

Collected Trials
(a. d. c.)



Select

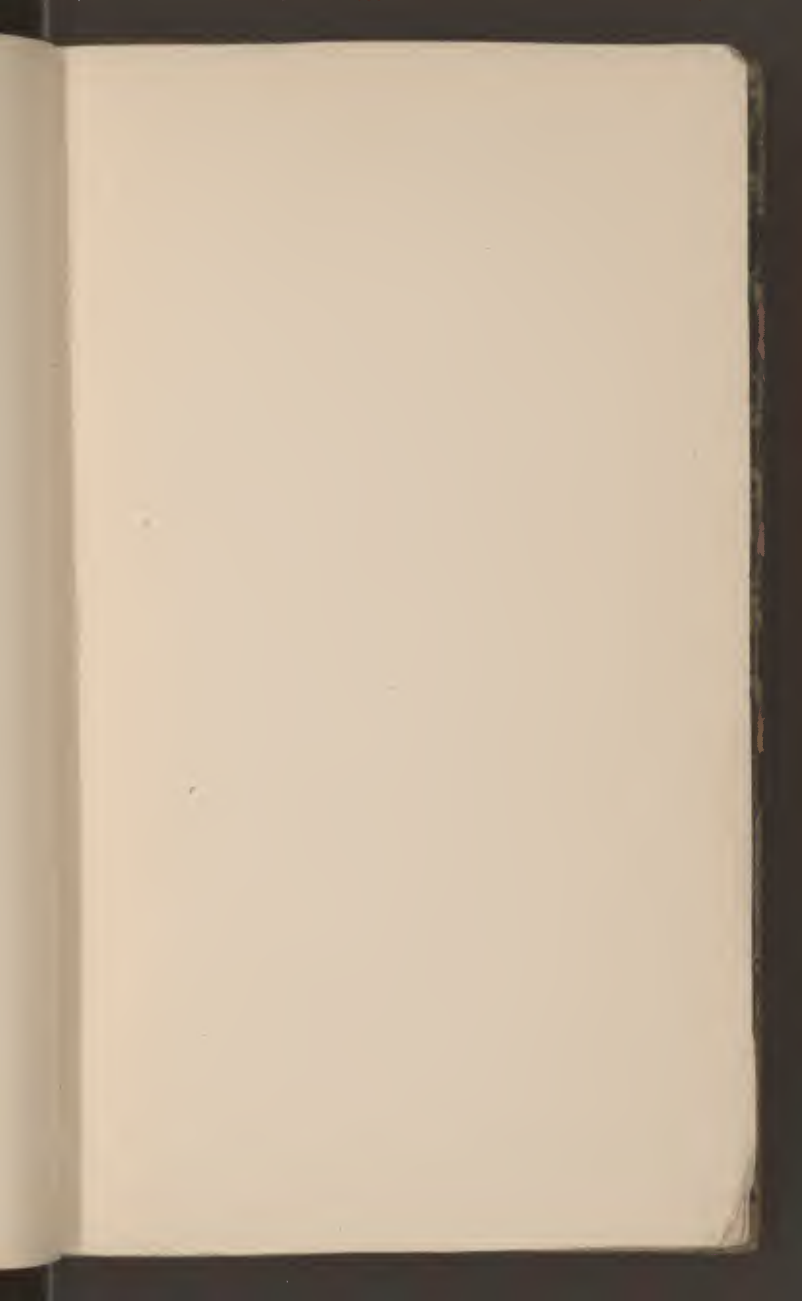
Class

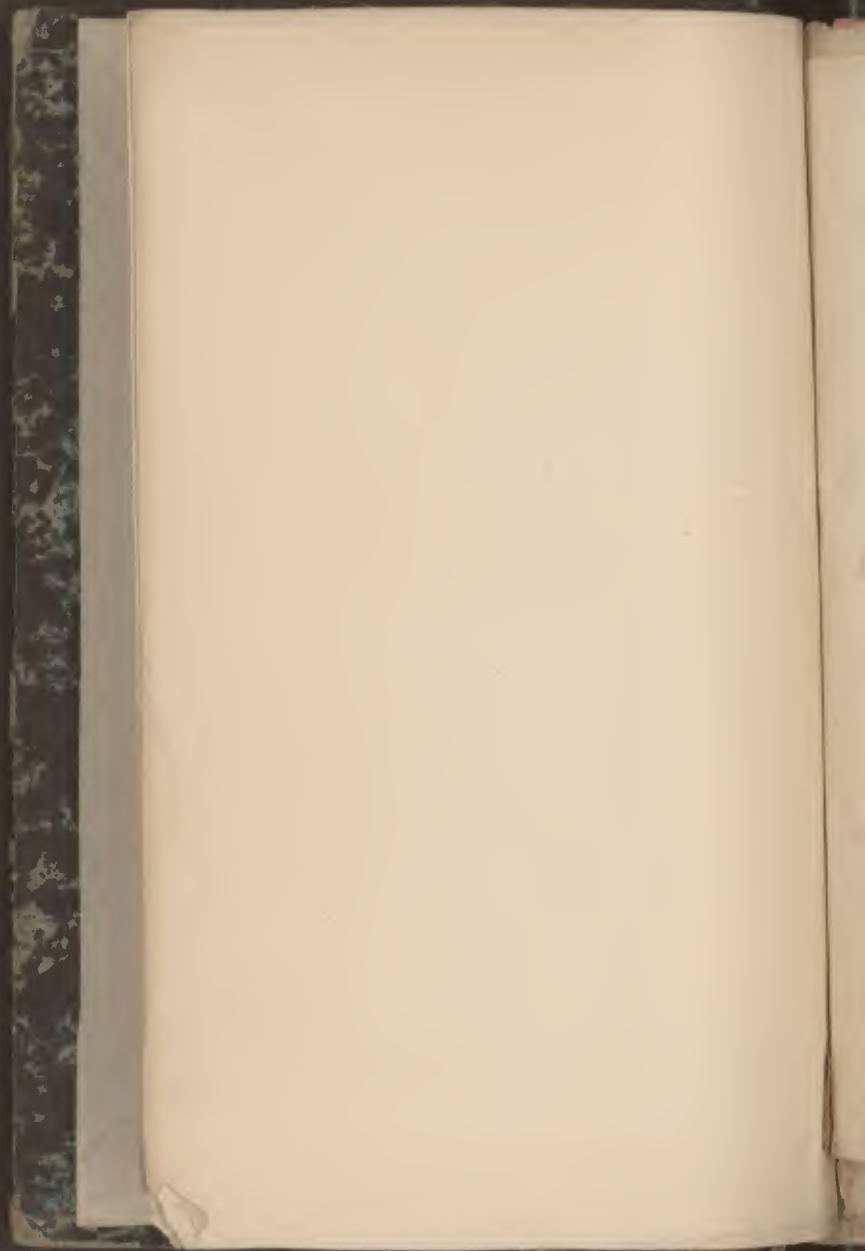
law

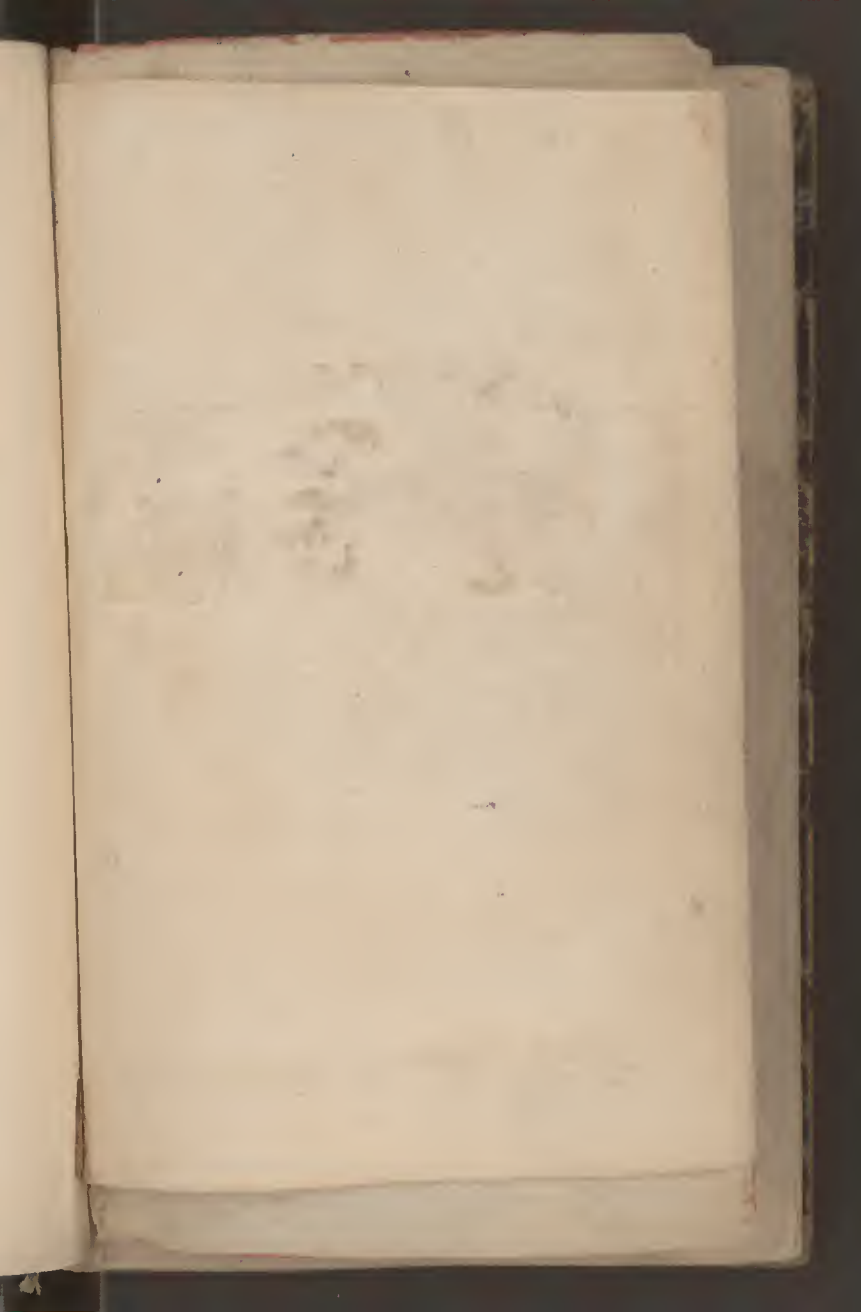
Book

Fruit
Seed - 1
S
"



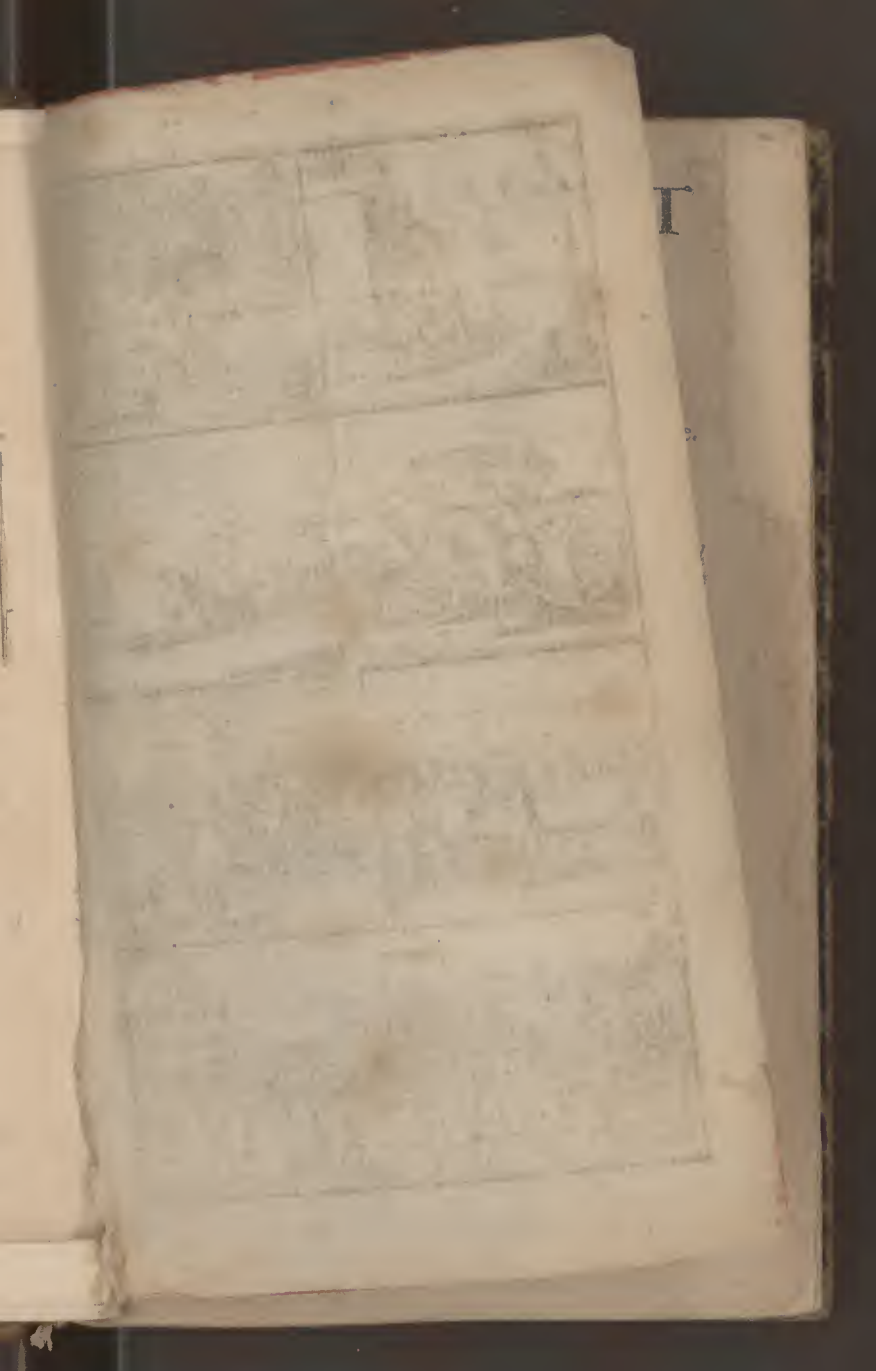






247 CRIMINALS.—Account of the Lives, Behaviour, and Dying Words of the Most Remarkable Convicts from 1700: Thomas Cook, The Gloucestershire Butcher, Herdman Strodman, Marquis de Paleotti Jonathan Wild, etc.. etc *Frontispiece*, 2 vols, 12mo, calf 1760

These volumes contain an Account of over one hundred of the most remarkable criminals, condemned for various crimes in different parts of England.





A SELECT and IMPARTIAL
A C C O U N T
 OF THE
 LIVES, BEHAVIOUR, and DYING
 WORDS, of the most remarkable
C O N V I C T S,

From the Year 1700, down to the present Time.

CONTAINING

Amongst many Others the following, *viz.*

Herdman Strodman, for the
 barbarous Murder of *Pe-
 ter Wolter*, his Fellow-
 Apprentice.

Thomas Cook, the *Gloucester*
 Butcher, for the Murder
 of *Mr. John Cooper*, a
 Constable in *May Fair*.

John Morgridge, for the
 Murder of *Lieut. Cope*,
 at the *Tower*.

Mr. Gregg, Clerk to the
 late Secretary *Harley*,
 Earl of *Oxford*, for hold-
 ing Correspondence with
 Her Majesty's Enemies.

Richard Town, Tallow-
 Chandler, the only Per-
 son who was executed on

the Bankrupt Act.

Col. Oxburgh, *Richard*
Gascoigne, Esq; Justice
Hall, and *Parson Paul*,
 for High-Treason.

Marquis de Paleotti, for
 stabbing his Servant.

Lieutenant Bird, for the
 Murder of *Sam. Loxton*,
 at a *Bagnio*.

Matthias Brinsden, for the
 Murder of his Wife.

Capt. John Massy, for
 Piracy.

Capt. John Stanley, for the
 Murder of *Mrs. Maycock*.

Jonathan Wild, the Thief-
 Taker for several Felo-
 nies.

Felix quem faciunt aliena Pericula cautum.

V O L. I.

L O N D O N :

Printed by J. APPLEBEE, for J. HODGES, at the *Look-
 ing-Glass* on *London - Bridge*; and sold also by C.
 CORBETT, at *Addison's-Head*, opposite *St. Dunstan's-
 Church*, in *Fleet-street*. M,DCC,LX.

HV6245

.538

1760

vol. 1

Copy 2

LLRBR

~~Low~~
Coll. Trevel
(A. 25.)
"Select"

299123
23
L.L.

24018487

X. N. Apr. 27-23.

Ms. R. 1. 1. 22-23.



THE
P R E F A C E.



