I mean by this, that he should always take a familiar subject; and not only this, but in short, also divide his subject into heads, never neglecting to state the proposition, which he intends to prove at the outset, & to make every thing else subordinates to this one main head: by practicing this rule, on any one branch, he may make great personal advancement in the art & may finally shine as one of the most brilliant writers of the age. A few general remarks I will introduce: Composition, writing is an art which differs from every other, in one particular, & it is this, viz: that recommon with the hardest to read we proceed we find it becoming easier; in other words, that the principles or elements, as we understand them, are harder than the actual application of them to practical purposes; I might have mentioned this in the former part of my Comp. as a reason why we are prejudiced against Comp. writing; & not have been, by any means wrong as to my statement. Let one, who would improve by this art as well as in its practice, the few rules, the substance of which I have given once or twice in the course of my Comp. & he will succeed in a pursuit which has rendered the names of not a few men immortal. With these few remarks I submit my piece to your inspection & criticism, hoping that you will correct all mistakes, with a view to my improvement in a thing, in which I take a great deal of delight.

Wm. R. Raleigh.