interested in the project, and employed himself actively in urging on the necessary arrangements. Indeed, the monarch and his ministers appear to have expected the events then transpiring one after another in Ulster, so that they were able to proceed, as they really did, very coolly and systematically with their work. They began to suspect that even Chichester himself might become too merciful in granting pardons to traitors, for the King had now become jealous lest any portion—even the smallest—of the vast spoil should be appropriated otherwise than by or through himself. Chichester was, therefore, duly cautioned, forsooth, to beware of too readily or leniently accepting submissions from, or granting pardons to, any rebels, with the view of restoring to them such lands as had previously belonged, time immemorial, to their families. This caution is conveyed to the deputy in a letter from the council of London, dated July 20, 1608, as follows:—"And now that all Ulster, or the most part, has fallen into his Majesty's power, he intends to order it so as it may redound to his honour and profit. And as a fair opportunity is given by the absence of the fugitive earls, the death of the traitor O'Dogherty, and the imprisonment of Sir Neale Garvey, and some others of the disturbers of the peace [principally Sir Cormack O'Neill and Sir Donnell O'Cahan], of those northern parts. Now in order to prevent for the future that it shall be in the power (as it heretofore has been) of any rebellious companion that chooseth to make himself head of any sept by presuming on a rabble of his base followers, to disturb the peace, and put his Majesty to the cost and trouble of prosecuting a vagrant company of wood kerne, there must not be so great a facility for granting pardons and taking submissions. He [Chichester] is to abstain from making promises of any of the escheated lands, and to assure himself that *not an acre* will be disposed of till the survey and certificate of the lands be returned over to them [the council in London], at the coming of the chief justice and attorney."

When the deputy's agents presented themselves, the King talked in his usually pedantic style on the subject of the contemplated doings in Ulster, and as if indeed wishing to impress on all around that he had received some sort of commission from on high in connection with the matter in hand. Davys had already led him to believe that he was destined to do a greater work for Ireland than even what had been done by St. Patrick himself; but, in the meantime, there had appeared on the scene a still more fulsome flatterer, in the person of that ponderous statesman and philosopher, known as Francis Bacon. This great English chancellor, who believed he could treat any subject in a peculiarly oracular way, forthwith wrote his *Considerations touching the Plantation in Ireland* [Ulster], but his performance was tawdry and commonplace, when compared with the graphic sketches of Chichester and Davys. Bacon's treatise, which, of course, is addressed to the King, opens as follows:—"It seemeth God hath reserved to your Majesty's times two works, which among the acts of Kings have the supreme pre-eminence—the union and plantation of kingdoms. . . . For, as in the works of God, the creation is greater than the preservation; and as in the works of nature, the birth and nativity is more than the continuance; so in kingdoms the first foundation or plantation is of more noble dignity and merit than all that followeth. . . Your Majesty hath yet a fortune extraordinary, and differing from former examples of the same kind. For most part of the unions and plantations of kingdoms have been founded in the effusion of blood, but your