

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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