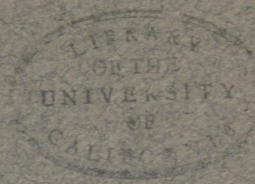


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**Key**  
*to the*  
**Bi-literal Cipher**  
**of FRANCIS BACON**

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# Key to the Bi-literal Cipher

of FRANCIS BACON

THE Translation of Biliteral Cipher states that Francis Bacon and the Rev. Wm. Rawley, his Chaplain, Secretary and Literary Executor, kept a diary in a system of shorthand writing, which Bacon invented and named Biliteral Cipher. According to the Cipher Story, the System was devised while Bacon was a youth in Paris, 1576 to 1579. The Alphabets were kept private and secret, until 1623, when standard alphabets and a Key Example were made known by publication in De Augmentis Scientiarum.

## An Example of a Bi-literal Alphabet

*A* *B* *C* *D* *E* *F*  
*Aaaaa* *aaaab.* *aaaba.* *aaabb.* *aabaa.* *aabab.*  
*G* *H* *I* *K* *L* *M*  
*aabba* *aabbb.* *abaaa.* *abaab.* *ababa.* *ababb.*  
*N* *O* *P* *Q* *R* *S*  
*abbaa.* *abbab.* *abbba.* *abbbb.* *baaaa.* *baaab.*  
*T* *V* *W* *X* *Y* *Z*  
*baaba.* *baabb.* *habaa.* *babab.* *babba.* *babbb.*

## Example of Solution

<i>F</i>	<i>U</i>	<i>G</i>	<i>E</i>
<i>aabab</i>	<i>baabb</i>	<i>aabba</i>	<i>aabaa</i>

To gain secrecy and allay curiosity, the Example of Solution: *aababbaabbaabbaabaa*, was resolved, by printing, into Bi-formed fonts of Script letters. The letters were engraved from letters in a special Bi-formed Alphabet, which was designed by Francis Bacon and is reproduced in facsimile as follows:



An Example of a Bi-formed Alphabet

a. b.a.b. a. b. a.b. a b.a.b. a. b. a.b.  
 { A A a.a. B. B. b.b. C. C.c.c. D. D.d.d.  
  
 a b.a.b. a. b. a.b. a. b. a.b. a b.a.b.  
 { E. E.e.e. F. F.f.f. G. G.g.g. H. H.h.h.  
  
 a. b.a.b. a. b. a.b. a.b. a. b. a. b.a.b.  
 { I. I.i.i. K. K.k.k. L. L.l.l. M. M.m.m.  
  
 a. b. a.b. a. b.a.b. a. b.a.b. a. b. a. b. a.  
 { N. N.n.n. O. O.o.o. P. P.p.p. Q. Q.q.q. R.  
  
 b. a.b. a. b. a.b. a. b.a.b. a. b.a.b. a b.  
 { R. r.r. S. S.s.s. T. T.t.t. V. V.v.v. u.u.  
  
 a. b. a.b. a. b. a.b. a. b.a.b. a.b. a.b.  
 { W. W.w.w. X. X.x.x. Y. Y.y.y. Z. Z.z.z.



Ego omni officio, ac potius pietate erga te.  
caeteris satisfacio omnibus: Mihi ipse nun-  
quam satisfacio. Tanta est enim magni-  
tudo tuorum erga me meritorum, ut quoni-  
am tu, nisi perfecta re, de me non conquiēs-  
ti; ego, quia non idem in tuâ causâ efficio,  
vitam mihi esse acerbam putem. In cau-  
sâ hæc sunt: Ammonius Regis Legatus  
aperte pecuniâ nos oppugnat. Res agitur  
per eosdem creditores, per quos, cum tu ade-  
ras, agebatur. Regis causâ, si qui sunt,  
qui velint, qui pauci sunt, omnes ad Pompe-  
ium rem deferri volunt. Senatus Reli-  
gionis calumniam, non religione, sed ma-  
lenolentia, et illius Regiæ Largitionis  
inuidiâ comprobat. &c.



Bacon prepared an ample Example of Biliteral Cipher, *Omnia per Omnia*, i. e., using the entire text of the exterior or infolding letter.

The hidden, interior or infolded message is a Spartan Letter which was sent once in a Scytale or round cipher staff.