*IS a receiv'd Maxim, that Vir-
tue is its own Reward, even in
this Life, and Vice its own Pu-
nishment. Serenity of Mind,
calm Thoughts, and an internal
settled Tranquility of Soul are capital Blessings,
always to be enjoyed by the Man whose Con-
science reproaches him not, and whose Life
has been regulated by right Reason and Re-
ligion. And the Enjoyment of these, are so
essential to our Happiness, even here as well as
hereafter, that it may be a just Matter of
Wonder and Astonishment, how it should be possi-
ble*

ble so great a Number of reasonable Creatures should barter it away for momentary, tumultuous Gratifications, which (when passed and over) can't be reflected upon, but with the utmost Horror and Distress of Mind, and often are attended with Poverty, Shame, Anguish of Spirit, Destruction, Death, and all the Evils that Humanity is capable of suffering.

BUT the following Sheets will set many such melancholy Instances of the Depravity of human Nature before the Reader. In many of them may be observ'd, that

———— Nemo repentè fuit turpissimus,

and that from small Beginnings, a Man may arrive to a monstrous Pitch of Wickedness, and by permitting himself to continue in the Commission of [what he may call] Peccadillo's, or trifling Breaches of his known Duty, he will certainly grow more hardened and bolder, and will be gradually led on from one Step in Wickedness to another, till at last he throws off all Restraint, and abandons himself to the Practice of all manner of Iniquity with Greediness.

IT can hardly be unobserved, by any intelligent Person, how strongly the Youth of the present

— sent

sent Age are addicted to Licentiousness, and how devoted they are to all criminal Pleasures and Enjoyments. Rashness, Folly, and Vanity, influence not only the meaner sort, but too many of those who have been taught by a virtuous Education, to know and pursue better Things. And perhaps the following Scenes of Distress and Misery, may be of some Use, and may caution the inconsiderate, against treading those Paths, and taking those Courses which lead down to Destruction, and the dreadful Chambers of Death.

IN many of the following Accounts, the Condition of an unhappy Wretch is pictured, whose Eyes were open'd by his Misery, and by the near Approach of an ignominious and shameful Death. And it may not be improper to observe, what a tormenting Sense every one of these Objects of Misery, [who were not totally abandon'd of God, and grown quite harden'd in Wickedness] had of their past Follies, and how severely they reproached themselves, in the bitterness of their Souls for hating Instruction, and rejecting Reproof. The Reader will find many of them lamenting too late, their deviating from the Paths of Religion, Reason and Virtue, and wishing they had spent their Lives in such a manner, as to have avoided the Censures of their own Consciences, and have preserv'd

preserv'd their Integrity and Innocence, tho' they had labour'd under ever so great and many Misfortunes.

WE shall only add, that the following Papers are the Genuine Accounts of the Lives and Behaviour of the most remarkable Convicts, some of them taken by Clergymen, and those who charitably assisted them (under their miserable Circumstances) in their Preparation for Death; and the rest by the Divine who was appointed to that melancholy Office, and throughout the whole, we have been as concise as was consistent with our giving the Satisfaction we design'd in this Collection.

Fœlix quem faciunt aliena Pericula. cautum.





T H E
C O N T E N T S.

A.

A N S W E R to the Ordinary's Account of James
Sheppard, and Remarks thereon. Page 192

B.

B Ennet Thomas, <i>alias</i> John Efrick, <i>alias</i> Howard, <i>alias</i> Thomas Walker, <i>alias</i> Morris	18
Brian, John Harman	69
Baines Andrew	90
Bird Edward <i>Gent.</i>	106
Bird's <i>Cafe</i> , &c.	210
Barton William	228
Brinsden Matthias	248
Butler James	267

C.

C O O K Thomas	32
Churchill Deborah	78
Chivers Elizabeth	115
Cctterel	

The CONTENTS.

Cotterel, <i>alias</i> Cockerel, <i>alias</i> Chicken Robin	168
Chickley Henry	117
Catch Jack, <i>alias</i> John Price	202
Clark Matthew	237
Curtis Peter, <i>alias</i> Friend	302

D.

D Rammatti, John Peter	23
Dunn William <i>alias</i> Elby	63
Douglas Thomas	131
Danzil <i>alias</i> Dolzel Alexander	143
Dorrel John	147
Duce William	264

E.

E Strick John, <i>alias</i> Howard, <i>alias</i> Thomas Walker,	
<i>alias</i> Bennet, <i>alias</i> Morris	18
Elby William, <i>alias</i> Dunn	63
Elliot Edward, <i>a Waltham Black</i>	286

F.

F Itzgerald Gerard	41
Friend Peter <i>alias</i> Curtis	302

G.

G OFF John, <i>alias</i> Gaffney, <i>alias</i> White	15
Gregg William	75
Goffling Francis	129
Gordon John	147
Gascoign Richard	163
Griffin Jane	221

H.

The CONTENTS.

H.

H oward John, <i>alias</i> Estrick, <i>alias</i> Thomas Walker, <i>alias</i> Bennet, <i>alias</i> Morris	15
Harlackendon Sylvester	45
Holloway William, <i>alias</i> Johnson	117
Housden John	119
Hara Felix	141
Hall John <i>Esq;</i>	166
Hawkins John	242
Hewlet John	312

I.

J efferies Edward	55
Joice Richard	84
Jarrat Thomas	97
Johnson William, <i>alias</i> Holloway	117
Junks John, <i>alias</i> Levee	257

K.

K idd <i>Capt.</i> William	1
Keele Richard	123
Kerr <i>Capt.</i> William	147
Kein John	224
Kennedy Walter	232
Kingshell Robert, <i>a Waltham Black</i>	288

L.

L Owen Roger	60
Lowther William	125
<i>Letter to Mr. Lorrain, relating to Dorrel, Gordon, and Kerr, executed for High-Treason, and Remarks there- on</i>	152
<i>Letter to Mr. Lorrain in Answer to his Account of James Sheppard, and Mr. Lorrain's Remarks on the same</i>	192
<i>Letter</i>	

The CONTENTS.

Letter to Mr. Lorrain on the same Account : — by another Hand, &c.	199
Levee John, <i>alias</i> Junks	257

M.

M ullins Darby	1
Morris Thomas, <i>alias</i> John Estrick, <i>alias</i> Ho- ward, <i>alias</i> Thomas Walker, <i>alias</i> Bennet	28
Morgridge John	72
Maw William	99
Mafon Elizabeth	111
Monfieurs John	172
Masley Capt. John	269
Marshal Henry, <i>a Waltham Black</i>	288

O.

O xburgh Henry Col.	161
Oakey Richard	261

P.

P arkhurst Nathaniel	134
Powel Henry	157
Paul William, <i>a Clergyman</i>	166
Paleotti Ferdinando, <i>Marquis</i>	179
Price John, <i>alias</i> Jack Ketch	202
Parvis Richard, <i>a Waltham Black</i>	285
Pink Edward	290
Pink John	<i>ibid.</i>
Parkinson William	305

R.

R oche Philip	276
----------------------	-----

The CONTENTS.

- by
199
257

S.

1
Ho-
28
72
99
111
172
269
288

S Trodtman Herman	5
Sharp Thomas	48
Smith John	51
Sollars Thomas	81
Sutton John	92
Sullivan Joseph, <i>alias</i> Silver	139
Still Joseph	168
Stone John	176
Sheppard James	181
Spiggot William	225
Simpson George	245
Stanley John	293

T.

161
261

T Ripp Grace	86
Town Richard	121
Towers Charles	308

W.

134
157
66
79
202
285
290
bid.
305

W Hite John, <i>alias</i> Goff, <i>alias</i> Gaffney	15
Walker Thomas, <i>alias</i> John Estrick, <i>alias</i> Ho-ward, <i>alias</i> Bennet, <i>alias</i> Morris	18
Whitty Robert	142
Weaver Charles	254
Waltham Blacks	284
Wild Jonathan	314

76

SELECT

S.

1871
 1872
 1873
 1874
 1875
 1876
 1877
 1878
 1879
 1880
 1881
 1882
 1883
 1884
 1885
 1886
 1887
 1888
 1889
 1890
 1891
 1892
 1893
 1894
 1895
 1896
 1897
 1898
 1899
 1900



SELECT
ACCOUNTS
OF THE
Behaviour *and* Dying-Speeches
Of the most REMARKABLE
CONVICTS.

From the Year 1700, to the present Time.

*The ORDINARY of Newgate his Account of
the Behaviour and Dying-Words of Captain
William Kidd and Darby Mullins, Con-
demn'd for Piracy.*



CAPTAIN *William Kidd*, was about
56 Years of Age, born in *Scotland*: I
found him unwilling to confess the
Crime he was convicted of, or declare
any thing, otherwise than that he had
been a great Offender, and liv'd with-
out any due Consideration, either of
God's Mercies or Judgments, or of his wonderful
Works which had often been set before him; that he

never remember'd to return him Thanks for the many great Deliverances he had receiv'd from him, nor call'd himself to account for what he had done ; and now he owns that God is a just God, and he a vile and wretched Sinner. He says, he repents of all his Sins, and hopes to be sav'd through the Merits of Christ : He further declares, that he dies in Charity with all the World.

Darby Mullins was about 40 Years old, born in *Ireland*, hard-by *Marloughfelt*, about 16 Miles off *Londonderry*. He said he liv'd in his own Country, and followed the Plough with his Father, while he was young ; but being kidnapp'd, he was carried away into the *West-Indies*, where he serv'd a Planter, for the Space of four Years ; afterwards he turned a *Waterman*, and followed several other Employments in and about *Jamaica* ; and when the Earthquake happen'd there, he was miraculously preserv'd : After this Earthquake, he went to *Kingston*, a Town in those Parts, and there he built himself an House, and sold Liquors, &c. Then he came to *New-York*, with his Family, in the *Charity*, Capt. *Sims*, Commander, and continued there 2 Years ; at the End of which, he took his Passage on board Capt. *Slade*, to the *Maderas*, where he stay'd about three Weeks, and then returned to *New-York*, and some Time after, having buried his first Wife there, he was not able any longer to keep House, but apply'd himself to carrying and fetching Wood from Place to Place, in a Boat of his own about 20 Tuns. Then he left off this Employment, and engaged himself with Capt. *Kidd*, and afterwards with Capt. *Culliford*, not knowing but that it was very lawful (as he said he was told) to plunder Ships and Goods, &c. belonging to the Enemies of Christianity. But now he being shew'd, that those were the greatest Enemies to Christ and his Religion, who did such unaccountable things, as he and his Companions did, contrary to the Laws of Christianity, which they profess'd : He said he heartily begg'd Pardon of God, and of the World, for it, and wish'd he had not
been

been such an Offender. He confess'd he had been a great a Sinner, and had of late very much given up himself to Swearing, Cursing, profaning the Sabbath-Day, &c. which he now acknowledged had deservedly brought this Calamity upon him. He seem'd to be very penitent, and pray'd to God to forgive both these, and all other the Errors and Miscarriages of his past Life. He was a poor unlearned Person, not very much acquainted with any Principles of Religion; yet he was willing to be directed, and express'd great Hopes, that through the Merits of Christ, he should find Mercy, and obtain Salvation.

At the Place of Execution, I found (to my unspeakable Grief) when Capt. *Kidd* was brought thither, he was inflam'd with Drink; which had so discompos'd his Mind, that it was in a very ill Frame, and very unfit for the great Work to be perform'd by him. I pray'd for him, and so did other worthy Divines that were present, to whom (as well as to myself) the Capt. appear'd to be much out of Order, and not so concern'd and affected, as he ought to have been; 'tis true, he spoke some Words expressing his Confidence in God's Mercies through Christ, and likewise declared that he dy'd in Charity with all the World; but still I suspected his Sincerity, because he reflected more upon others, than upon himself, and endeavour'd to lay his Faults upon his Crew and others, in the same Manner he did when upon his Trial. When I left him at *Newgate*, he told me he would make a full Confession at the Tree; but instead of that (contrary to my Expectation) he was unwilling to own the Justice of his Condemnation, or so much as the Providence of God, who for his Sins had deservedly brought him to this untimely End. *Darby Mullins* persisted in asserting what he had told me before, and had nothing to add. The Captain having warn'd all Masters of Ships, and others, to take Warning by him. I then sung with them a penitential Psalm, and after another short Prayer, recommending them to God, I parted with them, leaving them to the divine Mercy.

But here I must take Notice of a remarkable (and I hope most lucky) Accident which happen'd. The Rope with which Capt. *Kidd* was ty'd, broke, and so falling to the Ground, he was taken up alive; and by this Means had Opportunity to consider more of that Eternity he was launching into. When he was brought up, and ty'd again to the Tree, I desir'd Leave to go to him again, which was granted; then I shew'd him the great Mercy of God to him in giving him (unexpectedly) this farther Respite, that so he might improve the few Moments, now so mercifully allotted him, in perfecting his Faith and Repentance. Now I found him in much better Temper than before; but as I was unwilling to offer any thing to him by way of Question, that might perhaps have discompos'd his Spirit, so I contented myself to press him to embrace (before it was too late) the Mercy of God now again offer'd him, upon the easy Conditions of stedfast Faith, true Repentance, and perfect Charity; which now, indeed, he did so fully and freely express, that I hope he was hearty and sincere in it, declaring openly that he repented with all his Heart, and dy'd in Christian Love and Charity with all the World; this he said as he was on the Top of the Ladder (the Scaffold being now broken down) and myself half way on it, as close to him as I could; who having again, for the last Time, pray'd with him, left him, with a greater Satisfaction than I had before, that he was Penitent.

They were executed at *Execution-Dock*, on *Friday, May 23, 1701.*



*The Behaviour, Confession and Dying-Words of
Herman Strodtman, condemn'd for Felony,
Burglary, and the Murder of Peter Wolter.*

HE was about eighteen Years of Age, born at *Revel* in *Lifland*, where his Father, a Merchant, lives in good Repute. He said he was a *Lutheran*, and had been well brought-up and educated, by his Parents; but (to his unexpressible Grief) had given way to his unruly Passions, and the Temptations of the grand Enemy of Mankind, the Devil, which had brought him to this untimely Death. He ingenuously and fully confess'd the Crimes he was guilty of; and desir'd all (both Young and Old) to take warning by him, and to *watch and pray, lest they fall into Temptation*. He cry'd mightily to God for the Pardon of all his Sins, and pray'd that the Blood of *Christ* would cleanse him from all his Iniquities. When the Dead-Warrant was come, I told him of it, and that he ought now to quicken his Pace to the Path of eternal Life, for he had but very few Days to live here. To which he answered, *The Lord's Will be done. I am ready to die. I am willing to die. Only, I beg of God, that I may not (as I deserve) die an eternal Death; and though I die here, for my most heinous and enormous Crimes, yet I may, for the Love of Christ, live eternally with him in Heaven*. Then he going on in these his pious Transports, he said, *God blest the King, and all my honourable Judges; they have done me no wrong; but 'tis I, that have done great wrong. The Lord be merciful to me, to me a great Sinner, else I perish*. These were the Words that he then most passionately utter'd, with several others of the like Import. And all the Time he lay under Confinement in *Newgate*, I saw nothing in him, but what was becoming a penitent Sinner. Sometimes he seem'd to be in very great despondency and despair of his Salvation, by Reason that he felt (as he said) his Repentance was not great enough, and therefore was mightily troubled in his Mind,

and was afraid that God would not accept of him. Yet, through Faith in Christ's Merits, those Fears and Doubts were soon dispell'd; and in the midst of them, God was pleas'd to discover his wonderful Mercy to him, and to lift up the Light of his Countenance upon him, and to comfort and assist him with his Grace, and (to his great Spiritual Joy) he became sensible, that he was *made sorry after a godly Manner, and that his godly Sorrow would work in him Repentance to Salvation, not to be repented of.* He shewed great Zeal, Fervency and Humility, and gave all the Signs of true Contrition and Penitence, that could be; at least, it appeared so to me, and to several other Ministers of God's Word, and pious People, that came to visit him. And as an Instance of his Repentance and Humility, and the Regard he had to his Soul, he made the most ample, ingenuous and plain Confession to me, that I believe ever was made by any Malefactor before; which Confession I took in writing from his own Mouth, and then reading it twice over to him, he solemnly declared it to be the Truth, and nothing but Truth: Then he signed it with his own Hand and desired that it might be printed.

At the Place of Execution, *Herman Strodtman* pray'd most fervently, sometimes in *English*, and at other Times in his own Tongue; and I hope his Repentance was equal to his Crimes. He read two excellent Prayers, which he himself had compos'd, and written with his own Hand, with some very useful Admonitions to other Sinners, and then deliver'd it to me, which well deserve to be made publick.

The Confession of Harman Strodtman.

IN the Year 1683, or a little before, I was born at *Revel in Liffand*, and had the Happiness to come of a good Family; my Parents being Persons of some Account in the World, and also godly and religious People, who took great Care of my Education.

