

The Powers of the Crown in Scotland

Being a Translation, with notes and an
Introductory Essay, of

George Buchanan's "De Jure
Regni Apud Scotos"

by

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PREFACE

[v] This translation of George Buchanan's *De Jure Regni apud Scotos* has been made in connection with a study, which I have been pursuing for some time, of theory of education in British political philosophy. Buchanan, Knox, and Melville were the three leaders of the sixteenth century reformation of Scottish education; and an important part of Buchanan's contribution to this reformation, was to supply the classical statement of its political principles. The *De Jure Regni* in which this statement was fully formulated exercised an immense influence over the development of political philosophy in Great Britain and North America. My study of theory of education in British political theory, therefore, made a close study of Buchanan's treatise necessary. In connection with this study I made use of both the Latin text and an English rendering of the work, published in London, in 1689—there was an edition of the work in 1680—by a translator who hid his identity behind the pseudonym Philalethes.

So great is the worth of Buchanan's political essay, that I no sooner became fully familiar with it than I became impressed with the importance of seeing the work made readily accessible to modern students. It is not readily accessible now, for not only are copies of the book rare, but the editions which are to be had lack notes; so that, even when a copy of the work is at hand, Buchanan's thought is still hard to get at. I, therefore, have translated the Latin into English, using the text found in the collected edition of Buchanan's works, which was prepared by Thomas Rudiman and published at Edinburgh, in 1715, by Robert Fairbairn, under the title, *Georgii Buchanani Scoti, Poetarum sui seculi facile Principis, Opera Omnia*.

Buchanan's dialogue is without any chapter divisions. The chapter divisions and headings in this English rendering are supplied by the translator.

I acknowledge, with a great deal of pleasure, the help given me by a number of persons in making this study and in preparing the manuscript for the press. Miss Lallande Witherspoon, and Mrs. R. C. Stephenson typed the manuscript for the printer. The staffs of the libraries of The University of [vi] Texas and the Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary have put me in their debt for many courtesies. I wish in particular to thank Miss Fannie Elizabeth Ratchford, Wrenn Librarian at The University of Texas, for kindness in facilitating my work in the rare book collections under her care.

The Research Council of The University of Texas made a grant under which assistance was provided for locating certain of the quotations with which the *De Jure* is so liberally sprinkled. Dr. O. S. Powers did this work.

Particular thanks are due to Professor R. A. Tsanoff, of the Rice Institute, and to Dean A. P. Brogan, Professor W. J. Battle, Professor Oscar W. Reinmuth, and Professor Harry J. Leon, all of The University of Texas. Professors Reinmuth and Leon assisted me in locating materials. Professor Tsanoff and Dean Brogan read the first draft of the translation, and made valuable suggestions with respect to particular points of translation, and of the sources of Buchanan's ideas. Professor Battle helped me repeatedly and, with unflinching kindness in the long task of annotating the translation. He also read the translation and made valued suggestions respecting it. The responsibility for the defects of this book is wholly that of the translator, but any good points it may have must be credited very largely to the erudition and kindness of these present and former colleagues of mine. The Research Council of the University made a grant for the publication of the book, and the officials of The University of Texas Press have helped me in various ways. I extend my thanks to the Council and to the Press.

My gratitude to my wife, Flora Register Arrowood, I have attempted to indicate in the dedication.

Charles F. Arrowood

The University of Texas
Austin
July 28, 1948

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The struggle over Catholicism and the Crown became a crisis when news was heard of a Catholic plot to murder Charles and put his brother James on the throne. In fact the plan did not exist. The story had been spread as a clever trick to frighten people and to make sure that James and the Catholics did not come to power. The trick worked. James had already shown his dislike of Protestants while he had been Charles's governor in Scotland. His soldiers had killed many Presbyterian men, women and children. This period is still remembered in some parts of Scotland as the "killing times". James then tried to remove the laws which stopped Catholics from taking positions in government and Parliament. THE POWERS OF THE CROWN IN SCOTLAND Being a Translation, with notes and an Introductory Essay, of George Buchanan's "De Jure Regni Apud Scottos." By Charles Flinn Arrowood. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1949. Pp. xi, 150. John T. McNeill (a1). (a1). Union Theological Seminary. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.2307/3162203>. Published online by Cambridge University Press: 28 July 2009. The Royal Court of Scotland was the administrative, political and artistic centre of the Kingdom of Scotland. It emerged in the tenth century and continued until it ceased to function when James VI inherited the throne of England in 1603. For most of the medieval era, the king had no "capital" as such. The Pictish centre of Forteviot was the chief royal seat of the early Gaelic Kingdom of Alba that became the Kingdom of Scotland. In the twelfth and thirteenth centuries Scone was a centre for royal