

take a room together, so as to be the better situated for consultation and mutual arranging of their plans. They had a large chamber, furnished with two beds, Mr. D. not liking to sleep in the same one with a total stranger, whom he had not seen before that day on the road. However, they enjoyed the evening in sweet religious discourse in their quiet room, until bedtime, and then retired, bidding each other good-night.

But, after a few hours sleep, about midnight, the stranger's brain being over-heated and indisposed to further repose, on account of its wild notions, he called out to Mr. Dudley to see if he also was awake, who, at least made some response for civility's sake. The stranger then entered upon fantastic and amazing fancies. He told the astounded Dudley that he was once persuaded that he himself was the Messiah.

"How?" quoth Mr. Dudley, like one affrighted, "what mean you by that?"

"I say," replied he, "I did once really conceit myself to be the Messiah that was to come into the world; and I do now still think that I am the King of Jerusalem."

At this Mr. D. was so much astonished and disturbed, that he instantly knocked with the bed-staff for the Chamberlain, and ordered another room and another bed; "for here is one," said he, "that says he is King of Jerusalem, and I have no assurance that he, like John of Leyden, may not, before morning, taking me for one of the enemies of his kingdom, endeavor to assassinate me in my bed, as that lunatic did some of his followers."

We may conclude that here ended the acquaintance of the two travellers.

This, and other such traits of his character began to make him conspicuous in the part of the country where he lived.

By his admired friend, John Dod, one of the most famous Puritan divines, he was made acquainted with Lord Say and Seal and other Puritan noblemen; and subsequently they commended Dudley to Theophilus Clinton, the Earl of Lincoln.

This Earl was a young man, lately come into possession of his Earldom, with the vast landed estates and other hereditaments belonging to it. His father, Thomas, the third Earl of Lincoln, died in 1618, after having enjoyed his title and inheritance only three years. Thomas' father, Henry, the second Earl of Lincoln of this Clinton family, had held his Earldom from 1585 to 1616, but he was not a good financier, or he had not employed able managers of his estates, so that his son, Thomas, above-mentioned, could not, during