About

About the Year 1694, my Father sent me to School to *Lubeck*, where I continued till *Michaelmas*, 1698. From thence I went to *Hamburg*, and staid there 'till I set out for *England*. I arrived at *London* the 18th Day of *March* following, and (together with one *Peter Wolter*, who came with me into *England*) (was, or at least I thought myself to be) bound Apprentic to Mr. *Stein* and Mr. *Dorein*, Merchants, and Partners in *London*. *Peter Wolter* and myself, having been Fellow-Travelers, and being now Fellow-Prentices, we liv'd for some Time very friendly and lovingly together, till about *August*, when his Sister was marry'd to one of our Masters, Mr. *Dorien*. Then he began to be so proud, and so much domineering over me, that I could not bear it. We had several fallings out, and he twice beat me, once before the Maids of the House in the Kitchen, and at another time in the Compting-House; and did (besides that) often complain and tell Tales of me to my Masters; thereby raising their Displeasure against me, and creating me their ill-will, so that they kept me close at home, and would not give me the same Liberty which my Fellow-Prentice (and myself before) had, of going abroad (sometimes) for Recreacion. Upon this Account, I conceiv'd an implacable hatred against him, and the Devil put it into my Heart to be revenged on him at any rate. First, I design'd to do it by Poison, having (to that purpose) mixt some Mercury with a certain white Powder, which he had always in a Glass in the Chamber, and of which he us'd to take a Dose very often, for the Scurvy. But it being then Winter-Time (I think the latter End of *December*, or beginning of *January*) I found he had left off taking of his Powder; and so I might wait long enough before I could see the Effects of my Poison, if I staid 'till the Time he was to take that Powder again. Therefore I thought of another Way to dispatch him, and this was by stabbing him. And as I was, or thought myself daily abus'd by him, so my hatred, and Spirit of Revenge grew hotter and hotter against him every Day; insomuch that now I came to be apprehensive, that if I continued longer in the House, I

could not forbear at last doing him open Mischief, and laying violent Hands upon him. Whereupon I desired one of the Maids to beg of my Master to send me to the *West-Indies*; but they resolving nothing in the Matter, and I being in haste about it, shew'd myself very uneasy under this uncertainty; and my Anger against my Fellow-Prentice did so increase, that the *Dutch* Maid took great Notice of it to me, and gave me very good Advice of being meek, patient, and dutiful, which would have been a very happy Thing for me to have taken. But I was under too great a Temptation to be in any Condition of receiving good Admonitions from Friends. The great Enemy of my Soul, was now very busy about me, and would not let me rest till I had executed this damnable Design he had put me upon. On *Good-Friday* Morning, my Masters sending me of an Errand, I took from thence Opportunity to go to *Greenwich*, with Design to return home on *Saturday*; but being now unwilling to kill my Fellow-Prentice before he had received the Sacrament, which he was to do on *Easter-day*, I stay'd at *Greenwich*, and on the *Saturday* sent a Letter to my Masters, telling them (what the Father of Lies had dictated to me) that I was prest, and was to go to *Chatham*, and there to be put on board of one of the King's Ships. On *Easter-Monday*, being still at *Greenwich*, I was met there by a young Man, who knew me, and at his return to *London* (as I heard) told my Masters, that he thought I was not prest, as I pretended. Upon which my Master *Stein*, (as I have been informed) going down to *Chatham*, to know certainly whether it was so or no, did not find that any such young Man as my self, had of late been prest there, or brought thither. On *Easter-day* as I was at *Greenwich*, I went to Church there both Morning and Afternoon; but the Lord forgive me, my Heart was then very far from being Intent on any Thing that was Good. Towards the Evening I came to Town, and lay that Night at a certain Inn (the *Dolphin* I think) without *Bishopsgate*; the next Morning I returned to *Greenwich*, and was there and at *Woolwich*, up and down thereabouts,

abouts, 'till the next *Tuesday*, when I came up to *Town*, and lay in *Lombard-Street*, and on *Wednesday* Morning went down again to *Greenwich*. On *Thursday* Evening I came to *Town* again, and return'd to *Greenwich* no more. Now being come to *Town* for good and all, I went to my Masters, and told them by Word of Mouth, what I had writ to them before, namely, That I was pressed. But they said they could not believe it, for they had made Enquiry into that Matter upon the Place, and found no such Thing, and so were very angry with me, and bid me be gone. Upon which I went away, and took Lodgings in *Moorfields*, and lay there both that Night, and *Friday* Night; and on *Saturday* I took other Lodgings at the Sign of the *Sun*, an Ale-house, in *Queen-Street, London*. Now I had a Key of the Fore-door of my Master's House, which I got made for me a long Time before *Christmas*, by that which was my Masters, and this was for my private Use, that I might (unknown to my Masters) go in and out, at any Time when I had a Mind to it; intending at first, no other use of it, but my having the Liberty of taking my Pleasure abroad, oft'ner than my Masters would allow; but the Devil at last taught me another use of this Key. For by the help of it, I came to my Masters House on *Saturday* in *Easter-Week*, about half an Hour past eight at Night; and being got in, I first hid myself behind the Entry Door, upon my hearing a Noise of somebody's going up Stairs. When this was over, and I supposed the Way was clear, I went up one Pair of Stairs first, and entering the Room where I us'd to lye, next to the Compting-house, I went to a Tinder-box (which I knew was there) and having struck Fire, lighted a Candle. Then I took my Masters Dark-Lantern that was there also, and went up with it another Pair of Stairs higher, and having got into an empty Room adjoining to *Peter Wolter's* Chamber, I shut myself in there, where I was no sooner come, but I heard a Noise, as if somebody was coming up; upon which, I put out my Candle, and some Time after fell asleep. About twelve o'Clock being awake, and sup-

posing that by this Time *Peter Wolter*, and the rest of the Family were a-bed, and fast asleep, after I had been some Time hearkening, and perceiv'd all was quiet in the House, I went down again to my Room one Pair of Stairs, where the Tinder-box lay, and having lighted my Candle a second Time, entred the Compting-House, and there took out several Notes and Bills, and some Money too ; and then went up again 2 pair of Stairs, carrying with me a certain piece of Wood, wherewith they used to beat Tobacco, which I found in my Chamber. When I was got up Stairs, I sprung into *Peter Wolter's* Chamber, and coming to his Bed-side, open'd the Curtains, and with my Tobacco-beater knock'd him on the Head, giving him four or five Blows on the left Side of it, and another on the Right. When I had given him the first Blow, then my Heart failed me ; yet being afraid to be discovered by the Noise he made with Groaning, I followed close this first Blow, with three or four others, and then had not Courage enough to go on with any more. Therefore to stop his Groans, I took his Pillow, and laying it on his Mouth, pressed hard upon it with my Elbow, as I was sitting on the side of his Bed ; and by this means stopp'd his Breath and stifled him. And thus I most barbarously murder'd this poor Creature ; whom I intended (had this fail'd) to have shot to Death, having brought with me two Pistols ready charged for that wicked purpose. *The Lord forgive me this Sin!* When I perceived *Peter Wolter* was quite dead, I proceeded to search his Breeches and Chest of Drawers, and took a Note of 20 *l.* with some Money, out of his Pocket ; which (with that I had taken in the Compting-House) amounted to 8 or 9 *l.* Then I pack'd up some of his Linnen and Wollen Cloaths, and having made a Bundle of them, went down with it one Pair of Stairs, and out of a Window there, threw it into the next House, where nobody dwelt. Then I went up Stairs again, and having cut my Candle in two (both Pieces being lighted) I set one in the Chest of Drawers, and the other on a Chair, close by the Bed Curtains ; intending to have burnt the House, in
order

order to conceal by this heinous Fact, the other two, of Theft and Murder, which through the Instigation of the Devil, I had now most barbarously committed. Then I went through a Window, out of the House, into that where I had flung the Bundle; and staying there till about five in the Morning, went away with that Bundle (and what else I had took) to my Lodgings in *Queen-Street*, where I put on clean Cloths, and then went to the *Swedes* Church in *Trinity-Lane*. There heard the Bill of Thanks read which my Masters had put up for their own and their Neighbours Preservation; at which, my Heart sunk down, and I had great Checks of Conscience, and could not forbear shedding of Tears, which I hid (all I could) from an Acquaintance of my Masters, who was in the same Pew with me, and told me, that my Masters House was like to have been burnt the last Night, it being set on Fire by an Accident yet unknown; but the Mischiefe which it might have done, was (thro' God's Mercy) happily prevented by the *Dutch* Maid, who first smelt the Fire, and saw the Smoak, and thereupon called her Master, and fetch'd up a Pail of Water, by which means it was presently put out. This he told me at large as we were coming out of the Church; and at our parting, he and I appointed to meet one another at Two o'Clock upon the Out-Walks of the *Royal Exchange*, in order to go together to the *Dutch* Church in the *Savoy*. I went to the *Exchange* accordingly, and walked thereabouts, waiting for him a while; but he not coming as he had promised me, I went alone (not to the *Savoy* as intended) but to *Stepney* Church, and after Sermon, walked in the Fields towards *Mile-End*, where I saw at a Distance, two *Dutch* Men that were hang'd there in Chains. Then I was struck with some Remorse and Fears, and said to myself, *Thou may'st come to be one of them, and be made a like Spectacle to the World*. After this, as I went on, I came to *Blackwall* (as I think) and there saw another Person (a Captain of *French* Pirates) who also hang'd in Chains in that Place. Then the same Thoughts again returned upon me, viz. *That if*

may come to my Lot to have such a shameful End. Thus Providence having led me to those dismal and gawly Objects, I came back to my Lodgings with heavy Thoughts about me, but not at all awaken'd to Repentance, for I was in a Spiritual Slumber; still under the Power and Dominion of the Devil, so as my Heart did not relent at what I had done; but on the Contrary, I had it yet in my Mind, that if I failed of murdering my Fellow-Prentice in his Bed, I would have destroyed him some other Way, and particularly design'd to have pistol'd him, as he was going for his Masters Letters to the Post-House, or at his coming back from thence; as I had also once lain in wait under the Arch in *Austine-Friars* to have done it, if he had come out at that Time. Now being come back from my distracted Walks, to my Lodgings at the *Sun Alehouse*, I supp'd and went to Bed, after I had said my Prayers; but (God knows) I was then in a very unfit Condition to pray; but the Lord has since been infinitely gracious and merciful to me, in giving me a Heart (as well as a Mouth) to pray: For which his glorious Name be eternally praised. The next Day, being the second *Monday* after *Easter*, I went in the Morning to the *White-Horse-Inn* without *Cripplegate*, to receive Money upon one of those Bills I had stol'n out of my Masters House, namely, the 20*l.* Bill; but the Man that should have paid it, being said to be gone out, I was desired to come again about twelve, which I did. In the mean Time I went to a *Goldsmith*, one that I knew in *Lombard-street*, who would have sent me that Morning (as he said) with some Money to his Sister, who was at a Boarding-School at *Greenwich*; but I told him I could not go before the next Day, and then I would. Before I came away from him, he told me, that a young Man (one *Green* by Name) had been there enquiring after me. Upon which I desired him to tell that young Man, if he came again, that I would come back to look for him there about One. Then I hasted to the *White-Horse-Inn* again, and found the Party from whom I thought to have received the Money upon the Bill I brought to him; but

he

he told me he had no Order to pay it. With this Answer I returned to my Lodgings, and after I had dined, I went again to the *Goldsmith's* in *Lombard-Street*, where I found Mr. *Stein*, with another Gentleman, and my Countryman *Green*. My Master ask'd me whether I would go willingly to his House, or be carried thither by two Porters. I said I would go. So after some Questions about the horrid Facts I had committed at his House, and my denying of them, I was search'd, and the Bill of 20*l.* which was in the Deceased's Pocket, was found upon me. Then he asking me where I lay, I told him in *Moorfields*; so we went thither, and came to my former Lodgings; but the People of the House told him, I did not lye there now, nor had not done since last *Friday Night*. By this, my Master finding that I was unwilling to let him know where I had lay'd, or how I had disposed of those Things which I had stolen out of his House, promised me that if I would confess, no harm should come to me, for he would take Care to send me presently beyond Sea. Upon this I freely told him all the Truth; where I lay, and where those Goods of his were, as we were walking together. So he presently took a Coach, and carried me first to my Lodgings in *Queen-Street*, (where he received the Bills, Cloaths, Money, and all that I had thus stolen) and then he carried me to Sir *Humphry Edwin*, who, upon his Examination of me, and my own Confession of all these Facts, did (most justly, I must acknowledge it, and the Providence of God in it) commit me to *Newgate*, where I must leave it to Others to relate how I behaved myself during my Confinement. This only I will say, that if I had been try'd the first Sessions, after my being there, I would have pleaded guilty, according as I was advised by the Minister of *Newgate*, and other my Spiritual Teachers and good People. But I was taught by some Persons in *Newgate*, to deny all upon my Trial, they framing for me, and industriously teaching me the Story of *John the Painter*, and all that Stuff, which I then alledg'd at the Bar for my Defence: All which I now confess to be utterly false
in

in every Part of it, I not knowing any such Person in the World as *John the Painter*; and none being privy to, or aiding me in those hellish Crimes of mine, but the Devil, who had put me upon them. And this I do not only confess with sincerity, but heartily repent of, and with the greatest Sorrow and Humility, beg God's Pardon, for my having endeavoured, with presumptuous Lies, to conceal what God would have brought to Light, and openly punish me for in this World, that I might (I hope) avoid eternal Punishment in the Next. I therefore give him the greatest Thanks I am capable of, for the Time, Opportunity and Grace, he has given me to Repent, and to be reconciled to him, through the Blood of my Saviour Jesus Christ; and I earnestly pray him to bless all those who have been Instruments of my Apprehension and Condemnation, as well as of my Conversion. To bless the King with a long Life and prosperous Reign upon Earth, and to give him at last the immortal Crown of Glory. To bless all my Judges, whose Justice to me I again acknowledge, and my unjust Denial to them of the Facts I stood charg'd with before them, I humbly ask their Pardon for. And I pray God from my Heart to remember in his Mercy my poor Father (if yet alive) and my Sisters and my Brother, with all the rest of my Friends and Relations; and to bless and prosper my Masters and their Families; to pardon all my Enemies (if I have any) and to pour down his Blessings upon all good People of God; upon his Church, these Nations, and the whole World; and to have infinite Mercy upon my sinful Soul. This I implore on my bended Knees, overwhelm'd with Grief, and bathed in Tears of sincere Repentance; acknowledging, that if God were no more merciful to me, than I was to that poor Creature, whom I barbarously murder'd, I should be undone to all Eternity. But he is infinitely good and Gracious, who will not suffer my Soul to perish. Therefore I will magnify him, as long as I live; and within a few Hours, sing with the blessed Saints above, the joyful Song of Deliverance and of Praise and Hallelujah to him, my heavenly Father,

and

and to my dear Redeemer, for evermore. *Amen* and
Amen.

Newgate,
June 17, 1701.

Harman Strodtman.

He was executed at *Tyburn* on *Wednesday June 18,*
1701.

The Behaviour, Confession, and Dying-Words,
of John Goffe, alias White, alias Gaffney,
for a Robbery committed in Boswell-Court.

HE was born at *Dublin*, and was now above
50 Years old, and had been a Soldier the greatest
Part of his Life, in the Service of this Crown, *viz.*
first in the Foot-Guard, and afterwards in the Earl
of *Oxford's* Regiment, and of late Years in *Flanders*,
and was also for some Time in the Duke of *Sarvoy's*
Army, and was a Voluntier in her Majesty's Service,
going for *Ireland*, at the Time of his being apprehend-
ed at *Bristol*. He confess'd that he was guilty of the
Fact, for which he was now to die; but said, that he
was trepann'd into it by *Daniel Skanlen* the Silver-Smith,
and *Thomas Fowler*, who were some time after execu-
ted for it. Those, he said, were the Contrivers and
chief Managers of this foul Business, the Guilt of which,
I found he industriously endeavour'd to move from
himself, and place upon them, and three others more,
that were concerned with them therein, *viz.* one *Nicho-*
las Moore, (who was then try'd for it and acquitted) and
his Brother *James Moore*, and one *Fitz-Morris*, the for-
mer of whom, *viz. Nicholas Moore*, he says, was af-
terwards committed for some other notorious Facts, to
Oxford Goal, out of which he broke, and robb'd the
Keeper besides, and is now, as he thinks, in the *West-*
Indies. As for himself, he said, That when he first en-
gag'd

gag'd in this Affair, he did not well understand what it was ; and when at last he saw better into it, he would have declin'd having any further to do with it ; but it was not in his Power to get off : However, he did as little Harm himself, and prevented as much Mischiefe, as he could ; saying, that he was the Cause the Persons they had robb'd, were not murther'd, or did not perish in the Cellar, where they had left them bound, both Hand and Foot : For having got the Key of the outward Door of the House, when they had committed this their villainous Fact, he gave it to a certain Porter's Wife, living thereabouts, with Order to make a Fire in the House, and to fetch Coals for it out of the Cellar, though indeed there was none there ; but this he said with the Intent, that she going to the Cellar, might see those Persons (who were three in number) that were bound there, and so cause them to be released. He own'd, he had 26 Guineas for his Share in the Booty ; which, he said, it was his Desire and Purpose to have restor'd to the Parties wrong'd, whenever he could ; but he never was, nor is, in a Condition to do it : He prays God to make them and theirs amends for it. This is what he now told me relating to this Fact. As for other Matters, he said, he never did before, nor since that, commit any Crime deserving Death, or the Censure of the Law. He heartily begg'd Pardon, both of God, and them he had wrong'd ; and for his Religion, he declared that he was born, and desired to die a *Roman Catholick* ; but yet, if he was not in the right Way, he wish'd he might be put into it ; I had to that purpose, several private Discourses with him ; wherein, having explain'd to him the Doctrine of our Church, he seem'd to give his Assent to it, and told me, that *he was glad, and it did refresh his Soul, to hear me talk of good Things*, (these were his own Words) and desired my Prayers ; owning himself oblig'd to me for my Ghostly Instructions and Admonitions to him, which he said he would follow, and particularly what related to his making earnest Application to God for his Grace, to enlighten

lighten his Mind, to purify his Affections, and guide him into the Way of eternal Rest and Peace. The Conversation I had with him had this Effect upon him, that though he was not willing to renounce in particular, and by Name, the Errors of the *Romish* Church, yet it did put him upon doing it in general, in this his Profession and Prayer to God, which he afterwards gave me in Writing, as follows.

