



UNIVERSITÄTS-  
BIBLIOTHEK  
PADERBORN

## **Universitätsbibliothek Paderborn**

### **Remarks On The Life and Writings Of Dr. Jonathan Swift, Dean of St. Patrick's, Dublin**

**Orrery, John Boyle of**

**London, 1752**

Of Ramus, Scotus, and Aquinas.

[urn:nbn:de:hbz:466:1-49109](https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:hbz:466:1-49109)

with a view to refute his opinion. Like the Ottoman Emperor, he could not reign in safety, till he had first destroyed his brethren. He was as ambitious in science, as his pupil ALEXANDER was in arms. He aimed to be a despotic original: and not only to be the Prince, but the Tyrant of philosophy. What then can be expected from the commentators of his works, who were devoid of his ingenuity, and possessed of all his intricate follies? RAMUS with his covert ignorance, and SCOTUS and AQUINAS with their subdivisions, and imaginary nothings, must make a contemptible figure in the Elysian fields, which are the supposed mansions of cheerfulness, truth, and candour, and consequently must be a very improper situation for that tribe of philosophers.

*“ I then desired, says GULLIVER, that DESCARTES  
 “ and GASSENDI might be called up: with whom I  
 “ prevailed to explain their systems to ARISTOTLE. This  
 “ great philosopher freely acknowledged his own mistakes  
 “ in natural philosophy, because he proceeded in many things  
 “ upon conjecture, as all men must do; and he found that  
 “ GASSENDI, who had made the doctrine of EPICURUS  
 “ as palatable as he could, and the vortices of DESCAR-  
 “ TES, were equally to be exploded.”* I believe you will find, my dear HAMILTON, that ARISTOTLE is still to be preferred to EPICURUS. The former made some useful experiments and discoveries, and was engaged in a real pursuit of knowledge, although his manner is much perplexed. The latter was full of vanity and ambition. He was an impostor, and only aimed at de-