

As so frequently with this register, the details are not quite accurate, and the whole entry cannot truly belong to 1686, but is rather a composite of several donations, the first probably indeed made in 1686, the following ones later. BYfbUFX dfYgYbhX PcWzW_YfjVca a YbHUmVYWU gy JhZYUhi fYd an appendix by Bernard himself, his first attempt at a study of ancient weights and measures. If we turn to the volume itself, still in the collections today, we find rather ornate material by Bernard inserted before his own appendix. First, he places a dedication inscription: $\text{D/V. CC. [i.e. Viris Clarissimis] | Collegii Novi Sociis, | quibuscum vitæ meæ partem non poenitendam ac sacram dcg]$, p E 1 c / 1 4 >

New College Library, Oxford, BT3.141.5

This epistle ends with a typical Bernard promise: he will shortly set out his world chronology co-

BYfUFXig bYI h []Zh k Ug U WdmcZ hY fy jgYX Und expanded version of his treatise on ancient weights and measures, now in Latin, and published as a free-standing octavo. The entry in hYBYZMfcgBcc_ jgVcbZ used here, identifying two separate works, one on Hebrew weights and measures, and one on ancient weights and measures in general. In fact, they are the same sole work, BYfUFXig *De mensuris et ponderibus antiquis libri tres* of 1688. Bernard presented many copies of this to friends and institutions around and beyond Oxford, all in a distinctive acid-mottled calf binding, and ours is no different. He has once again inscribed the copy itself to the fellows of New College, $\text{E}i^{\circ}$ j]fcg cdh}a cg XYWbhN (Ej WX

What these gifts when considered as a group show is that Bernard went out of his way between 1685 and 1690 to mark presentation copies of books to New College with inscriptions that suggest

I have no certain answer to this question so far.⁵ Bernard studied mathematics for a time privately with John Wallis, who as we saw lived in New College Lane from 1672, but there is no suggestion Bernard lodged there, which might just have explained his gratitude to the college.⁶

Ad T.C. amicum suum ex paucis
ingeniis; perpolitum.

*Doctus es interpres, Creech, castusque; piusque,
Et Caro quicquid carius esse potest.
Ut nocet ingenii non docti mos Epicuri,
Vita tui vatis morsque inhonesta probant.*

E. Bernardus.

(You're a good interpreter, Creech, chaste and godly;
And whatever else can be dearer than Carus.
That the Epicurean way can damage the wits of the unlearned