I Hold the Apostles Creed. I believe in God the Father, &c. I hope I am a Member of the Holy Catholick Church mention'd in this Creed. But if thou seest, O Lord! that I am deceived, and that I have taken part with false Teachers, behold here in thy Presence I renounce the Errors I have professed, whatever they are. I disown the Congregation by which I have been misled, and now lay before thee my most sincere Desires of becoming and dying a Member of thy true Catholick Church: And did I but know which in particular it is, I declare, I would this Moment be a Member of it. Thou know'st, my God, the Sincerity of my Heart; and to thee I profess, I believe all its Doctrines. I now unite my self to it; and though to the World I am not perhaps in union with it, yet before Thee, O Searcher of Hearts! I hope I am, Supply now, I beseech Thee, all that is wanting to me through my own Ignorance, and forgive me my Sins; for I detest them all for Love of Thee; and I firmly hope, through the Death and Passion of thy only Son, to be Partaker of thy Mercy. Forgive me, O Lord, forgive me: For in thee alone I hope, and put my Trust.

At the Place of Execution, *Gaffney* declar'd, that he dy'd a *Roman Catholick*: Yet he said, he depended upon Christ's Merits alone for Salvation. I asking him, whether he was not willing to joyn in Prayer with me and his Fellow-Sufferers, and to have the Prayers of the Standers-by; he said aloud, *I desire the Prayers of all Protestants while I am alive, and of all Roman Catholicks when I am dead.*

He

He desired the Spectators to take Warning by his Fate, and went out of the World calling upon God, &c.

He was executed at *Tyburn*, on *Wednesday* the 30th of *December*, 1702.

The Behaviour, Confession, and Dying-Words, of John Estrick, alias Howard, alias Thomas Walker, alias Bennet, alias Morris, condemned for Felony and Burglary, for breaking the House of Dr. Bourne in Moorfields.

HE was about 26 Years of Age, born in *London*, and had for some Time been employ'd in the Trade of a *Leather-Dresser*, at his Father's House, when he liv'd in *Horsleydown* in *Southwark*; there he began, very young, to addict himself to Whoring and Pilfering, and began with robbing his own Father. About five Years since, going to live at *Hackney*, in the Service of *Thomas Glover, Esq;* he did (by the Instigation of a certain Person, who disposed of what he got to another, both whose Names I shall spare here, in hopes they may now be better Men than they were) steal from him at several Times, Plate to the value of 80 *l.* and falsely charged *Susan Barnwel*, then a Servant-Maid of his Master's with it: And he carry'd himself so cunningly, that he was not mistrusted by his Master; by whom, he said, he believed he might, if he would, have lived to this Day: But he had a Mind to leave him, and so he did, and went to set up a Glover's Shop near *Cock-Alley*, in the Parish of *St. Giles's Cripplegate*, right over-against that Church; having, before his setting up, marry'd a most virtuous Woman, who knew nothing of his former Life. He had not been long set up, when the Party who had prompted him to wrong Mr.

Glover

Glover, came to him with another (who shall also be nameless here, because I desire Men's Reformation, rather than their Shame) who told him that they would turn Evidences against him in that Robbery, if he did not give them a Sum of Money. Upon which he gave them his Bond to pay them, within one Month, the Sum of 15 *l.* a piece, which he did, after he had been arrested by one of them for it. Then he could no longer keep his Shop, but broke; and being arrested, he was carried to the *Rose*, a Spunging house in *Wood-street*; from whence he removed himself to the *Fleet-Prison*: But some time after that, he came out, upon his paying seven Guineas to the Warden, with some other Fees, amounting in all to about 12 *l.* but paid not a Farthing to his Creditors. Being at Liberty, he went to his old Neighbour, Mr. *King*, a Clock-maker in *Cock-Alley*, and took a Room at his House; in which finding a Box, left by a Woman who had formerly lodged in that Room, he made shift to open it with a Key that he had, and took out of it ninety Guineas, 25 *l.* in Silver, several golden Rings, and a Gold Chain. After he had continued about a Fortnight a Lodger in Mr. *King's*, who did not suspect him, he went away with what he had got, and took a House in *Long-Alley*, near *Moorfields*; which he furnished, and there intended to have carried on his Trade of *Glover*, not in an open Shop, as before, but within Doors. But he was not long there, but a certain Lodger of Mr. *King's*, who knew how poor he was when he came out of the *Fleet*, told him, that he greatly suspected him of having done some ill thing or other, and he should soon find it out, and would discover it, if he did not give him something to engage him to hold his Peace. Upon this, he sold his Goods, in haste and with loss, left his House, and went into *Holland*; and soon after returning hither, he fell again upon his old Practices of Whoring and Thieving, being thereto, that is, to the latter of these, (as he aver'd) very much incited by *John Proffor*, his Brother-in-Law, saying, that though this Brother-in-Law

of

of his generally took care not to commit the thing himself, yet he had often put him upon robbing several Houses, as namely, that of the Rev. Mr. *Richardson*, near *London-wall*; out of which he took (by Night) several Goods. And not long after that, his Brother-in-Law and himself went to *Richmond*, where he broke and robb'd some Houses; and particularly, Sir *John Buckworth's*: And here he clear'd the Beadle of that Parish, who (as he heard) was suspected of those Robberies; telling me, that his Brother-in-Law and himself, were the only Persons concerned in them. Then coming to Town again, he robb'd the Rev. Dr. *Thompson's* House, near *Tyburn-Road*: And some time after this, being (by the Contrivance of his said Brother-in-Law) recommended for a Servant to Dr. *Bourne*; he was no sooner with him, but he robb'd him of several things, he thinks to the Value of 150 *l.* and of that, had about 40 *l.* to his Share, which he presently spent. After this, he robb'd Mr. *Hurn*. And last of all, (to name no more) he stole all the Cloaths and Wearing Apparel of one Mrs. *Stevenson*, and left her almost quite naked. Thus he freely confess'd his manifold Crimes, and express'd a very great Grief for them; saying, that it repented him that he had been such an ill Liver; and was afraid God would never forgive him, being sometimes in Despair of Salvation: But at last he declar'd, that he now felt in his Heart a perfect Hatred against Sin, and the Assurance of Eternal Life, through the Merits of Jesus Christ. Finding him in this State of Penitence, of which, this his free Confession was a great Sign, I thought fit (at his Desire) to administer the Holy Communion to him; and so I did this Morning; some pious Persons, out of Christian Charity, joining with him in the Receiving. This being over, he was carry'd in a Cart to *Tyburn*, where I met him; and after Prayer, and singing of a Psalm, he spoke to the Spectators to this Effect.

Good People,

TAKE Warning by my Fall; I am, you see, a young Man, who by my Sins have shortned my Days, and brought my self to this shameful (but deserved) Death. Take heed to your selves, and how you lead your Life. Live not as I have done, lest you come to the like sad and untimely End I am now come to. Break not the Sabbath-Day, and keep not company with wicked Men, and lewd Women, as I have done. Those are the great Evils, which have brought this Sorrow upon me. Avoid all manner of Sin, even the smallest, for from one little Sin, Men easily fall to the Commission of greater ones. I pray heartily to God to keep you from all Evil: And I beseech you to pray for me, that God would have Mercy upon my poor Soul. To this Purpose he spoke much to the People; and particularly desired his Sister, To tell her Husband, that he ought to remember this Judgment now inflicted upon him, and lay it to Heart, and learn from it to amend his Ways, and become a better Man, and endeavour for the future to live by an honest Industry, which he might very well do, and prosper more with it, (tho' he got but Two Pence a Day) in such a Way, than in getting Goods by unlawful Means; which cannot profit, but prove at last hurtful both to Body and Soul. He pray'd God would please to reform and pardon him. He express'd all along, a mighty Grief for his having wrong'd, as he had unworthily done, his poor Wife; a most innocent and virtuous Person, whose Bed he had defiled, and whose Company he had forsaken to cleave to lewd Women. He said, he most heartily begg'd her Pardon, and the Pardon of all he had offended and injur'd; and, above all, God's Pardon; which he said he was now assured would be sealed in Heaven, before he should depart from hence: And therefore gave hearty Thanks and Praise to the divine Goodness, that thus retrieved his Soul from perishing eternally; for though he died here, yet he had stedfast hopes that he was now going to live for ever in Heaven, and be received in Glory, through the Merits and Intercession

Intercession of Jesus Christ.---- After this, I pray'd again, and sung another Psalm with him; and he spoke a second Time to the People, to the same Purpose as before. Then I recommended him to the tender Mercy of God, and left him to his private Devotions; for which he having had some Time allow'd him, the Cart drew away, and he was turned off; calling upon God in these, and other like Ejaculations, *Lord pardon! Lord forgive me my Sins! O Lord do not abhor my Soul! I come unto thee. Lord Jesus receive my Spirit.* Before I left him he gave me the following Letters, written with his own Hand the Day before.

His Letter to his Wife.

My Dear,

March 9, 1702-3.

I AM just a going out of this sinful World, and my Grief is, that I have so much abus'd so good and loving a Wife, as you have been to me. But I implore the God of Heaven and Earth to pardon my Sins: And I beg you to forgive me for the Damage I have done to your dear self. My dear, pray to God to help you in all your Troubles, and he will hear your Prayers; for he is a gracious God, and will in no wise cast you off, if you do but put your Trust in him. My dear Love, as I am going to die To-morrow, were I to live my Life again, I would never leave you, nor dishonour God, as I have done. But since it is God's Pleasure to let me suffer this ignominious Death, I am free to lay down my Life for my Sins, and hope to find Mercy, through Jesus Christ. I commit my Body to the Earth, and I hope the Lord will take Care of my Soul. I leave you to the Care of the Almighty God, who will be a Husband to you.

*I remain your affectionate Husband,
as long as Life remains,*

Directed thus.

John Estrick.

This for Mrs. Estrick.

Another

Another Letter to his former Master, Thomas Glover, Esq; at Hackney.

S I R,

March 9, 1702-3.

I Heartily beg God's Pardon for all my Sins, and ask you Forgiveness for the Damage I have done to you. But as I am a Dying-man, *Susan* knows nothing of your Plate, though I falsely accused her of it: And I beg of God to forgive me.

John Estrick.

Directed thus.

This to *Thomas Glover, Esq; at Hackney.*

A Paper relating to Sir John Buckworth, &c.

S I R *John Buckworth*, at *Richmond*, has a Suspicion of some Persons that have a hand in some Robberies there. To take off the Suspicion, I, with *John Proffor*, robbed the *Wells*, and the *Glovers*, and the *Cafenders*; which I pray God to forgive me; for it is out of my Power to help them to any of their Things, any more than what I have done.

John Estrick.

He was executed at *Tyburn* on *Wednesday* the 10th of *March*, 1702-3.

The Confession of John Peter Dramatti, a Frenchman, for the barbarous Murder of Frances his Wife, about Bloody-Bridge, near Chelsea.

J O H N *Peter Dramatti*, who was indicted and try'd (through Mistake of his right Name, by that of *John Peter Dromet*) and found guilty of, and condemned for

for the Murder of his own Wife, gave me this Account of himself, and particularly of the great Crime, for which he confesses he justly deserves this shameful Punishment. First, he said he was about 30 Years of Age, born of honest and religious Parents, and brought up in the Protestant Religion, at *Saverdun*, in the County of *Foix*, in the Province of *Languedoc* in *France*. That about nine Years since he left his own Country, upon the Account of the Persecution there, and went to *Geneva*, and from thence to *Germany*, where he served for some time in the Elector of *Brandenburgh*, now King of *Prussia*, his Horse-Granadiers; and leaving that Employment, he came into *England* about eight Years ago, and was admitted into the Rt. Hon. the Lord *Haverham's* Service; in which he staid twelve Months, or thereabouts; and then left it, to go a Soldier in Colonel *Dela Meloniere's* Regiment, under the Command of Captain *Dela Cour*. So having made two Campaigns in *Flanders*, the Regiment he belong'd to was commanded into *Ireland*, where it was broke, and this *Dramatti* discharged. Upon which, he being then at *Yawl*, got a slight Acquaintance with a certain aged Widow there, named *Frances Morris*, whom he never before had heard of, who giving out her self as a great Fortune, and of a noble Extraction, saying, that she was of the Blood-Royal of *France*, he presently married her, both upon the Account of her suppos'd Wealth, and of her understanding *English* and *Irish*, of which himself being ignorant, he judged it was very convenient for him to have a Wife that could speak the Languages of that Country, wherein he intended to settle. When he had marry'd this Woman, who he soon after perceiv'd had catch'd him, and not he her, she having nothing to live upon, he took a Country-House with some Ground belonging to it, about ten Miles off *Cork*, which he rented for Fifty Shillings, intending to turn an Husbandman, and try whether he could get his Livelihood that Way; but being wholly unacquainted with the Business of Husbandry, he could make nothing of it, but was a very bad
and

and unsuccessful Husbandman, as he afterwards prov'd a very cruel and barbarous Husband. This put him upon another Endeavour of getting an honest Livelihood for himself and his Wife only, (for by reason of her old Age, he supposing her to be within few Years of Threescore, they were not likely to have Children;) he therefore went to *Cork*, and being a *Skinner*, he work'd at his Trade, and settled in that City. But neither did this turn to any Account; so after a Twelve-month spent there, without any Success or Advantage, he return'd into *England*, and offering his Service to the Noble Lord he had served before, his Lordship was pleas'd to entertain him again; and from that Time continued in that Service, with Approbation, to the Day of his Commitment.

This Account he having given me of his former Life, then he came in the next place to speak particularly to the most horrid and barbarous Murder, which he had committed upon the Body of his said Wife. And what he said concerning this bloody Fact was this, *viz.* That his Wife being very uneasy to live from him, as she did, would have had him taken her with him to his Lord's; which he would not do, saying, his Lordship knew nothing of their Marriage. Then she would have persuaded him to leave his Service; but he said, he thought it not convenient for him to do that neither, as having a very good Lord, whom he lov'd, and without whose Service he did not know what Shift he could make to live; and therefore was resolv'd to continue his Servant, as long as his Lordship was pleas'd to make use of his Service. This was the Answer he gave his Wife, who shew'd more Uneasiness still, and (without any the least just Cause for it, as he said) discover'd her Jealousy of him, fancying that he had plac'd his particular Affections upon some other Woman than her self; and this Jealousy of hers grew greater and greater, and at last to that Height, as that it became insupportable to both of them. To which, an Accident that then happen'd, did not a little contribute. It was

