

# The Accounting Historians Notebook

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## Poetry from Peele; Academy thanks donors

James Peele

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### POETRY FROM PEELE

Academy secretary, Al Roberts, has submitted the following poem taken from James Peele's *Manner and Fourme*, published in 1553. James Peele did on occasion lapse into verse in order to stress a point. The message of this verse may be appropriate today.

An exhortation to learne sciences especially of the  
accompt in the trade of merchandise

As lacke of Science caueth povertie,  
And dooeth abate mans estimation,  
So learning dooeth brynge to prosperitie,  
Suche as of goodes have finall possession,

Then muste we counte hym ware, discrete, and wyse,  
Whyle tyme dooeth serve, can tyme so well retheyne.  
That in good tyme hym tymely can advyse,  
Tyme well to spende, and tourne it to his gayne.

For tyme well spent to gayne and not to waste,  
The gayne will byde, though tyme dooth passe and runne.  
But all to late, yf tyme shall ones [once] bee paste,  
For tyme ones [once] loste, can not a gayne bee wonne.

In tyme beganne kyng Dionysius,  
Some thyng to learne, and it in tyme to take,  
His kyngdome loste in tyme he ganne saye thus,  
I wyll take tyme, leas tyme shall me forsake,

The youthe also I will instruct and teache.  
Somme thyng to learne, and in tyme to beware,  
So maye they rule, thoughte in greate heate and breache,  
Fortune shall frowne, and theym would make full bare

Thus dydde I rule, my kyngedome gone and loste,  
Whych beeynge kyng, no kyngely power coulede have,  
Thus may eche man fynde wealth in towne and coast,  
When wealthe is gone, that they moste fayne woulde save.

O woorthy prince, though fortune sought thy ende.  
Yet thou in tyme as bookes dooth it recorde,  
Dydst make fortune to the(e) bothe boowe and bende,  
As bonde to thee, and servile to her lorde.

Sithe knowledge then, is of such price and grace,  
And tyme ones [once] loste, will not agayne renewe,  
Learne well this booke, while you have time and space,  
That you the lacke dooe not lamente and rewe.

J.P.

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