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in the narrative of 1589 standing thus :—" In the 13 yeere of King Henrie the VII. by means of *one John Cabot*, a Venetian, which made himself very expert," &c., the rest of the sentence being the same as in 1582. Here then, says he, is manifest interpolation and dishonesty ; the original passage from Fabyan has been altered ; Hakluyt, in 1589, does not give it in the same terms as in 1582. Before, however arriving at so strong and uncharitable a conclusion, it must strike every reader that the original passage, either as it stands in Fabyan, or as it stood in the extract furnished by Stow from Fabyan, ought to be carefully examined. Till the passage, as it is given by Hakluyt, is compared with one or other of these, it is perfectly evident that no charge of alteration or interpolation can be made good against him. Now, the original chronicle of Fabyan, from which Stow took the passage, is lost—and the biographer does not pretend that he has discovered in the manuscripts of Hakluyt the original passage, as extracted by Stow, and sent to this writer—but he endeavours to supply it in a very singular manner. In speaking of Hakluyt's alleged perversion of the passage, as sent by Stow, he observes :—" Fortunately, we are not left to mere conjecture. In 1605 appeared Stow's own ' Annals.' The simplicity and good faith of this writer are so well known, as well as his intense reverence for whatever bore the stamp of antiquity, that we have no fear of his having committed what in his eyes would have been sacrilege, by changing one syllable of the original. Let it be remembered then, that Hakluyt relies exclusively on what he obtained from Stow ; and in reading the following passage from the *Annals*, we find what doubtless passed into Hakluyt's hands before it was submitted to his perilous correction. It occurs at p. 804 of the edition of 1605, and at p. 483 of that of 1631. ' This year one *Sebastian Gaboto*, a *Genoa's sonne borne in Bristol*, professing himself to be expert in the knowledge of the circuit of the worlde, and islands of the same, as by his charts and other reasonable demonstrations he shewed, caused the king to man and victual a ship,' &c. The rest corresponds with the passage in Hakluyt. * * * Thus," continues the biographer, " we have the best evidence that the contemporary writer, whoever he may have been, made not the slightest