VOL. I. C this,

this, about *Christmas* last he fell sick of a Fever, and was by his Lord's Orders carefully look'd after in his Family, so that nothing of Physick, or Attendance, or what else necessary, was wanting to him. But his Wife coming one Day to see him, would have had him away; he would not consent to it; and a Servant-Maid being with him in his Chamber, who had brought him some Water-gruel, she presently concluded, *That* was his *Love*; and upon this, repeated her Importunities to persuade him to leave that House, and be with her. Whereto he reply'd, that so long as his Lord was so kind to him, and was pleased to provide for him so well, and to keep him while he was sick, in his Family, and at his Charge, he did not think fit, by any means, to remove; and that he should be a very Madman indeed, to leave a Place where he was so well and so kindly treated, to go and starve with her. Which Answer served but to inflame and encrease her Passion, and did not at all satisfy her: And looking upon her Husband's Denial as the Effect of some secret Amours he had either for that Maid she had seen in his Chamber, or some other in the Family, she resolv'd to give him no Rest, who (though most innocently, as he again protested to me) had thus disturbed hers: And so she ply'd him continually with renew'd Importunities, and Expressions of her great Disgust at his Unwillingness to come and live with her. When he was recover'd of his Sickness, he visited her now and then at her Lodgings; but his Service would not permit him to make those his Visits so frequent and so long as she desir'd; so that she was under the same Disquietude as before; and when his Lord took Lodgings at *Kensington*, this *Dramatti*, his Lordship's Servant, had so much Business, and was in such Haste and Hurry in his Removal of his Lordship's Things and himself thither, that he had no Time to see his Wife, and let her know of it before he went; when she came to hear of it by other means, she was in a great Passion, and came to *Kensington*, to reproach him with his Unkindness to her, though he told me he always

ways took care to provide for her, so far as his Capacity could go, and that as an Instance of it, he had given her three Guineas not long before he gave her her Death, and always went to see her as often as he could. But that would not satisfy her, she would have something else, which he was not willing to grant, and that was his keeping a Shop, and living constantly with her. After many Debates and Contentions about this Matter, it fell out one Day, *viz.* that fatal Day, the 9th of June last, that being sent by his Lord on some Errands to Town, and his Business lying towards *Soho*, he called upon his Wife, and having been with her a little while, as he was going away, she took hold on him, and would not let him go; but he got off, and went his Way towards *Charing-Cross*, whither she follow'd him, till with much Persuasions (he telling her among other Things, he was going to his Lord in the *Spring-Garden*) she seem'd to yield to his Desire of her returning home; but instead thereof, she went and staid for him, at, or about *Hide-Park-Gate*, to catch him in his Way to *Ken-sington*; and so accordingly, as he was returning thither in the Evening, she stopp'd him at the *Park-Gate*, and would let him go no further, unless he took her along with him. He told her, that his Lord knowing nothing of his having a Wife, it would look very ill for him to bring her at that Time of the Night, into his Lordship's Lodgings; and that this might occasion his Lordship's Displeasure against him, and make him turn him away. Therefore as he would not have things to be brought to this pass, he desired her for God's Sake not to follow him any more, but get home as fast as she could. But this was a Thing too hard for her to comply with, and the Arguments he us'd to persuade her to it, had no other Effect upon her, but to make her more earnest still to follow him. *She would go* (said she) *in spite of his Teeth, or else she should have his Life, or he should have hers.* Upon which he said thus to her. *If you will go to Kensington, then you may go alone; that's the Way,* pointing to the *Park*, whilst himself was turning

ing and walking on towards *Knights-Bridge*. But it was his Company she desired, and therefore follow'd him. He turned towards *Chelsea*. And there it was, *viz.* about *Bloody-Bridge*, that through the long and sharp Contentions, and the many angry and reproachful Words, that had pass'd between them (wherein he thought she most unworthily reflected upon his Lord) their Passions were on both Sides heighten'd to that degree, that they fell together by the Ears in good earnest; and he said, she first took him by his Neck-cloth, and would have strangled him. Whereupon he beat her most unmercifully, both with his Cane and Sword, which he supposes she broke with her Hands, she being a very strong and lusty Woman, and might easily have master'd him, had he been naked, and without Weapons. He said his Rage and Fury were so great, and had so transported him out of himself, that, at that instant, the Devil had the whole Power of him, and he did not so much as know what he was then doing. I asked him, whether he was in Drink when he committed this barbarous Murder; he answer'd me, that he never was Drunk in his Life. Having given this poor Woman many cruel Wounds, and some of them mortal, he left her in a Ditch (as he thought) half dead, and in such a Condition, as that she should never recover. After this Barbarity, the greatest perhaps that ever yet was, and I hope will ever be committed, he came a little to himself; and considering that he had now done an Action of the most heinous Nature, he presently (before he was far gone from the Place) he fell on his Knees, and begg'd God's Pardon for it, and then made the best of his way to his Lord's Lodgings at *Kensington*; where coming very late at Night, and his Cloaths and Stockings being observ'd to be bloody, he was presently thought to have done some Mischief, or to have had some Mischief done him. But he remov'd the Suspicion from himself, when being ask'd, what made him stay so late; he reply'd, that he was assaulted by two Men in the *Park*, and had (as he believ'd) broke

broke the Head of one of them. Which Story then pass'd for Truth, and the Matter rested for that Night. The next Day being the 10th of *June*, he went about his Business, as usual, and his Lord sent him to Town on some Errands, by which means he came to hear (before the News of it arriv'd at *Kensington*) of the barbarous Murder cry'd about in the Streets, and making very great Noise: Yet, he said, it never came into his Mind to make his Escape, tho' he expected every Moment to be laid hold on for it. So, when he had dispatched his Lord's Business, for which he was come to Town, he returned to *Kensington*, where the next Day after, being the 11th of *June*, he was apprehended upon strong Suspicion, and then upon his own Confession of this horrid Fact, committed to *Newgate*. Where visiting him, as soon (almost) as he was there, I found him very stupid; the Devil, who had prompted him to this Sin, endeavouring to hinder him from repenting of it. 'Tis true, he did not deny to me this wicked Action, but stood in justification of it, saying, that he was highly provoked by his Wife, who was a very ill Woman, and of a restless Spirit. And this he would often repeat, even after his Condemnation, particularly when his Acquaintance came to see him, to whom he endeavoured to lessen his Crime, and represent it in lighter Colours, than it was to be described. But at last, I hope, he was thoroughly made sensible of the horror of it, and that nothing in the World should have provoked him to it, nor indeed could have done it, had he had the Fear of God before his Eyes. Then he cry'd he had greatly offended God, and heartily begg'd Pardon of him; praying that the precious Blood of Christ might cleanse his Soul, and his Pardon might be also extended to all his Sins, of all which (he said) though he could not recollect himself, yet they were many and great; and though in divers Respects he had led a better and more sober Life than some others, yet he acknowledg'd, with great confusion of Face, and contrition of Heart, that forasmuch as he had been induced by Satan to the Commission of this

most enormous Crime, *he was the greatest of Sinners*, and might have been undone for ever, had not the Grace of God interven'd, and rescu'd and recover'd him *out of the Snare of the Devil, by whom he was taken Captive at his Will*. Thus he express'd the Sense he had of this his great and all other his Offences, and of his need of extraordinary Mercy. But he added, that though he was willing to charge and accuse himself of the Sins he was guilty of; yet he could not take upon him the Guilt of that, of which he was Innocent, and unjustly accused. And that was, his suppos'd Design of robbing his Lord, that same Night he had committed the inhumane Action; saying, that his going into his Lord's Chamber again, after he had put his Lordship to Bed, was to take a Silver Tumbler, which (when he was come down to his Pantry) he found he had forgot above, and so went up again presently to fetch it, that he might have it ready against the next Morning betimes, to take *Asses-Milk* in't for his Lord, who (he said) he was well assured, had no such Thought of him, that he would have stol'n any Gold, or any Thing else from his Lordship, as was suggest'd; for he was already got out of the Chamber with that Tumbler, and was shutting the Door, before his Lordship call'd to know, who that was that came in there. And he further said, that he had no need of Money, as not intending to make his Escape, which (had he design'd it) he might nevertheless have done, without robbing his Lord. But neither that Night, nor the next Day, when he was abroad, and expected every Mement to be seiz'd, did he entertain any thought of running away from Justice, as knowing that the divine Vengeance would some Time or other overtake him, whither-soever he went, and that the Providence of God, which seldom lets the Murderer go unpunish'd in this World, would bring this black Deed to light, and himself to condign Punishment for it; adding to all this, that when a little before his Trial, he went about to attempt his Escape out of *Newgate*, in a disguise with Women's Cloaths, it was neither his own desire at first,

nor

nor his Invention at all; but the Thing was prompted to him, and he was persuaded to it by one Mr. *Yoward*, then a Prisoner with him there, who discover'd him, and betray'd him, when he was ready to execute this Enterprize. He declar'd, that he was in Charity with all Mankind, wishing all Mankind were so with him. And again begg'd Pardon and Forgiveness of God, whom he had so grievously offended: He also thought it his Duty to ask Pardon of the Queen, whose Land he had desil'd with Blood; and of the Church of God, which he had given so great a Scandal to; of his Lord, that he had prov'd to him such an unhappy Servant; and of the whole World, for having set before them such an Influence of Sin, as (considering all the heinous and aggravating Instances of it) was never seen before. But his hope is, that all Men, instead of imitating him in that his Crime, will abhor and detest it, and take such a Warning by his Fall, as carefully to avoid both his Sin and his Punishment. This he repeated at the Place of Execution, and desired me to give it from him, to the People, which I did. After *Monsieur Le Blanc*, a worthy French Divine, who knew him, and myself, had pray'd and sung a Psalm with him in French, we left him to his private Devotions, wherein he mightily cry'd to God, that he would blot out all his Iniquities, and that the Blood of Christ (*which cries better Things than that of Abel*) might cleanse his Soul from the Stain of that Blood, which he had so unjustly, so inhumanly, and so barbarously shed; concluding both his Prayers and his Life with most pious Ejaculations, and particularly with these Words, *Deliver me from Blood-guiltiness, O God! Thou God of my Salvation, and my Mouth shall sing thy Praise in the Choir of Angels and blessed Saints, to all Ages of Eternity.*

He was executed at Tyburn on Wednesday the 21st of July, 1703.

*The Behaviour, Confession, and Dying-Speech of
Thomas Cook, for the Murder of Mr.
John Cooper, a Constable, in May-Fair.*

ON *Friday* the 9th of *July* last, at the Sessions held at *Justice-Hall* in the *Old-Baily*, *Thomas Cook* receiv'd Sentence of Death, for the Murder of Mr. *John Cooper*, a Constable, as he was in the Execution of his Office, on the 12th of *May*, 1702. This *Thomas Cook*, a Prize-fighter, who was known by the Name of the *Gloucester-Butcher*, said he was about Thirty-five Years of Age, born of honest Parents, in the City of *Gloucester*; from whence he came up to *London*, where being bound to a *Barber-Surgeon*, after he had serv'd two Years with him, he ran away, and went into the Service of Mr. *Needham*, a Page of Honour to the King, but did not stay long with him; his Mother, who sent for him down, telling him, *That a Gentleman's Service was no Inheritance*. Upon which he set up the Trade of a *Butcher*, (the Calling of his Fore-fathers) at *Gloucester*; then he kept an Inn for a while, and turn'd also a *Grazier*, and was very much unfettled in his Mind, what Employment he should follow. He confess'd to me, that in those his several Employments, he had been unjust; that he had frequently stol'n Sheep, and done many ill Things; but yet had been often accus'd wrongfully. As to the Fact for which he was to die, he positively deny'd it; saying, he had no Sword in his Hand that Day the Constable was kill'd, nor was in the least concern'd in the Company of them that kill'd him. He acknowledg'd he had been a grievous Sinner, a great Swearer and Drinker, an Adulterer, a prophane and lewd Wretch, and a sworn Enemy to those who were employ'd in the Reformation of Mannors; and that for some Years past, he had made it his great Business to fight for Prizes, an Exercise which the Pride of his Heart carry'd him to; and which he now looks upon as most Heathenish and Barbarous, and which, with
all

all other the wicked Practices of his Life, especially his flight of Religion, he does detest and abhor; begging of God, *not to remember the Errors of his Youth, nor his manifold Transgressions, but to forgive him all his Sins, which indeed were many and great*; and in the Words of a Dying-Man (who by the just Providence of God, came to suffer a shameful and untimely Death, in the Prime of his Years) he exhorts all those of his Acquaintance, and Others that live loosely, and particularly that follow this wicked Sport of Prize-playing, to reform betimes, and apply themselves to that which is virtuous and laudable, lest if they do continue any longer in their ill Way, the Wrath of God fall upon them, and they come to the same, or worse Punishment than himself. He said, he repented of all his Sins, and declared that he died in perfect Peace and Charity with all Mankind.

He being in this Disposition, and desiring to receive the Holy Communion of the blessed Body and Blood of his Saviour, I administer'd it to him, on *Wednesday* the 21st of *July*, which having receiv'd, and join'd in the other Parts of Divine Service, then perform'd in the Chapel of *Newgate*, with very great Devotion; he was from thence carry'd towards *Tyburn* for Execution, with the rest of the Criminals that were then to suffer. But in his Way thither, as he was come as far as *Bloomsbury*, meeting with a Reprieve that prolong'd his Life to the next *Friday*, the 23^d of the same Month, he was brought back to *Newgate*, where (after my return from Execution of the other Malefactors) I visiting him, found him in the Condemn'd-Hold at his Prayers, in which he seem'd to be very earnest and devout. He then told me, that he was not affected with this temporal Life, and that he would have been well contented to have died with his Fellow-condemn'd Prisoners; but it falling out otherwise. He desired however, to have gone through to the Place of Execution, that he might join in Prayer with them, and be himself still rais'd to greater Devotion; but the Officers had an Order to bring him back again, and so some did, without going on any further with him. As soon

as he was come back to *Newgate*, some of his Friends that came thither to congratulate him, would have rejoyc'd and made Merry with him, for his Reprive; but he would not give way to it, as desiring privacy and retirement from all Persons, but such as could further his Devotions; because he desired carefully to improve this small addition of Time, to a higher degree of Repentance and Contrition for his Sins; so that he might be so much the fitter to receive that Death, which was put off but for a little while.

When the Day was come, *viz.* the 23d of *July*, a further Reprive was brought to *Newgate* for him, by Virtue of which, he continued in this Life, and in this State of Devotion, which was very much taken Notice of by all that saw him, to this *Wednesday* the 11th Instant, being the Day of his Death, before which Time (namely *Friday* the 6th) the Order for his Execution was brought in, and presently signified to him; but I found him not at all moved or troubled at it; there being no visible Alteration in him. He then told me, that he was very willing to die, since it was the Will of God he should, and that he had flung himself wholly upon him, and resign'd up and submitted himself to his Holy Will and Pleasure; giving him Thanks and Praise, as for all his Mercies to him, so in particular for this Time he had afforded him to prepare himself for an happy Eternity; which (he said) he was fully perswaded he should enjoy, whenever he departed out of this miserable World. The evenness of Temper, in which I all along observ'd him, both when in hopes of Life, and under the certainty of Death, made me believe indeed, that he had so resign'd himself, and had (as he express'd) the assurance of Immortality. But one Thing indeed he told me troubled him very much for a Time, and of which, he said, he repented as much as of any Sin he ever had committed, and that was, his having so far gratify'd his Friends, as sometimes (though not frequently) to have given them the liberty of his Company; whereby he had been engaged once or twice to drink, though not to excess, yet
to

to such a measure, as though his fasting and great weakness, had discompos'd him, and interrupted him in his Devotions: For which he most heartily begg'd Pardon of God, being much griev'd he had wasted any of his precious Moments, while under his Condemnation.

This last Order for his Execution being come, (as I said before, on *Friday* the 6th) I redoubled my Visits to him and Pains for his Soul: And on the last Lord's-day, choosing a Subject to discourse upon, proper (as I thought) for his Meditation, I preach'd both in the Morning and Afternoon, on *Luke* 18. 13. being Part of the Gospel for the Day, *And the Publican standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his Eyes unto Heaven; but smote upon his Breast, saying, God be merciful to me, a Sinner.*

After Sermon, he spoke to the Congregation, which was then pretty numerous, to this Effect: *That upon his Salvation, he was Innocent of the Fact for which he was to die: but had been guilty of many Sins, for which he begg'd God's Pardon, and the Prayers of all good People: That he wis'd all young Men would take warning by him, avoid bad Company, and serve God.*

This Protestation and Advice, as he repeated several Times upon publick Occasions, so in private he constantly affirm'd to me his Innocence of the Murder sworn against him; and though much endavours were us'd to bring him to a Confession, if he knew himself guilty, he still persisted in his positive denial of it. As to those Irregularities, and Miscarriages of his Life, which he confess'd, he seem'd to be very sensible of, and very penitent for them. Upon his repeated Desire, I again administred the Holy Sacrament to him on *Wednesday*, when some pious Christians of my Acquaintance, had the Charity to join in Communion with him, and were Witnesses of his Devotion; which, by all that outwardly appear'd, was very great, and seem'd so to me all the Time that I was with him afterwards.

When this Day, which was appointed for his Execution, was come, I went (according to Order) very betimes in the Morning to him. And after Prayers, reading

ing of the Word of God, and making some Observations upon it, and Exhortations rais'd from it, and suitably apply'd to the Condemn'd Person, he was taken away, put into a Cart, and carried to the Place of Execution; where I attended him for the last Time, and after some small Discourse with him, follow'd by Admonitions and Exhortations to him, Prayers, and singing of Penitential Psalms for, and in conjunction with him, he read the Speech and Prayer, and sung the Hymn following.

His Speech, Prayer and Verses, is as follows:

Gentlemen, I thought it convenient to give you an Account of my Life and Conversation, which is as followeth.