*Perditae res. Mindarus cecidit. Milites Esuriunt. Neque hinc nos extricare, neque hic diutiús manere possumus.*

Bacon ciphered the Spartan Letter in Biliteral Cipher, in a part of Cicero's Epistle, as the Standard or Key-Example. The Letter was first ciphered into the Bi-literal Alphabet, as in the Example of Solution. Next, the Example of Solution was resolved or ciphered into the engraved letters of the Epistle, employing the Bi-formed Script Alphabet shown in the foregoing Epistle of Cicero.

The engraver varied slightly from some of the designs of the Standard Bi-formed Alphabet. The variations may be a masque to make it harder to understand the Cipher.

Bacon's use of Bi-literal Cipher remained an undisclosed secret until 1895, when it was discovered and made public by Mrs. Elizabeth Wells Gallup.

By a stroke of genius, Mrs. Gallup evolved from the Standard Alphabets and Key-Examples, a system of design and rules on which to assemble Bi-formed Alphabets for use in deciphering.

A Bi-formed Alphabet is required for each new Work and for each font of Italics. The Italic type used are cut from Bi-formed Alphabets designed by the cipherer. The type which were used in printing the Italics in *Novum Organum* 1620, *Henry VII* 1622, *De Augmentis* 1623, and *Shakespeare* were cut after designs made by Bacon. The standard of design is embodied in the Bi-formed Alphabet, given in *De Augmentis Scientiarum*.

Everyone should learn the *modus operandi* or mechanism of Biliteral Cipher. Few, not to exceed ten, have done original deciphering. All can use to advantage the narrative revealed by the Translations now made.

The Biliteral Alphabet, the Bi-formed Alphabet and the Key-Example were published at London in 1623, contemporaneously with *The First Folio* of *Shakespeare*.



The publication in 1623 was in the London Edition of *De Augmentis Scientiarum*; in 1624, in the Paris Edition; in London, in the Latin Edition of 1638; and at London in the English Edition 1640. The Alphabets in each are substantially the same. The differences may result from the engraver's variations or from tricks native to the Art of Cyphers.

To decipher the Spartan Letter, read the font of each letter. Mark one font as "a"; the other, as "b". In the Key to the Fonts, a-font is indicated by a small Roman letter and b-font, by a Capital letter. Consult a printer, if the font rule is not clear.

The transcription is elaborately worked out in the Treatise by Mrs. Fiske entitled, "Studies in the Biliteral Cipher of Francis Bacon," published by John W. Luce & Co. of Boston.

### Key to the Fonts of the Letters in Cicero's Epistle

eGOOm niOff Icioa epoTI uSpie TatEe rgate caEte Rissa  
 tiSfa CiocoM nlbUS mIhii pSEnu nquAM satis Facio TanTA  
 EsteN immAg niTud otuOr uMerg ameME rItor UmvTq uOnIA  
 mTuni sIpEr fEcta RedEm enOnc Onqul esTie Goqul AnoNI  
 Demin tUaca UsaEF fICio VitAm mIHie ssEac eRBAM PutEM  
 inCau saHAE cSunt aMMon iusRe gISle gATuS AperT apEcu  
 NiAnO SopPu Gnatr eSagi turPe reesd Emcre diTor eSPer quOsc  
 uMTUA DerAS agEba tuRRE gISca UsasI quiSU nTqui VelIN  
 TquIp aUcis UntOM NesaD pOmPE inmre mDEfe rrIvo Lunts  
 enAtu sRELi glOnI ScalU MniaM NonRE lIgio NesED MaleU  
 oLEnt iaEti lIius ReGia elarg ition isinu idiae ompro bat etc.  
 etc.

Note—Resolve each Symbol into terms of the Biliteral Alphabet, thus: eGOOm reads *abbba*, which is the Symbol for P.; niOff=*aabaa*=E; Icioa=*baaaa*=r and so on to the end. Such resolutions produce the Spartan Letter.

*Perditae Res Mindarus cecidit. Milites esuriunt. Neque hinc nos extricare neque his diutius manere possumus.*

The discovery of how to assemble a Bi-formed Alphabet to decipher with, is a work of first magnitude. The rules are fully explained in the Work by Mrs. Fiske. The Key-Alphabets and Examples were preserved in letters of Script design as a mask. Other masks are used in the context in *De Augmentis* and in *The*



Example itself to make it difficult to decipher and to conceal Bacon's use of the Cipher.

“Far fro' th' nest” the Lapwing crys, “away.”

Mrs. Gallup deciphered the narrative in the Italic letters of The Advancement of Learning 1605, Shepherds Calenders 1579, King Henry VII 1622, The Folio of Shakespeare 1623, and other Works. The translation was published in 1899 for private circulation.

