

at *Sardes*, with other occurrents, beene the lesse true, though they might haue beene omitted, as the lesse materiall: but these things it had beene lawfull for any man to gather out of prophane Histories, or out of circumstances otherwise appearing, wherein he should not haue done iniurie to the sacred writings, as long as hee had forborne to derogate from the first causes, by ascribing to the second more than was due.

Such, or litle different, is the businesse that I haue now in hand: wherin I cannot beleue that any man of iudgement will taxe mee as either fabulous or presumptuous. For he doth not faine, that rehearseth probabilities as bare coniectures; neither doth he depraue the text, that seeketh to illustrate and make good in humane reason, those things, which authoritie alone, without further circumstance, ought to haue confirmed in euery mans beliefe. And this may suffice in defence of the libertie, which I haue vsed in coniectures, and may hereafter vse when occasion shall require, as neither vnlawfull, nor misbeseeming an Historian.

Ch. XXII. *Of Ioas and Amasia . . . ; where somewhat of the building of Carthage*

Ch. XXIII. *Of Vzzia*

Ch. XXIV. *Of the Antiquities of Italie, and foundation of Rome in the time of Ahas*

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