GENTLEMEN,

I WAS a young Man that was well educated, and well brought up, and come of very honest Parents, and about the Age of 15, was put Apprentice to a *Barber-Surgeon in London*; and after the serving of two Years, or thereabouts, I ran away from my Trade, and afterwards lived with Esquire *Needham*, who was Page of Honour to the late King *William*; but my dear Mother told me, that a *Gentleman's Service was no Inheritance*, and so desired me to come Home and settle. Accordingly I went to *Gloucester*, and there set up the Trade of a *Butcher*, which was the Calling of my Forefathers; and I followed that Trade for several Years, and serv'd Master of the Company of *Butchers*, in the said City of *Gloucester*. But being too much imbolden'd with Courage, I thought no Man a better Man than myself; I took up the Sword, and followed the Sport of Prize-playing for several Years, which Practice has proved prejudicial to me. And I desire all young Men to take Warning by me, and never meddle with any such idle Practice; but let their honest Calling be whatever it will, mind that, serve God, and keep good Company. For here I shall give you an Account of the ill Consequence
of

of such an idle Practise. *First*, It is displeasing to God, to have his Image scarrify'd after such a Manner. *Secondly*, It brings a Man to a Correspondence with ill Company, and ill Company takes a Man off from his Duty of serving God, and makes him to follow those Vices that I have been guilty of myself, as *breaking the Sabbath, Swearing, Cursing, Drunkenness, Lewdness*, and other like *Debaucheries*. But as to what I die for, I do declare before God, and all the World, I die Innocent. There was one Witness depos'd, on Oath, *That he saw me lock up my Doors, and go down towards the Fair with a Sword in my Hand*: And there was one *Jonathan Shephard*, declar'd upon Oath, *That he saw me in the middle of the Mob, with a naked Sword in my Hand*: And there was a Beadle declar'd also upon Oath, *That he saw me with a Sword in my Hand bloody*: And there was one *Mr. Deering*, who, in like Manner, declar'd upon Oath, *That I told him in Ireland, that when the Constable dropt, I wip'd my Sword, put it up, and went away*. Which I declare I never said, nor spoke any such Words to him in all my Life. And furthermore I do declare, as I expect Mercy from God, I had no Sword in my Hand in the Fair that Day, and did not so much as lift up my Hand, either for, or against any Person, when the Constable was kill'd.

Gentlemen, I must desire you, not to reflect on *Mr. Gorman*, for he is very innocent of what they have charg'd him with, concerning me. But since it is my Misfortune to die this shameful Death, I must look upon it as an Affliction from God Almighty, for my Wordly Sins. As for those false Witnesses that swore my Life away, I do freely forgive them with all my Spirit; and I hope God will forgive them also. And as for all whom I ever wrong'd in my Life, I do hope they will freely forgive me, as I do freely forgive all the World. So Gentlemen, I bid you an eternal *Farewell*, and shall now conclude with this my Prayer.

O Al-

O Almighty God! I humbly beseech thee to bless our most Gracious Sovereign Lady Queen ANNE; and guide her by thy good Spirit, that she may do always that which is righteous in thy Sight. And I beseech thee, O Heavenly Father, that thou wouldst be pleas'd to give her that Sight, as that she may foresee her Enemies; and arm her so with thy Defence, that she may not fear the Power of any Adversaries: And I beseech thee, O Lord! give unto her a long and happy Reign, and after this Life, a Crown of Glory with thee in thy Heavenly Kingdom. And I likewise beseech thee, O Lord! to bless thy Holy Catholick Church, and especially that purest Part of it, the Church of England, and give unto it the same Honour, Power, and Glory, as it had heretofore; and let not those who dissent from it, ever have that Power to trample it down: And furthermore I beg of thee, O Lord! that if any of those Dissenters should in any wise ever rise in Rebellion against our Gracious QUEEN and CHURCH, that thou wouldst abate their Pride, assuage their Malice, and confound their Devices: And so let the Church of England remain and flourish unto the World's End. And finally I beseech thee, O Lord! to pour down thy Blessing upon my whole Family, and enable them to bear my Death, (as by thy Grace I do) with patience and resignation; and grant that this my Death may be a Joy and Comfort to them, and a Warning to the World. And Lord Jesus! I beseech thee to forgive all my Enemies, especially those who swore false against me; for thou know'st O Lord! I die Innocent of that bloody Fact, for which I am condemn'd. But my Sins have provok'd thee to deliver me up a Prey to the Enemy. Lord! I beseech thee, that this my shameful Death, may, through the Merits of the Blood of Christ, and Sanctification of thy Grace, make an Attonement to thee for my Wordly Sins; that as I die here, so I may live Eternally with thee hereafter. And now I come again to beg Mercy for my self, intreating thee O Heavenly Father! to have Mercy on my poor Soul, for thy Dear Son's Sake, my Lord and Saviour JESUS CHRIST: Into whose Hands I commend my Spirit. Amen.

His

*His Verses in Answer to the Bell-man's, the
Night before the Execution,*

THOU art the Bell-Man for this Night,
Who com'st to let me know,
That on To-morrow I'm to die,
And be a publick Show.

What follows was sung by him at the *Tree*.

I HOPE my Death will warning give,
To all that here attend,
And by my sad Example may,
Your Lives learn to amend.
Amend your Lives, young Men, I pray,
And do no more offend,
That Great and Mighty God above,
Whose Kingdom has no end.
He's a God that Merciful is,
To all that do believe,
In Jesus Christ his only Son,
Who will our Sins forgive.
Pray do repent of all your Sins,
Before it be too late ;
And beg the help of God above,
For Jesus Christ his sake :
Who suffer'd Death upon the Cross,
To make a Reconpence,
To all that do in him believe,
Before he did go hence.
In him I do put all my Trust,
Whose Mercy is full sure ;
Hoping my Soul with him shall dwell,
Henceforth for evermore. Amen.

" This I writ with my last Farewell ;

" Hoping my Soul with Christ shall dwell." Amen.

Thomas Cook.

After

After he had read these, he deliver'd them to me, writ in his own Hand, and signed by him; telling me upon the Word of a dying Man, and his Hope of Salvation, that what he had thus spoken to the People, and now deliver'd to me, was nothing but Truth. I asking him whether he had any Thing else to say, he answer'd me, *No*. And also, I asking him, whether he was fully persuaded, that his Repentance was sincere; that his Sins were forgiven him; and that (being upon his Departure out of this World) he was now presently to enter into Life Eternal: His Answer to me was, *That he was fully persuaded of all this, and that he was very easy in his Spirit: And so indeed he seem'd to be; telling me, that he never felt so much Joy in all his Life, as he had done since his coming into the Cart.*

When he had said this, and thanked me for all the Pains I took with him, and deliver'd to me his Papers, with a desire I should publish them for the good of the World, I made another short Prayer, recommendatory of his Soul to the boundless Mercy of God; and having pronounc'd to him the Absolution of all his Sins, in case he had truly and sincerely repented of them, and had a stedfast Faith in Christ Jesus; I left him to his private Devotions, for which he had some Time allotted him; and while, with his last Breath, he was uttering these, and the like Ejaculations, *O Lord Jesus have Mercy upon me; into thy Hands I commend my Spirit; thou Saviour of my Soul, receive me, receive me! Lord Jesus receive my Spirit,* the Cart drew away, and he was turn'd off.

He was executed at Tyburn, on Wednesday the 11th of August, 1703.



*The Behaviour and Dying-Words of Gerard
Fitz-Gerald, condemned for the Murder of
Mr. Pix.*

HE was 32 Years of Age, born of honest Parents, near *Limerick* in *Ireland*, and brought up in the Protestant Religion: He came to *London* in 1688, and learn'd the Trade of Perriwig-making, with a Relation of his in *Leicester-Fields*: That after this, he went successively into the Service of several worthy Families here, and particularly that of Sir *Henry Johnson*, with whom he liv'd about a Year in the Capacity of his Gentleman; that he unhappily fell into bad Company, but soon finding the Mischief of it, was willing to break it off. He went to Sea in 1698, and serv'd on board several of His late and Her present Majesty's Ship's, sometimes as a Steward to a Sea-Captain, and sometimes as Purser of a Ship, both in the *East-Indies* and other Parts: And that his last Employment was that of a Purser of the *Burlington*, a fourth Rate, Capt. *Hicks*, Commander, in which Office he serv'd near a Twelve-month onboard that Ship; where for the want of the Exercise of God's Service, which was wholly neglected there, he was laid open to the Devil's Temptations, and thereby brought into the Commission of many Sins, which the due constant Practice of Religion would have kept him from. He confess'd the Crime for which he was condemned; and begg'd of God to deliver him from Blood-guiltiness, and to wash all his Sins away in the most precious Blood of the Reedmer of the World, and of his Soul. He said it was a happy Thing for him, that ever he came to *Nevogate*: For, he was now (and perhaps should never have been otherwise made) sensible of his Sins, of God's Indignation against wilful Sinners, and of his Loving-kindness and Mercy to the Penitent. And therefore he bless'd God, with all his Heart, that he was pleas'd by this temporal Judgment he had

had sent upon him, to retrieve his Soul (as he hop'd) from eternal Damnation.

At the Place of Execution he deliver'd to me his Declaration and Confession, under his own Hand. Prayers being over, the Cart drew away, and he was turn'd off, calling upon God, in these, and the like ejaculatory Expressions, *O Saviour of the World, have Mercy upon me!*

The Confession of Gerard Fitz-Gerald.

IT is undoubtedly expected by the World, at my going off the Stage I should say something by way of Confession, and in particular, to the Fact which I now suffer for, which (with the permission of Almighty God) I shall declare with Truth.

First. I desire the World, especially those that are Spectators of this my untimely End, to prevent the like Shame to themselves here, and that which is more to be feared, in the World to come; that they, and every of them, by a timely and speedy Repentance, betake themselves to that strict and sober Course of Living, that admits of no manner of Excess: And that all you that are here, and all those, whose Hands this may come to, would often remember, and lay it close home to your Thoughts, that the Neglect of that great Duty, was the Bait made use of, by the common Enemy of Mankind, for my Destruction, being, at the Time this unhappy Fact was committed, so much in Drink, that I knew not what I either said or did. I do declare to the World, I never did see the Deceased before the unhappy Time of our Meeting at that Time; and that I had no manner of Malice or Prejudice against him.

It was in the Year 88 that I came to *England*, being born in *Ireland*, near the City of *Limerick*, of honest good Parentage (whose Circumstances in the World were but mean) and was brought up there to the Age of 17, at which Time, I was sent for *England*, to a Relation, to learn the Art of Perriwig-making, with whom I lived
between

between three and four Years, and falling in with bad Company, by the means of a certain *Goldsmith*, I fell first from my Duty towards God, and then towards Man; for in a small Space of Time, Drunkenness, Sabbath-breaking, and the Conversation of idle Women, became the fatal Objects of my Thoughts, as well as my Practice; being supported in my Extravagances by the said *Goldsmith*, for whom I was now become a fit Companion. My Kinsman and Master, whose sober way of Living did not agree with mine at that Time, often gave me good Advice.

I followed this Course of riotous Living about three quarters of a Year, or more, and then began with serious Thoughts to reflect on the Consequence of such a Course of Life as I had entred into, and took up some good Resolutions of Amendment. But still my Companions living so near me, I could not shake off the Friendship contracted between us; upon which, I set a Resolution, the first Opportunity (in order to throw off their Acquaintance) to quit my Kinsman's Service, which in a little Time after I did effect; resolving to follow my Trade, and by working at it, to get me an honest Livelihood, and to lead a sober Course of Life; and to that End became a Journeyman in this City, where I past three Years in several good Families, to whom I gave good Content, and gained Respect, and the good Opinion of all, or most that knew me. And afterwards went to live with the Honourable Sir *Henry Jobson*, whom I served about a Year, in the nature of his Gentleman. I then began to consider, that by continuing in his Service, I should forget my Trade, which I thought would be of more advantage than that of Service, I quitted that Honourable Family.

Some Time after quitting this Family, I went to Sea with one Captain *Warren*, in the *Windsor*, who was a good Christian-like Man, and caused the Duty of Prayer to be daily performed on Board; which does not a little restrain Men from Vice.

After

After serving him five or six Months as Steward, I was marry'd (with his Consent) to his Sister-in-law, who was of a good and godly Parentage, and she herself of a most tender, affable and good Temper.

In the Month of *April*, 99, I was preferr'd by the Death of *Edward Crisp*, who was Purser of the *Harcourt*, to that Employment; and continued so in that Ship to the Time she was cast away at *Emoy* in *China*, in *October* 1700, then came home Passenger in the *Tawistock*, passed my Accompts for that Ship, and obtained a Warrant for the *Burlington*, under the Command of Captain *Gasper Hicks*.

And as I desire that all those whom I have by any means offended, prejudiced, or harmed, that they would at this Time forgive me; so I freely, and from the bottom of my Heart, forgive all Mankind; and do earnestly beseech God, with my last Words, in Mercy to forgive them. And since my Life hath been of so little Use, compar'd to the End for which God created Man, I heartily wish my shameful Death may prove an awaking and awarning to those whose Course of Living is, or hath been like unto mine; forgetting God for the Things of this World, and putting the evil Day far from them.

We find the best of Men do owe their Preservation to the Almighty Providence; for we plainly see, that in Time of Adversity or Distress, the most ingenious Wits cannot prevail.

And as there is nothing can bind us more to our Allegiance, and the Service of our Country, than the strict Observance of our Duty towards God, it would be of the greatest Consequence to have the Word of God truly taught and preached to those ignorant and prophane Creatures, who are hourly in the Jaws of Death. And it is certain, that a good and well instructed Conscience, is no small addition to a Man's Courage in Time of Engagement. Oh! that God would give all those that see the *Wonders of the Lord in the Deep*, restraining Grace, to foregoe that predominant and reigning Vice of Curfing and Swearing, and blaspheming the Name of God,
which

which I have been so often guilty of: I must confess that was not my alone Crime, for I have been a grievous Sinner, even almost to the breach of all the Commandments; and do earnestly implore God's Mercy and Pardon for it, which I hope to obtain through the Merits, Passion and bitter Sufferings of our blessed Redeemer, who suffered for repenting Sinners.

And that the greatest Sinner might not think himself past the Day of Grace, I must declare, I have by reading the Scriptures, praying, and attending to Admonitions, under my Confinement, found great Encouragement; the Mercies of God being without Bounds or Limits, is never denied us, until (by the hardness of our Hearts, or our Compliance with the workings of *Satan*, who is never wanting) we say, *There is no God*; or, at least-ways, by our infernal Practices, exclude ourselves from all Hopes of Mercy.

All those that think their Circumstances desperate in this Case, let them cast an Eye to the pierced Side of that Fountain of Mercies that has already made (if mixed with our Repentance) an All-sufficient Attonement, in and through whom we are to hope, and in whose Name I offer up my Prayers.

He was executed at *Tyburn* on *Wednesday* the 22d of *December*, 1703.

*The Behaviour of Sylvester Harlackendon,
Esq; condemned for Murder.*

HE was of the County of *Kent*, and near 27 Years of Age, and one of that antient Society, the Honourable Band of *Gentlemen Penitents*. In my frequent Visits to him, I laid before him the Consideration of a future eternal State, representing to him, on the one Hand, the endless Misery of Hell, and on the other, the everlasting Happiness and Glory of Heaven; and
shew;

shewing him from Reason and Scripture, the Certainty of these Things, and how to avoid the former, and obtain the latter, by a serious and earnest Application to God, for his Grace, that we may see and abhor the Wickedness of our Sins, and repent, and be stirr'd up to the Love of our Gracious Heavenly Father, &c. He artifi-
 ciously endeavoured to elude and divert the Discourse of this, and fell upon asking me several *Sceptick* Questions about the Existence of the Soul, *viz.* What it was? Where it was seated? Whether it grew up and decay'd with the Body? — &c. Whereby he discovered his Atheistical Principles; to which having given Answers for his present Satisfaction and Conviction, I then told him, it would be much better and happier for him to employ his Thoughts in what had a special Relation to the quieting his Mind, and procuring his Pardon with God. To this he replied, he was mighty quiet and easie in himself, and felt no manner of Trouble; which to him, was a sure Sign of his being in a good State: Which he having said, and at the same Time express'd no Sorrow for the heinous Crime of Murder, for which he was justly condemned, nor for any other great Sins he had committed. I told him, that I plainly perceived the Devil was busy with him, and endeavoured to lull him a-sleep, that so by making him easie here, he might make him miserable for ever hereafter. Upon this, I had a long and repeated Discourse with him, and used the best Arguments I could to undeceive him of his erroneous and Atheistical Notions; and I desired a worthy and dignified Divine (upon an Opportunity that offer'd) to speak to him, which he did: But nothing could work upon him; and he was so far from repenting of any Sin he had done, that he stood in his own Justification, and would not so much as own it was a base and a wicked Thing for him to have slain a Man. Though it was not without great Difficulty, that he was brought up to the Chape to hear the Word of God, and pray in Publick; yet he desired me to see him in Private as often as I could, which I did. He was very civil and very patient

patient, in bearing with my Admonitions. But I am afraid, neither they, nor any Thing of that kind offered by others, had much influence upon him. He would not declare plainly and freely what was his Belief of God, and of another World; and whether he had Faith in Christ, and repented of any Sin he had committed. He said, his Thoughts were best known to himself, and he was very easie in them. He did not, nor indeed was he fit to receive the Holy Sacrament of the Lord's-Supper, and seem'd very well contented to go out of the World without it, and was unconcerned to hear, that his wilful and obstinate Neglect of preparing for it, might prove his eternal Ruin.