Mrs. Gallup, assisted by Miss Kate E. Wells, continued the work of transcription. Many rare volumes were deciphered, in the Libraries of London, New York and Boston. The narrative translated from some sixty volumes dating between 1579 and 1671 was published in 1910 as “The Biliteral Cipher of Francis Bacon.”

The main function of Biliteral Cipher is to teach Word Cipher and to preserve aids, rules and instructions for use in writing it. A brief autobiography of Francis Bacon and comments on contemporaries are also preserved in it.

The translation is a Work which is monumental in character. It may be termed the Rosetta stone of English; for it reveals elements and methods of expression which herald the dawning of a Second Golden Age of English thought and language.

Under the magic influence, Shakespeare becomes more understandable than ever. The information revealed unlocks and explains, with surpassing interest, many of the dark and unfathomed things in Shakespeare and Elizabethan Literature.



## Table of Works Deciphered

The narrative translated is published as "The Biliteral Cipher of Francis Bacon," "Lost Manuscripts" and "Studies in the Biliteral Cipher of Francis Bacon."

The narrative deciphered was ciphered in Biliteral Cipher in the Italic letters of the works named as follows:

Shepherd's Calendar.....	1579	Anonymous
The Arraignment of Paris.....	1584	George Peele
The Mirrour of Modestie.....	1584	Robert Greene
Planetomachia.....	1585	Robert Greene
A Treatise on Melancholy.....	1586	T. Bright
Euphues Morando.....	1587	Robert Greene
Spanish Masquerado.....	1589	Robert Greene
Complaints.....	1591	Edmund Spenser
Colin Clout.....	1595	Edmund Spenser
Faerie Queene.....	1596	Edmund Spenser
Faerie Queene (second part).....		Edmund Spenser
Richard II.....	1598	Anonymous
David & Bethsabe.....	1599	George Peele
Knight of the Golden Shield.....	1599	George Peele
Midsummer Night's Dream.....	1600	Wm. Shakespeare
Midsummer Night's Dream (Fisher Edition).....		Wm. Shakespeare
Much Ado About Nothing.....	1600	Wm. Shakespeare
Sir John Oldcastle.....	1600	Wm. Shakespeare
Richard, Duke of York.....	1600	Wm. Shakespeare
Treasons of Essex.....	1601	Francis Bacon
London Prodigal.....	1605	Wm. Shakespeare
Advancement of Learning.....	1605	Francis Bacon
King Lear.....	1608	Wm. Shakespeare
Henry V.....	1608	Wm. Shakespeare
Pericles.....	1609	Wm. Shakespeare
Hamlet.....	1611	Wm. Shakespeare
Titus Andronicus.....	1611	Wm. Shakespeare
Shepherd's Calendar.....	1611	Edmund Spenser
Faerie Queene.....	1613	Edmund Spenser
Richard II.....	1615	Wm. Shakespeare
Plays in Folio.....	1616	Ben Jonson
Merry Wives of Windsor.....	1619	Wm. Shakespeare
Contention of York.....	1619	Wm. Shakespeare
Pericles.....	1619	Wm. Shakespeare
Yorkshire Tragedy.....	1619	Wm. Shakespeare
Romeo and Juliet.....	No date	Wm. Shakespeare
A Quit for an Upstart.....	1620	Robert Greene
Novum Organum.....	1620	Francis Bacon
The Paraceve.....	1620	Francis Bacon
Henry VII.....	1622	Francis Bacon
Edward II.....	1622	Christopher Marlowe
Historia Vitae et Mortes.....	1623	Francis Bacon
Historia Ventorum.....	1622	Francis Bacon
Folio of Shakespeare.....	1623	Wm. Shakespeare
De Augmentis Scientiarum.....	1623	Francis Bacon
De Augmentis Scientiarum.....	1624	Francis Bacon
Apophthegmes.....	1625	Francis Bacon
Essays.....	1625	Francis Bacon
Sylva Sylvarum.....	1627	Francis Bacon
Anatomy of Melancholy.....	1628	Robert Burton
The Miscellany.....	1629	Wm. Rawley
Folio of Shakespeare.....	1632	Wm. Shakespeare
New Atlantis.....	1635	Francis Bacon
Sylva Sylvarum.....	1635	Francis Bacon
Felicity of Queen Elizabeth.....	1657	Wm. Rawley
Resuscitatio.....	1657	Wm. Rawley
Resuscitatio.....	1671	Wm. Dugdale