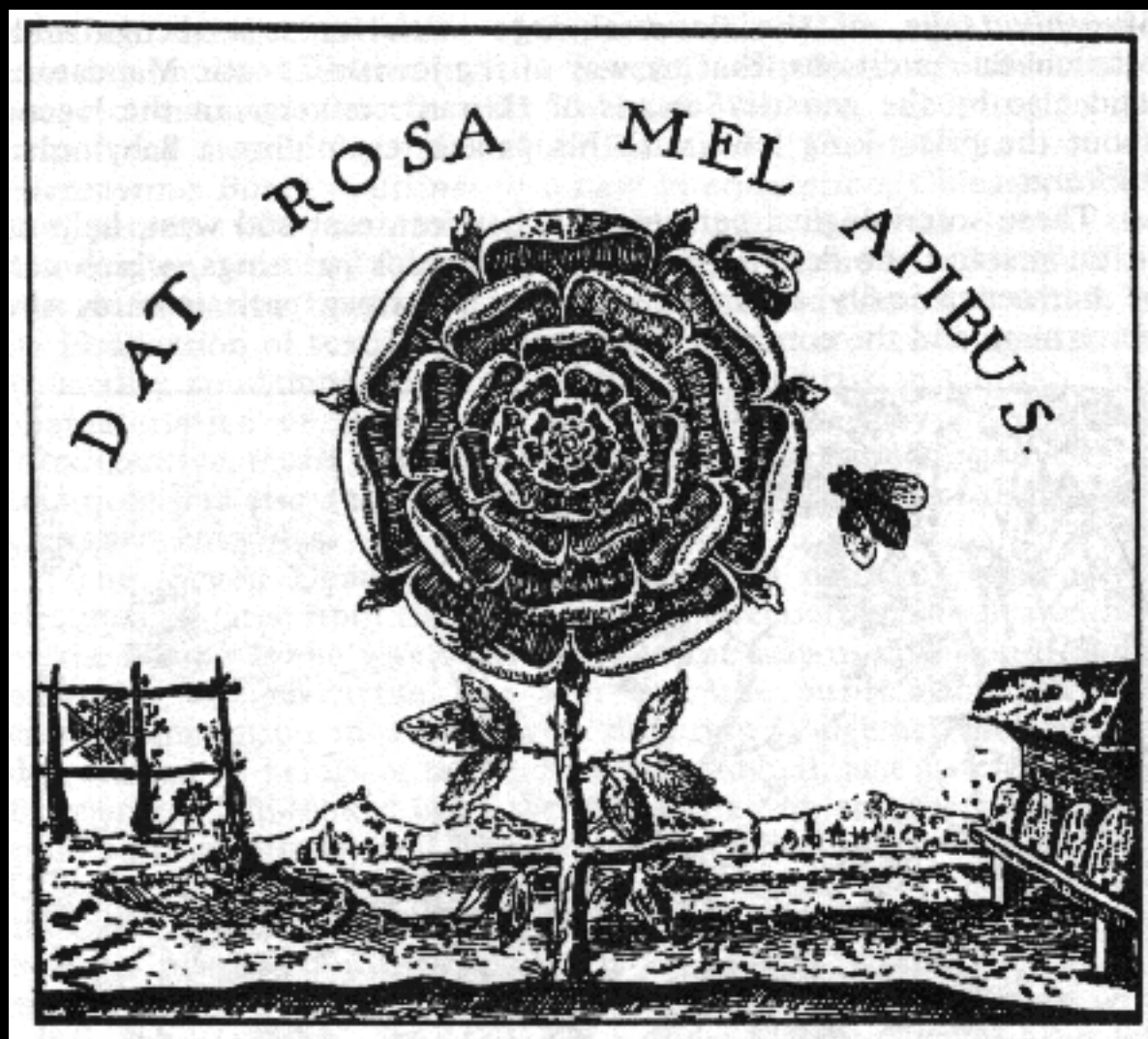




FRANCISCUS BACO
DE VERULAMIO



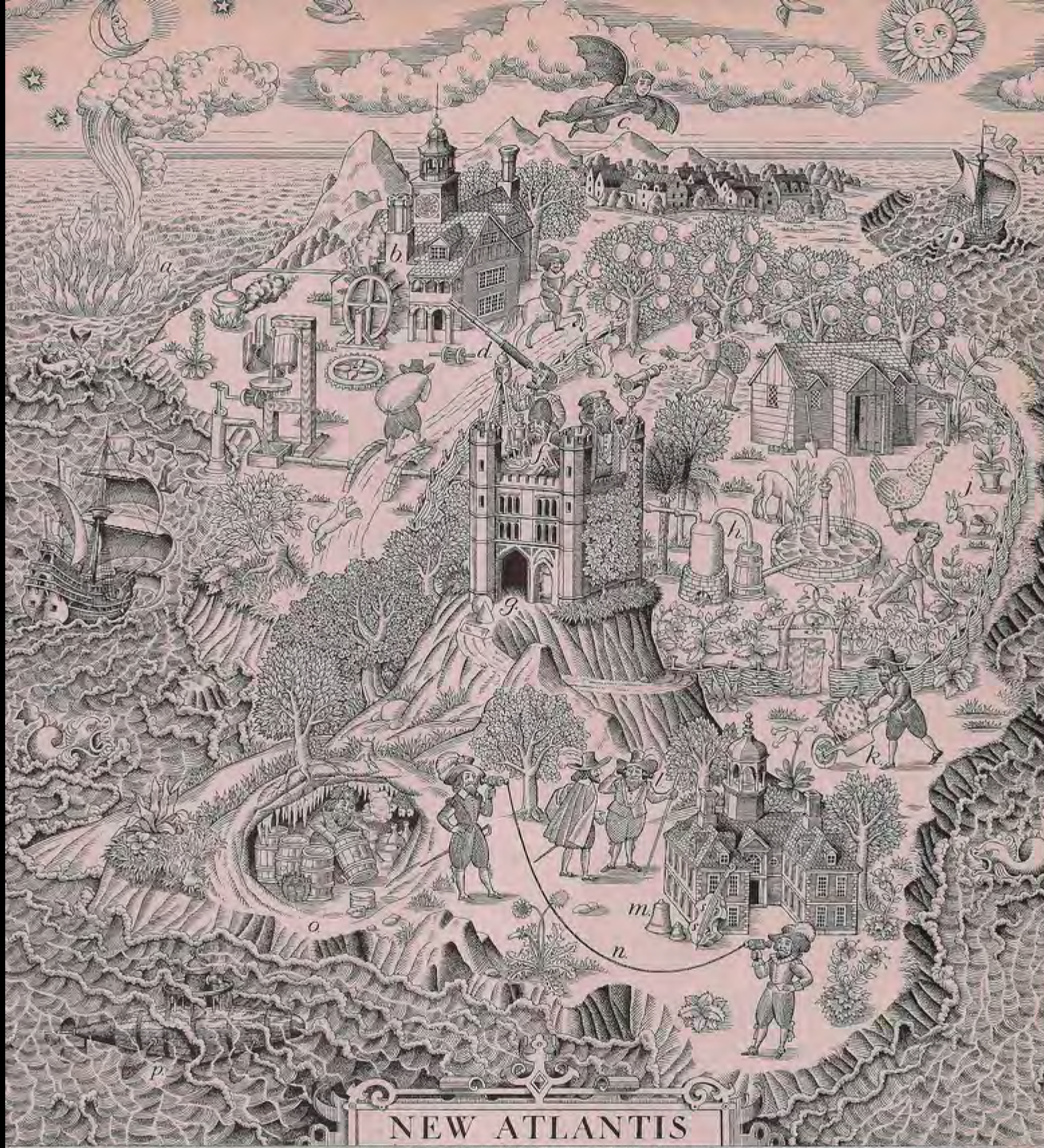
Obvious Rosicrucian
Obviousness
(from Robert Fludd)



Martin Luther's Rose







NEW ATLANTIS

- | | |
|--|--|
| a. Wildfires burning in water | i. Gardens bearing more speedily than their nature |
| b. Engine houses to study motion | j. Animals bred both greater and smaller than their kind |
| c. Ability to fly in air | k. Fruit much larger than its nature |
| d. Instruments for seeing distant objects in the heavens | l. Aids to improve hearing |
| e. Light intensified and thrown great distances | m. Sound houses for studying sound |
| f. Glasses to see small bodies perfectly | n. Sound conveyed in tubes over distances |
| g. Perspective houses to study light and color | o. Deep caves for refrigeration |
| h. Pools to strain fresh water out of salt | p. Ships sailing under water |



Weinberger, J. 2002. "On the Miracles in Bacon's *New Atlantis*." In Price, B. ed. *Francis Bacon's New Atlantis: New Interdisciplinary Essays*. Manchester University Press. 106–28.

Some weird arguments

technology.

But a serious puzzle remains. First, there seems a tension between the ultimate goal of Bensalemite science (the restitution and renovation of corruptible things) and the basic teaching of Bensalemite religion: that death is the wages of sin. If there is a God, then Bensalemite science seems determined to put him out of business. Second, if it is true, as Bacon says, that human beings

saalem'. Everything has its complicated ritual. Indeed, the sailors say that they have come to a 'land of angels' (39–41, 42–3, 45–7, 60–4). In short, the Bensalemites appear to have been denatured. Their happiness seems that of contented cows (or, to speak more accurately, sheep), their orderliness lobotomised. On the one hand, we wonder how much more like zombies they would be without the spiritualising effects of their religiosity. On the other hand, perhaps these super-flat souls need even more softening, by Christianity, for them safely to possess the extraordinary powers of technology.

Noble Lies

Is there a noble lie in Bensalem?

Are the Bensalemites capable of deception?

How do they take up religion? Which religion do they practice? Do they all believe? Why is that?

How many Bensalemites' names do you know?

What does Bacon think about marriage?

Is the Tirsan's ceremony particularly equal?

Is the wife's position allegorical?

Who is Joabin?

How did David meet Bathsheba? Who was Joab?

What kind of experiments is the College running?

Do any of these experiments raise ethical questions?

Do any have military applications?

What house is last described?