He was carry'd in a Coach to the Place of Execution, where I attended him for the last Time; and after some pressing Exhortations, that he would lift up his Heart to God, I pray'd with him; but he seem'd not to join very heartily with us, and was now very stupid; and though I spoke to him particularly of the great Concern of his Soul, (as I did all along in the Coach, when he was riding to his last Stage in this World) yet he would give me little or no Answer, that could encline me to any Hopes of his apprehending clearly the State he was now or hereafter should be in; he was only observ'd to move his Lips, but no body could tell what he said, or whether indeed he utter'd any Word. He dy'd hard, his Life visibly remaining in him a great while after the Cart was drawn away. I never saw any Man so long a dying as he was.

He was executed at *Tyburn* on *Wednesday* the 10th of *May*, 1704.



*The Behaviour, Confession, and last Speech of
Thomas Sharp, condemn'd for the Murder
of a Watchman in Drury-Lane.*

THIS *Thomas Sharp*, in the Account that he gave me of himself, told me only that he was about 29 Years of Age, born in the *West of England*, and was at first a *Glover* by Trade, but left that Calling to serve the Crown; in whose Service he had spent, both at Sea and Land, about eleven Years; and that the last Sea-Service he was in was on board a *Dutch Man of War*; and his last Service at Land was in Colonel *Hamilton's* Regiment, under the Command of Capt. *Welsb*, in which he had been a Year and a half, and actually was, at the Time of his being apprehended. He confess'd, that he had been a very ill Liver, and too much addicted to the common and reigning Vices of the Age, besides, and had been under Sentence of Death at the *Old-Bailey* the 27th of *February, 1701.* for breaking the House of *Mrs. Mary Brown*, a Widow, then living in *St. Giles's* in the Fields, and taking from thence a Pair of *Holland Sheets* and other Goods; adding, that as he was very sorry he had no better improv'd the Mercy shewn him in the Reprieve then given him, and the Pardon that ensued. Whereupon I asking him whether in his former Troubles, he never had any serious Thoughts of reforming and amending his Life; he answer'd, That he had several Times taken up Resolutions to that Purpose, but for want of one thing, which (as he is now sensible of) ought to have been in his Resolutions, he could never bring them to any Effect, but broke them as soon as he had made them, or at least, upon the next Opportunity and Temptation. Now, what this thing was, which render'd his good Resolutions thus ineffectual, he declared to be this, *viz.* That in these his Resolutions of forsaking his evil Way, he did not seriously think of parting entirely with, and leaving

leaving for good and all the Company of those wicked Persons who had brought him at first into, and encouraged him in his former vicious Course of Life. But now he said, he hop'd, if he were to live again in the World, he would never give way to the Temptation, and it griev'd him very much he had done it so long, of which (he said) he repented with all his Heart; praying God, for Christ's Sake, to forgive him all his Sins, as he freely forgave those that had injured him; and desired also the Pardon of them that he had any ways injured, to whom he was not able to make any other Amends, than by begging of God (as he did) to bless them. He could neither Read nor write; but being brought up by his Parents in the *Church of England*, he was not altogether ignorant of the Principles of that Church, though he had for several Years past lived so disagreeable thereto. He declared, he rely'd for Salvation upon the alone Merits of JESUS CHRIST. While he was under this Condemnation he behaved himself very decently, and (to outward Appearance) with Devotion; but yet he would not be persuaded to confess the Fact for which he was condemned to die, though I us'd many pressing Arguments with him to that Purpose. At last, (when the Dead-Warrant was brought in, and not before) he confess'd it was true, (as they swore it against him) that he was endeavouring to break open a House at the End of *Great Queen-Street in Drury-Lane*, and that he shot the Watchman who came to prevent him in it. *Which having declared, I gave him such Reproof and Admonition as was fitting; shewing him both the Heinousness of that horrid Crime of Murder, which he actually had, with that of Burglary, which he intended to have committed, and the Aggravation of his Guilt by his long and obstinate Denial of both. Upon which he acknowledged, he was very guilty indeed, and that his Sentence was just; that he was the worst and the vilest of all Sinners, not worthy to lift up his Hands or his Eyes to Heaven, and receive the least Mercy; praying God not to deal with him in

the Severity of his Justice, but deliver him from that eternal Condemnation he had deserved ; and desiring my Prayers for him to that end.

This being the Day appointed for his Execution, which (that it might be so much the more exemplary) was perform'd at the End of LONG-ACRE in DRURY-LANE, near the Place where he had committed the Murder, and where a Gibbet was erected to that Purpose. I attended him there for the last time ; and having exhorted him still to stir up his Heart to God, and clear his Conscience before he departed this World, I pray'd and sung a penitential Psalm with him. Then, upon my Motion, he warn'd young Men and all others, from living loose and irreligious Lives, and keeping ill Company ; and desired them to learn by his sad and shameful End to avoid the Sins that he had done, and practice the Virtues he had left undone ; owning, that he was justly brought to suffer a shameful Death at the Place where he had committed a most bloody Fact ; which he heartily lamented, and pray'd God to forgive. After this I pray'd again with him and for him, and made him rehearse the Articles of the Christian Faith, in which he declared he died ; and, having sung another Psalm, I pray'd a third Time, and commended his Soul to God, and so left him to his private Devotions, for which he had some Time allow'd him. When I was retired, he turned his Face towards me, and thanked me aloud, and desired me, and all Spectators, to pray for God's Mercy to him, till he was dead. Then the Cart (in which he was brought thither from *Newgate*) drew away, and he was turned off, while he was calling upon God in the *Lord's Prayer*, and the like ejaculatory Expressions, *Lord have Mercy upon me ! &c.*

He was executed in *Drury-Lane* on *Friday* the 22d of *September*, 1704.

*The Behaviour, Confession, and last Speech of
John Smith, condemned for robbing Mr.
William Birch, near Paddington, Tho-
mas Woodcock, Esq; and his Lady, with
another Gentlewoman, on Finchley Com-
mon.*

HE confessed those Facts very freely, and begg'd Pardon both of God and them he had wrong'd ; but said withal, that though he must needs own he had been a great Offender in many Things, yet he (as he said) was an Offender but of eight Days, *viz.* from *October 29* to *November 6*, adding, that it was at first a great Surprize and Uneasiness to him, to find his last Robbery to have been split into three distinct Facts, and to be the Matter of three several Indictments against him. But he said he was very much contented to be thought the worst of Men by Men, provided he might obtain the Favour of God by Christ ; which he earnestly implored. He said farther, that he was about 23 Years of Age, born at *Winchcomb*, within ten Miles of the City of *Gloucester* ; that he was a *Perriwig-Maker* by his Trade, and was well brought up by his Parents, who gave him Civil and Christian Education ; but he did not answer their Expectation and Desire ; and was disobedient and undutiful to them, and fell into many Extravagancies and Debaucheries. Of which he so frankly made his Confession to me, and in all Appearance seem'd to be so sorry for them and so desirous to make Amends (if he could) to the World, that I have great Hopes he was that inwardly which he outwardly appear'd to be. “ And “ refer him to his last Speech, writ in his own Hand, “ and deliver'd to me at the Place of Execution. A “ true Copy of which Speech, together with his par- “ ticular Confession of all the several Robberies by him “ committed within the Space of eight Days only.

A Copy of the PAPER deliver'd by John Smith at the Place of Execution.

JOHNSMITH, in his further opening of his Conscience to me, said, That he had been very wild, and very unruly in his younger Years, and that the ill Habits which he had then so early contracted, were strongly confirm'd in them by his being (though but a little while) at Sea. From whence when he was return'd, he became so familiarly acquainted with a certain *Perriwig-Maker* then in *Cbancery-Lane*, that one Day he open'd to him the Discourse of going to rob on the Highway; which having soon agreed together to attempt, they both of them set out for that most wicked Intent upon the best of Days, *viz.* the *Lord's-Day*, being the 29th of *October* last past. And as they were waiting for a Booty about *Paddington*, and were there walking up and down, he rested himself upon a Stile over-against the Gallows at *Tyburn*. At the Sight of which, his Heart did misgive him and fail him; and thereupon he thought within himself, that some Time or other, he should come to end his Life, where he was now about beginning to rob; which he told his Companion, and would have persuaded him to go home again with him; but he would not; and instead of yielding to it, he egg'd him on; telling him, *What matters it, Jack? 'Tis but hanging, if thou should come to ikat.* So they proceeded on their wicked Design; and the next Person that came into their Way, was Mr. *William Birch*, whose Mare they stole, which was his first Robbery. The next Day, being *Monday* the 30th of *October*, he set out alone upon that Mare, and robb'd three Stage-Coaches by *Epping-Forest*. The *Wednesday* following, being the first of *November*, he robb'd three other Stage-Coaches, and a Hackney-Coach upon *Hounslow-Heath*: And the next *Saturday* after, being the 4th of *November*, he robb'd three Stage-Coaches more,
near

near St. *Albans*. In all which Robberies, he said, he did not get above Twenty Pounds. And lastly, he robbed Mr. *Woodcock's* Coach on *Finchley-Common*, the 6th of *November*, for which he was apprehended. All which said Robberies (that of Mr. *Birch* excepted) he did by himself.

Here follows the above-mentioned Paper of John Smith, which he introduced thus :

“ Good People, and Brethren, and Fellow-Creatures,
 “ I am come here to suffer a shameful Death, which I
 “ have justly deserved for my great Sins, and particu-
 “ larly for that Robbery which I committed not far
 “ from this Place. It was in yonder Place, [turning
 “ his Face towards Paddington.]

My Name is John Smith. Then he read his said Paper, as follows.

I JOHN SMITH, being born in the Town of *Winchcombe* in *Gloucestershire*, born of very good Parents, and brought up to very good Learning in the Protestant Religion, and never did profess any other, and being kept to very good Schools till I was 13 Years of Age, and then being put Apprentice to a *Barber* and *Perriwig-Maker* in *Burford* in *Oxfordshire*, and having too good a Master and Mistress, I left them, and travelled into several foreign Countries, and then returning to *London*, I following my Trade a Journeyman for several Years, sometimes in *London*, and sometimes in the Country, and till I unfortunately came acquainted with some young Men that us'd for to frequent the Dancing-Houses ; which I got such a Habit of them, that I could not leave them and my Companions ; which first in breaking the *Lord's-Day*, and keeping Company with lewd Women of this Town, brought me to all Manner of Vice, and for to maintain my self, I could not without taking to ill Courfes, which I let loose at

once, and on the 29th Day of *October*, 1704, a little before *Tyburn*, where I met with a Gentleman upon a gray Mare, where I and another fet upon him, and took her away from him ; and Money being very short, I went upon the Highway, and committing a Robbery of one 'Squire *Woodcock* in his Coach, I was purfued by the Country and taken. This Trade I do declare to the World, That I never did follow above feven or eight Days at furtheft ; and I being taken and brought to *Newgate*, and from thence to the *Old.Bailey*, and there took my Trial, and being caft, the next Day, I received Sentence of Death. Therefore I humbly beg for the Lord's-fake, that all you young Men that I leave here behind, that you will take Warning in Time, and avoid thofe Houfes and all ill Company, and remember my laft Dying Words, leaft fome of you come to the fame End, which I pray God you may not ; for this that I fuffer, is but the juft Punifhment of my Wickcdnefs in this World, and I do declare to the World, that I never was guilty of any Murder in all my Life-time : And I pray God that every Body whom I have wronged, will forgive me ; for were I able for to make Satisfaction, I fhould be very willing for to do it ; but as I am not, I hope my Life will be Satisfaction to them all ; and for whomfoever have wronged me, I do from the bottom of my Heart, forgive them and all the World for what Injury any Man has done me. And I die in Charity with all the World, and the Lord Jefus receive my finful Soul.

He was executed at *Tyburn* on *Wednesday* the 20th of *December*, 1704.



*The Behaviour, Confession and Dying-Speech of
Edward Jefferis, Gent. for the Murder of
Mr. Robert Woodcock, Gent. in Chelsea-
Fields.*

ON Wednesday the 19th of September, the Person who is the melancholy Subject of this Speech, viz. Mr. *Edward Jefferis*, as he was proceeding towards the Place of Execution, when about *St. Gil's*, he met with a Reprieve, by virtue whereof he was brought back again to *Newgate*, where he continued to the 21st of September, when a fresh Order came for his Execution, and accordingly he was carried in a Cart to *Tyburn*. Before this Time, he had made to me the Confession that follows, and in which he persisted to the last. He said, that he was about 41 Years of Age, born of good Parents near the *Devizes* in *Wiltshire*, and brought up to the Law here in *London*, where he had lived for these several Years past. He confess'd, that he had been unfaithful and unkind to his Wife, and had led a very wicked and debauched Life; and that to support his lewd and extravagant Expences, he had done Things unaccountable enough, as he acknowledged that to be, which was alledg'd against him at his Tryal by Mr. *Davis*; yet he was not wanting at first in his Endeavours to extenuate the Crime of such Imposures; saying, that therein he did not act for himself, but as an Attorney for other Persons, whose Cause, let it be what it would, he then thought, in that Capacity, he ought to serve. Herein I did what I could to rectify his Judgement; and he seemingly acquiesced in the unlawfulness of such Undertakings. As for the Murder of Mr. *Woodcock*, neither myself, nor several other Divines, whom I desired to urge the Matter to him, could by any Arguments that were offered, bring him to a Confession of it: He gives this Character of himself.

I Was born of very honest Parents in the *West* Part
 of this Kingdom, and religiously educated in the
 Church of *England*, which Church (by the Grace
 of God) I die in. I served my Clerkship to an eminent
 Attorney in *London*; my Father dying, leaving
 me an Estate too young, which in some little Time
 I spent. I married a virtuous young Woman, whose
 Parents liv'd at *St. Albans*, never having any other
 Wife but her, nor ever liv'd with any other Woman
 but her; but vainly and profusely spent part of my
 precious Time with many. I had a great Blessing in
 her, if it had pleased God to have given me Grace to
 have made use of it. In the first Place she was to me
 Chaste, Beautiful and Young, and lov'd me too well.
 I, like the Cock in the Fable, not knowing the Value
 of so precious a Jewel, made slight of it, which now
 too late I esteem'd, and repent that *I should do those*
Things which I ought not to have done, and have left
undone those Things which I ought to have done. Which
 Omission, God Almighty has, I hope, pardon'd me.
 Into whose blessed Hands I commend my immortal
 Soul. And so vain World adieu.

E D W. J E F F E R I S.

At the Place of Execution, where I attended him, and
 put the Thing to him again more than twice, he there
 again denied it. He said, he freely pardon'd all that
 injur'd him. and begg'd theirs whom he had injur'd, de-
 claring that he died in perfect Charity with all Mankind.

After Prayers and singing of Psalms, and his desiring
 the Standers by to join in Prayer for him, I left him,
 recommending him to the Direction of God's Spirit.
 He did not appear dejected at all, nor did he change
 his Countenance, so far as could be perceived. This
 was the Manner in which he went out of the World,
 which to some seem'd very extraordinary, As he was
 going to be turn'd off, he desired again the Prayers of all
 good People there; and he ended his Life with calling
 upon God for Mercy.

Mrs.

Mrs. Elizabeth Torshell's Letter to the Ordinary of Newgate, containing a particular Account of the Murder committed upon the Body of Mr. Robert Woodcock, in Chelsea Fields, by the before-mention'd Mr. Edward Jefferis.

Reverend Sir,

AFTER a Consideration of your good Counsel, I think it my Duty to give you an Account, to the utmost of my Knowledge, in this Murder of Mr. Woodcock. When Mr. Jefferis and I came through the Park, we went into the hither Door of the Mulbery-Garden, and walk'd up toward the House. Said Mr. Jefferis, " We will go to Chelsea, and if you will go through the House, we will make an Excuse at the Bar." I went through first, and stay'd at the Wall, and Mr. Jefferis came to me. Then we walk'd towards Chelsea, and entering into the Field that is the direct Path, Mr. Jefferis said, " There is a Friend of mine, pray walk on, I will overtake you immediately." Accordingly I did, and got within two Fields of Chelsea, when Mr. Jefferis overtook me (which way he came I know not) for I walk'd very slow, and he was by me before I had any Sight of him, I perceiv'd something of a Surprise in him. Said I, " You are out of Temper. Have you and that Gentleman had any Words? He answer'd me, " We have had Words, and I gave him a small prick." But said I, " I hope you have not hurt him." No, " no, said Mr. Jefferis." And that was every Word we spoke concerning it. When we came into Chelsea, said Mr. Jefferis, " We will go to the Cheshire Cheese, for I know the Man of that House." So we went in, for then we were by the Door; and when we came into the Room, Mr. Jefferis laid his Sword, Hat and Gloves on the Table, and went out of the Room. I took the

Sword in my Hand, and drew it out of the Scabbard, to see if it were bloody, by the Reason he said, that he had prick'd the Gentleman; but the Sword was neither bloody nor broke, as the Boys said: But there is a good Reason to be given for the Boys saying so. For one Day when Mr. *Jefferis* and I were in the Chapel, I asked him, if he did not give the Wound with Mr. *Woodcock's* own Sword, and if he did not draw it. He said, No. Then said I, "As he was drawing his Sword, I suppose you snatch'd it from him; for the Surgeon said, it was not the Sword you had that gave the Wound. And did you break his Sword, as the Boys said you did?" "No, said he, I broke no Sword." But then reply'd I, "Did you not go to break it?" He made me no Answer to that Word, only said, it happen'd so unfortunately for me to know the said Mr. *Woodcock*, and my having those Rings made him suffer. Said I, "I knew not that you had kill'd him, when you were fetch'd by my Order; neither did I know that he was any Acquaintance of yours; but said I, I am told that you have Money of his, and that you chang'd one of his Guineas that Night you came into the Goal." Said Mr. *Jefferis*, "He gave me none." Nay, Sir, said I to him, "I don't ask you if you took them, or if he gave you any; but by what the Boys and I do know, there must be something more than I find you are willing I should know; and I suppose he would not give you any, and that was the Occasion you quarrell'd." He fetch'd a very great Sigh, and shook his Head, but made me no Answer, which makes me think it was so; for he never spoke many Words after, which makes me think he did resent my putting those Words so very close to him. All that ever he said to me after, was, That he wonder'd I was not out, and said, he would not have me come up to Chapel, for what Reason I cannot say, except it was for Fear I should tell you how he left me; for said he to me, "Don't you mention that when we went to *Chelsea*, I was any Time out of your Company; for if you do, then I shall

“ shall not be Repriev'd.” I humbly ask your Pardon, Sir, for not letting you know as far as my Knowledge reached ; but knowing I could not do the Deceased any Good ; and if I spoke, this Man would lose his Life, made me leave it to the just God, which knows the Secrets of all Hearts. This is all I can say, but I beg of you to pray to God for me, to keep me from all such wicked Persons ; and that will add very much to the Health and Satisfaction of my poor Soul.

