

Description of An Hieroglyphical Watch or Clock (1622)

Transcript

British Library, Additional MS 28640, ff. 127v–128r

127v

[*Left margin:* This I had of Mr Lammas in the latter end of the yeare 1622.] A Description of an Hieroglyphicall Watch or Clocke found in the Library of Prague in Bohemia, at the taking of the Citie in the forme of a square clocke standing upon fower globes or balles in height halfe a foote.

- 1 Vpon the Clocke in the top was a Diall hauing sixe houres, the hande standing at one. In a Circle round about it were written these words *Me non audies sed uidebis* And in the fower empty corners the Pictures of the 4 Monarchies in Daniell. Vpon the foreparte of the watche these wordes *Viua manus Hussiana me pr[a]eparauit*. Vpon the right side these *Fatum non pondus me mouet*. Vpon the lefte side these *Motus meus finietur periodo sexta*. Vpon the backside these *Genio Hussiano rediuiuo reuelor*.
- 2 And vnder the bottome in the 4 corners 4 Escocheons. In the 2 corners next the backe, First an {Eagle displayed & then A white Lyon rampant with a forked taile, / the Armes of Bohemia. On the other 2 Corners First a Lyon Lyon sable the A^rmes of Flanders & Burgundie; then a double white Crosse / the Armes of Hungary in parte. In the Centre or middle of the bottome, these wordes, *Deus pr[a]edestinauit Tempus demonstrabit Vigilans non dormiens me intelliget*.
- 3 Within the watche, when the Curious screwes were turned nothing was founde but a booke gilded a Booke gilded consisting of 8 virgin parchment leaves. The first leafe being the Title leafe had these wordes *Periodus Roma{e} in Imperij per sex Mansiones partita Diuina Reuelatione annota{e}* & belowe at the bottome *Homine uili suppresso*. The last leafe v[i]z the Conclusion leafe had on the MDCXXVI top [*Left margin:* 1626.] these numerall letters MDCXXVI & in the midst of the leafe & downwardes *Vnus Pastor vnum ouile*.
- 4 The 6 leaves ~~contained~~ ^{included} within these 2, contained in Hieroglyph{i}call expressions the 6 motions of the Clocke to be accomplished in so many yeeres. The Hieroglyphickes are called Mansion{s} In the top of every one the yeere of four Lorde in numerall letters. MDCXX. MDCXXI. &c.

128r

- 5 The Hieroglyphicke of the Mansion 1620 is A Lyon lying all along on the grounde, his forehalfe White, his hinder blacke, On his heades standes an Eagle displayed with 2 heades treading him downe with the Armes of Austria on his brest. On his hindermost parte standes ranging over him a Sable Lyon with a staffe or speare thrusting him thorough.
- 6 In the second Mansion ~~1621~~ for 1621 is on the right side an Escocheon with 7 White towers in a Redd field the Armes of [th]e Prince of Transiluania / On the Lefte side another Escocheon with a double Crosse the Armes of Hungary. These 2 joyne hands, ouer which ioyning of handes is a Laurall Crowne & through it towards the sides ij Palme branches.

- 7 In the Mansion 1622 is A Woman standing on a winged globe flying / in her right hande An Oliue branche of Peace / but looking to her Laurall garland in her Lefte hande.
- 8 In the Mansion for 1623 is The Globe of Earth eleuated according to the Latitude of Germany vpon the top of which stands a Sworde with the pointe up to the Heauen & vnder the bottome a Dead mans skull. Vpon the East-side or towards the right hand *Trisulcum fulmen* a theefold wrigling thunder & lightning with fire breaking out of the globe / & vpon the west side a fayer Roman F.
- 9 In the Mansion for 1624 is the Globe of the earth all blacke and couered with darknes yet in the Center or middle thereof A litle candle or light twinckling.
- 10 In the Mansion for 1625 are 4 Escocheons tyed together. In the first & chiefe place standes the ~~Armes of Hungary~~ whole Armes of Hungary empaled. On the right handes somewhat belowe hang the Imperiall Eagle with the Armes of Austria on her breste / On the lefte side hangs one parte / or the single Armes of Hungary v[i]z the double white Crosse. but just vnderneath the foresaide empaled armes, is the White Lyon the Armes of Bohemia. According to the position are these 4 tyed together, & through the middest of their knotte thrust crosse-wise 2 longe palme branches. This is the [*Left margin*:Mansio[n]] laste Motion or Hieroglyphicke. After which followes the Conclusion before 1626 as before.

Finis.

Other manuscript witnesses

- British Library, Harley MS 852, ff. 32v–33v
- Cambridge University Library, MS Ee.5.56, ff. 4r–5r

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<https://mpese.ac.uk/t/DescriptionAnHieroglyphicalWatchClock1622.html>