

To the Right Worshipful,

Sr. JAMES LEE, K<sup>t</sup>.

The Kings Majesties Attorney of His Court of  
*Wards and Livories*; and to the Right Worship-  
ful, and my very good Uncle, *Thomas Spencer*,  
*Esq;* and to the residue of my Masters of Lin-  
colns-Inn.

**I**T may peradventure seem strange, that after so many learned  
Writers in this kind, I (a man of so weak parts) should  
presume to offer to the View of the World a Work of this Na-  
ture: Yet my Reasons being considered with indifferent fa-  
vour, I hope to be excused not only with you, but with all others that  
be lovers of their Country, and seek the Peace thereof. I confess  
my self a long, yet an unprofitable Member of your Honourable  
Society; but seeing that my Calling is to a Country life, and con-  
sidering that he which is of the meanest condition, and that hath  
the smallest Talent, may not (without just Reprehension) retire  
himself so to his private Pleasure or Profit, as that he should neglect  
to shew some fruit and token of his love to his Country, (lest  
therein the Heathen Philosopher might justly condemn him, who  
said, Non solum nobis pati sumus, sed partim Patriæ, &c.)  
I have been the bolder, according to my Place, small power and  
capacity, to offer this my small Mite into the Treasury of my  
Country, this Work (wharsoever it be) being written first as  
private Notes for my particular help in this business, wherewith  
my self and many others are daily employed and set on work, with-  
out yielding any Pleasure or Profit at all to us, otherwise than for  
the publick good.

The sweet of like labours you, my great Masters, (which I do  
most gladly behold) do from time to time reap more fully, rising  
daily to great Honour and Wealth, through your Wisdoms, Deserts,  
and great pains. That which remaineth to us Country-Justices  
(for the most part) is the wearying of our selves, the spending of  
our Time, Wits and Estates, ut alii inde pace fruuntur, being  
required many times not only with much evil will from or by the  
means of such as we have in Justice to deal withal, but oftentimes  
also rather disgraced than countenanced or encouraged by some in  
higher place.