

JESUS COLLEGE ARCHIVES

JC:PRI8

PAPERS OF JOSEPH HOARE (PR. 1768-1802)

Joseph Hoare, son of Joseph of Cardiff, plebeian, matriculated from Jesus College on 14 March 1726/7 aged 18. He took his BA in 1730, his MA in 1733, his BD in 1741, and his DD in 1768. He was a Fellow from 1734-62. Hoare was elected Principal in 1768, and remained in post until his death on 26 June 1802 aged 96. He was the first married Principal of the College.

According to his obituary in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, Hoare had been appointed a Prebendary of Westminster Abbey in 1762, and was Rector of Turweston, Northants. In 1761 Hoare attended Lord Harcourt when travelling to Mecklenburg-Strelitz, and participated in the proxy wedding of Princess Charlotte to George III.

Hoare's death was a bizarre one. By now very deaf, one day he sat in his chair upon the tail of his pet cat (other sources suggest that someone moved a table onto the cat's tail). He could not hear the cat's cries, and eventually the cat had to scratch his leg to attract attention. The wounds left by the cat grew septic, and eventually fatal.

Only a few papers which can be linked to Joseph Hoare are left at Jesus College: there is, however, a large collection of his literary and scientific notes held at Glamorgan Archives, Cardiff (ref. DBJ/V/220/1-34). These papers mainly relate also to Hoare's academic research, comprising a pair of notebooks, and some scattered pieces of paper.

Although many of the documents here are not signed, they can be compared with verifiable examples of Hoare's writing (such as the accounts he kept as Senior Bursar), and the ascriptions made below are based on this.

Catalogued in January 2020.

JC:PRI8/CI - CORRESPONDENCE

JC:PRI8/CI/1

23 Mar 1795

Letter from J. Roberts (address, Llanbedrog) to Principal Hoare. He has been hearing news of Hoare's health from his son, and discusses problems associated with one Thomas Owen. He also discusses the future prospects of his son, who is about to take his MA. His son must be John Roberts, who matriculated from Jesus college on 24 May 1788, aged 15, and took his BA in 1792 and his MA in 1795.

JC:PRI8/MSI – NOTEBOOKS OF JOSEPH HOARE

JC:PRI8/MSI/1

1679-1725

Small vellum-bound notebook (105 fol.) inscribed on the front cover "Joseph Hoare his Book May 24 1725". On the inside front cover is also written "Joseph Hoare his Book May 24 1725". The book comprises the following miscellanea on classics, history and theology:

Fols. 1r-2v: Miscellaneous notes on theology and history.

Fols. 3r-10v: A summary account of the early history of Rome.

Fols. 11r-11v: blank.

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Fols. 12r-15r: "Verses out of Waller". A series of extracts from the poetry of Edmund Waller (1606-87).

Fols. 15v-16r: blank.

Fols. 16v-20r: Essay titled "An Account of the different Sects among the Jews." This deals with Jewish sects existing just before and during the lifetime of Jesus.

Fols. 20v-21v: blank.

Fols. 22r-23r: A collection of short Latin poems, mostly written in elegiac couplets. It is not clear whether they are original compositions (or translations) by Hoare, or copies of poems by other authors.

Fol. 23v: blank.

Fol. 24r: "A Collection of Subjects for Epigrams." Just one item is given.

Fols. 24v-25v: blank.

Fols. 26r-31r: "A Summary of Particulars in the History of England beginning with Henry the Eighth's Reign". A summary account of British history, 1509-47, arranged by year.

Fols. 31v-59v: blank.

[All the items from fols. 60r to the end are entered in reverse order, starting at the other end of the book.]

Fols. 60r-70v: "The most Remarkable Passages in Potter's Greek Antiquities Elected". This is a collection of notes made from John Potter, *Archaeologiae Graecae, or The Antiquities of Greece* (first published 1697, and regularly reprinted).

Fols. 71r-74v: blank.

Fols. 75r-86r: A series of notes on British History, from the Phoenicians to 1666 (the Great Fire of London).

Fol. 86v: blank.

Fols. 87r-90v: Another collection of Latin verses, almost all written in elegiac couplets.

Fols. 91r-102v: A series of notes on Homer's *Iliad*, discussing particular Greek phrases and words. This section refers regularly to Alexander Pope's translation of the *Iliad*, first published complete in 1720.

Fol. 103r: A note on the walls of Babylon.

Fols. 103v-105r: Notes on calendars, including how to calculate the date of Easter.

Inside back cover. There are two more inscriptions of "Joseph Hoare his Book", but these are dated 6 August 1679 and 20 June 1673. Another inscription, "Joseph Hoare his hand & Pen" is dated 1724.

It would seem, then, that the book was first used by an older Joseph Hoare, perhaps his father or grandfather, and then taken up by the young Joseph Hoare shortly before he came up to Oxford. However, the entries in the book all seem to be written in one hand, with the possible exception of the notes on Homer on fols. 91r-102v, but these are the notes which refer to Pope's *Iliad*, which only the young Joseph Hoare could have read. The notebook is therefore offered with some uncertainty as to how much of it is actually written in Joseph Hoare's hand.

JC:PRI8/MSI/2

n.d. (c. 1730-1800)

Notebook (270 pages), bound in vellum, written in the hand of Joseph Hoare. It contains transcripts of many papers relating to the Glorious Revolution of 1688/9,

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starting with the petition of the Seven Bishops against James II's Declaration of Indulgence in May 1688. The texts copied out by Hoare include discussions of the legitimacy of the revolution, and of the rights and wrongs of toleration for dissenters.

JC:PRI8/MS2 – LOOSE PAPERS OF JOSEPH HOARE

JC:PRI8/MS2/1 **n.d. (c. 1730-1800?)**
Six scraps of paper written in the hand of Joseph Hoare, on philosophy and theology. They seem to be Hoare's own notes, rather than extracts from other sources.

JC:PRI8/MS2/2 **n.d. (c. 1730-1800?)**
Some scraps of paper written in the hand of Joseph Hoare, as follows:
(1) Some epigrams on philosophy, several of them taken from Plutarch.
(2) A few notes taken from the *Cato Major* of Plutarch, based on an edition of A. Wechel published at Frankfurt in 1595.
(3) Some notes taken from Forster's edition of Plato.
(4) Three texts, two in Latin and one in Greek, on rhetoric and philosophy. One of the Latin texts is titled "Tria Genera Causarum".

JC:PRI8/MS2/3 **n.d. (c. 1730-1800?)**
Three sheets of paper, in the hand of Joseph Hoare, which comprise excerpts from George Sandys, *A Relation of a Journey begun an: Dom: 1610* (first published 1610 and regularly reprinted), relating to Sandys's travels in Sicily and Campania.

JC:PRI8/MS2/4 **n.d. (c. 1730-1800?)**
MS sheet titled "Rect to make Raisin Wine", which is almost certainly written in Joseph Hoare's hand.

JC:PRI8/MS3 – ACCOUNT OF HOARE'S DEATH

JC:PRI8/MS3/1 **n.d. (19th cent.?)**
Handwritten copy of an obituary and an epitaph for Hoare which were both published in the *Gentleman's Magazine* of 1802. It is not known when the copy was made, but it appears to date from the second half of the 19th century.