley, who in turn relied on transcriptions by Major C.E. Davis (Penley, vii–viii). Faulty transcriptions by Major Davis or perhaps copying errors by Penley produced the following types of errors in the printed lists of Bath payments:

- 1 omissions;
- 2 inclusions of material not in the MSS;
- 3 mistranscriptions of names and dates.

The manuscript sources for Penley-Murray's list are the Bath *Chamberlains' Account*