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

Out of the Master-
Side in *Newgate,*
OCT. 15, 1705.

Eliz. Torshell.

S I R,

One Thing more I forgot to mention, which is, That Mr. *Jefferis* all along said he should have a Reprieve, if I said nothing concerning his Knowledge of Mr. *Woodcock* ; for he said he had petition'd His Grace the Duke of *Ormond*, and that he would get a Friend to go to the Queen, which I do believe was Mrs. *Lambourn*, one of the Boys Mothers. Mr. *Jefferis* moreover said, that the Father of Mr. *Robert Woodcock* should not have his Life ; for he did not question but he should be Reprieved for all that. I suppose you know, Sir, that Mr. *Jefferis*'s Opinion was, that there was only a Heaven, and no Place of Torment for bad Livers, but to be put out of the Presence of the Lord ; which he said to me before he came into this Place, and likewise since you and many more learned Divines have taken Pains to make him own the Fact, for which he justly has suffered. E. T.

Directed thus,

For the Reverend Mr. *Paul Lorrain.*

He was executed at *Tyburn* on *Friday* the 21st of *September*, 1705.

The

*The Behaviour, Confession, and last Speech of
Mr. Roger Lowen, for the Murder of
Mr. Richard Lloyd at Turnham-Green.*

ROGER LOWEN, who is the melancholy Subject of the following Account, was a *German Gentleman* about 40 Years of Age, born (as he told me) at *Hanover*, and brought up in the *Lutheran Church*. He said, that he had been a Gentleman of the *Querry* to the late Duke of *Zell*; and that before he was entertain'd in that Service, the Duke (in consideration of his Father, that was his Huntsman) sent him into *France* to learn his Exercises, at his Highness's Charge. He spoke *French* very well, and it was that Language in which I frequently conversed with him, and he made his Confession to me; which was to this effect, *viz.* That he had not lived according to that Knowledge he had in Religion, and that, like many other Gentlemen who mind nothing but the sinful Pleasures of this present Life, he had been very loose and extravagant. He readily confess'd that he had assaulted, and for a long Time before design'd to kill *Mr. Richard Lloyd*; but for a great while before his Tryal, and even some time after it, he seem'd to doubt very much of that Gentleman's Death; saying, that it was impossible he should have dy'd of the Wounds he gave him. But when he was at last convinc'd that he was really dead, then he appeared to be sensible that he had committed a very base and heinous Crime, and express'd great Sorrow for it. And this was so much the more afflictive to his now awaken'd Mind, by how much he consider'd the Enormity of that bloody Fact, both as to the Nature of it, and the Manner of his committing it, and withal the Unreasonableness of that Jealousy which had prov'd the unhappy Occasion of it. After his Condemnation he seem'd to apply himself in good earnest to his Devotions; in which he was principally directed by two Reverend Divines

Divines of his own Church and Nation, *viz.* Mr. *Rupert* and Mr. *Idzardi*, who did (together with me) labour to make him sensible that the Crime for which he was justly to die, was both in it self, and in the heinous Circumstances attending it, most base, barbarous and inhuman, and required a Degree of Repentance proportionable to the Height of that Stain and Guilt which it had brought upon his Soul. And therefore had great need of the Blood of Christ to wash him clean, and of God's extraordinary Help and Mercy, (which he ought to implore) if ever he expected to avoid the eternal Wrath and Vengeance of the just Judge of the whole World. He acquiesced in all that was said to him on this Account, and desired our Prayers for him: That God would be graciously pleased to forgive him both this crying bloody Sin, and all his former wicked Acts of Pride, Lewdness and Debauchery; all the Errors, Follies, and Vices of his mispent Life, and his Neglect of Religious Duties; for which (he said) he heartily begged God's Pardon, and theirs whom he had any ways offended.

At the Place of Execution, where he was attended, not only by me, but by those two worthy *German* Ministers, who had constantly visited him while under Confinement, he deliver'd me a Paper containing his *Last Speech* to the World. Which Paper being in the *German* Tongue, I have got it translated into *English*, as follows.

It is already known to the World for what Reason I am now brought to this Place, and am to suffer this shameful Death, viz. for my having shed innocent Blood. I do acknowledge the Fact, and confess my Fault, and rest satisfy'd of the just Sentence pass'd upon me, it being agreeable to the Laws of the Land, and the Command of God, That Whosoever sheddeth Man's Blood, by Man shall his Blood be shed, for God has made Man after his own Image. I was born of honest and Christian Parents; my Father was an Englishman, and my Mother a German:

man: I was educated from my Youth in the Protestant Religion. I declare before God and Man, That I always had an Abhorrence and Aversion to Actions of this kind, and have taken great Care in all the Course of my Life to avoid them: And though I often had the Opportunity of taking away the Life of my Adversaries in ungodly Duels and Quarrels; yet I take God to witness, as a dying Man, I never was guilty of any Murder before this, for which I justly suffer. I am therefore the more grieved now, that I have been moved to so great a Passion, as to study Revenge, by the Instigation of the Devil and sinful Jealousy, which made me think (as I was persuaded by Mr. Cruſius) that my Wife was marry'd in my Absence with the Deceased. This is the unhappy thing that brought me to the Commission of this horrid Sin, which I heartily bewail with Tears; and I do submit to my just Punishment. I am deeply sensible how greatly I have offended Almighty God; and therefore humbly implore his Pardon and Forgiveness, and that my sinful Soul may be washed from my Sins in the Blood of Sprinkling, that precious Blood shed by my Redeemer, which speaks better Things than the Blood of Abel: And having the Promises from the Word of God, and his own Oath, That whensoever a Sinner truly repents and turns to him, he is willing to receive him and to forgive him, herein is the only Hope and Comfort of my departing Soul. I likewise humbly beg the Pardon of her Most Gracious Majesty Queen A N N (whom God bless) and publickly ask Pardon of the Widow of the Deceased Mr. Lloyd, as I have done already by a Letter which I have left unsealed with Mr. Rup, Minister at the Savoy, &c. to send it to her, hoping she will (as a Christian) forgive me, as we all hope for Mercy and Forgiveness from God, through the Blood of Christ. In like manner I ask Pardon of my dear Wife, which has been many ways injured by this said Occasion; and I sincerely declare that I am fully satisfy'd of her Innocence, and that I was Jealous without a Cause; And I do not in any Respect ascribe to her the Cause of my Misfortune. I truly love her, and assure the World that I
have

have never been marry'd to any other Woman ; and I pray heartily for her Prosperity and Happiness both of Soul and Body. Lastly, I desire all good People for God's sake earnestly to pray for the Salvation of my poor Soul ; and I exhort all to take Warning by my sad Misfortune, That they would not give way to Jealousy, Anger, Revenge, or such like Passions ; but resist the Temptations of the Devil, the World, and the Flesh, with constant and devout Prayers to God, and forgive their Enemies, and pray for them. All which I heartily and sincerely do, as I hope God will forgive me for Christ's sake.

ROGER LOWEN.

After Mr. Lowen had written this his last Speech in order to his delivering it to me, as he did, at the Place of Execution ; he had the great Comfort to receive an Answer to his Letter therein mention'd ; in which Mrs. Lloyd shew'd so much Christian Charity as to signify to him, *That she forgave him, and pray'd that God would forgive him also, and have Mercy upon his Soul.*

He was executed at Turnham-Green on Friday the 25th of October 1706.

The Behaviour, Confession, and last Speech of William Elby (alias Dann) for the Murder of Nicholas Hatfeild, and for breaking open the Dwelling-House of Mr. James Barry at Fulham.

HE own'd he was guilty of the latter of these Facts ; but for the Murder, he would not confess it : Neither would he be persuaded to discover his Accomplice or Accomplices, nor any other Facts by him or them committed heretofore. And in this his Obstinacy he

He all along persisted ; and was so peremptory as to say, *That if any should ask him again any such Questions, he would knock them down.* Upon which I told him, that I was very sorry to see him in that furious Temper, very unbecoming a Man that was upon his everlasting State ; but I hop'd he would consider things better, and give me Leave to ask him (for I would certainly do it whatever came on't) such Questions as were fit to be resolv'd by him for the Good of Mankind, and for the clearing of his Conscience before he dy'd. But he said, *he would resolve none ; for he intended to die in Charity with the World ; which he could not do, if he brought any into Trouble.* To this I answer'd, that he was highly mistaken, and that his discovering his Companions in Wickedness could not be an Evidence at Law against them, and could do them no harm, but possibly a great deal of good, and would be a charitable Deed to them ; for by this means they might be reform'd, and so prevent their coming under the same Condemnation with him : And that also, such a Discovery as he could and ought to make of those wicked Persons he had been concerned with, and those Robberies and other unjust Actions he had committed, would dispose him to die well, *i. e.* in peace with God, and his own Conscience, and in Charity with all Men, especially with those he had wrong'd, who ought to receive from him at least the Satisfaction of a sincere Acknowledgment of the Injuries which he had done them, either by himself or in conjunction with others. He gave the Ear to all this ; but said, that he would not come to Particulars ; and that in general he was willing to confess, that he had been very wicked, and that he had committed all manner of Sins whatsoever, and that he would confess them to God alone, and ask his Pardon for them. This was no small Grief to me to see a Man, whom I endeavour'd to instruct and reform, and thereby bring to God, thus desperately fly from him, and sink himself deeper and deeper into Error and Destruction. When I told him, he did very ill in cursing the whole Bench, as he
did

did at the *Old-Bailey*, and that he should be now asham'd and sorry for it, he seem'd to be unconcern'd; neither did he express much Grief for any thing he had done; saying, that *he was to answer with the Loss of his Life for all his Faults; and why should he be griev'd for them, since he must die, and was willing to die?* I perceiv'd he would not be thought to be afraid of Death; but I could not be satisfi'd with his manner of preparing for it. His Pride and Self-conceitedness were more prevalent with him than any Argument from Reason and Religion that could be offer'd to him. After much Discourse and Time spent with him, both in Publick and Private, he at last seem'd to relent a little, and gave this following Account of his past sinful Life, and the present State he was now in.

He said, he was about 32 Years of Age, born at *Deptford*, of very honest Parents, who gave him good Education, and bound him to a Block-maker at *Rotberiff*, with whom he serv'd his 'Prenticeship; but was no sooner out of his Time, but instead of setting up or working for himself, he went on rambling abroad, and got into bad Company, which debauch'd him, and enticed him to those Sins which by degrees brought him to this his shameful and untimely End. He said further, That he had sometimes served at Sea, in Her MAJESTY's Navy, and sometimes at Land, in the Second Regiment of Foot Guards: And he confess'd that he had done very many ill things (which he would not particularize) and had formerly received both the Law and Mercy; which, to his Sorrow, he had not (as he should have) improv'd into Amendment. Lastly, When he was near the Time of his Death, he acknowledg'd his Guilt, though not wholly, yet in some measure; and pray'd, that God would forgive both that and other his Crimes.

At the Place of Execution, *viz.* the Town of *Fulham*, (whither he was this *Saturday* Morning carry'd in a Cart) I attended him for the last Time, and with pressing Exhortations endeavour'd to persuade him to the doing

doing whatever he could to save his Soul. He told me, That (as he had done before) he desired my Prayers, and no Questions to be ask'd ; and shewed himself more and more positive in his refusing to satisfy the World, who had a hand in the Burglary and Murder, for which he was now to die. He said he would make no Discovery ; only he owned again his being guilty of the Burglary, but not of the Murder, meaning (as he expressed) That he had not actually committed it, but another Man with him had. Now who that Man was, and whether there were no more with him at that time, he would not at all resolve ; and he grew very angry for being asked such Questions, *which*, he said, *put all good things out of his Head, I had put 'in it before* ; telling me withal, that he had desir'd me this Morning at *Newgate*, not to trouble him with asking of Questions at the Place of Execution, but only to pray by him ; I own'd he had so, but I told him, I took it to be my indispensable Duty to God, to his Soul, and to the World, not to comply with his Desires herein, and that I was sorry he would not take such Directions as were tending to his Spiritual and eternal Good.

And here I shew'd him a Letter, which was deliver'd to me as I was upon my Way to *Fulham* ; desiring him to tell me whether it came from him ; he told me it did : Then I ask'd him, who stole the 250 *l.* in Money, a Gold Watch, and other Goods therein mention'd ; he answer'd, *It was himself* ; upon which I ask'd him further, Who were concerned with him in that Robbery ? he told me, *No body*. This is all that he said upon this Matter. If any desire to know the Particulars of that Letter, they may read the Copy of it at the Close of this Account. But to return to the matter that was the great Occasion of his Death : I again earnestly prayed him not to deny this Murder, if he had actually committed it, and to consider, that though he had not done it with his own Hand, yet he was certainly guilty of it ; for he owned himself to be then in the Company of him that kill'd Mr. *Barry's* Gardiner. And therefore

therefore he must repent for being concerned in shedding innocent Blood; and he could not with a safe Conscience go out of the World without discovering the Party that committed this bloody Fact. He gave me this Answer, *That he would never do it.* I prayed for him, and he seem'd outwardly to join with me, both in Prayer and in the Penitential Psalms that were sung. Then I asked him, whether he was not desirous that the worthy Minister of the Parish should come to him, which I questioned not but that he would charitably do, if he were sent for. He seem'd to be very indifferent for it. I ask'd him again; and then he said he would be glad of his Prayers, but he would by no means have any further Questions put to him. Mr. Barry, the Rector of *Fulham*, came to him, and made him a most excellent Exhortation; shewing him his great Concern for his Soul, which he apprehended to be in great Danger. He thereupon press'd him to an open Confession, as a means by which he might be saved. Several proper things he laid to his Consideration, and then retired. After this, this miserable Malefactor, who still remain'd in his Obstinacy, would not suffer me to do any thing more here, but pray and sing Psalms; which I did. When he had his Cap put over his Face, he was told he should have what Time he pleased for his private Devotions: He answer'd, he desired no more than to say the *Lord's Prayer*, which he did, and added to it (as the Cart was drawing away) *Lord receive my Soul!*

There is no Room here to say more; for I must give the Copy of that Letter above-promised, which is as follows.

S I R,
 Y O U may remember in May last was two Years, your House was broke open, and there was lost to the Value of 250 l. in Money, in Gold and Silver, and some time before you lost a Woman's Gold Watch, and one other Watch, the out-side Case being Tortoise-shell, studded, and
 two

two Pair of Stockings; and understanding, you have been many times desirous of knowing the Person. This presents to acquaint you that if you'll give your selves the Trouble of coming to Newgate (where I now am a Prisoner under Sentence of Death) I believe you may be satisfied of the Truth of the same. I am, Gentlemen,

Altho' a dying Person, yet your

Sept. 11, 1704.
from Newgate.

humble Servant,

William Dunn.

Please, if thought requisite, to be as quick as possible, since on Saturday Morning next I shall make my Exit.

W. D.

Directed thus.

For to be left for either of the Partners that keep the Brew-house at Execution-Dock, with care. These present.

That is the Letter, which, as I said before, was put into my Hand. And I was then desired to ask *William Dunn* some Questions about it, which he resolv'd as above-mentioned, and ask'd Pardon of those Persons concern'd therein, and of all others he had wrong'd.

He was executed and hung in Chains at *Fulham* on Saturday the 13th of September, 1707.



*The Behaviour, Confession, and Dying Speech of
John Harman Brian, for robbing and burn-
ing the House of Peter Persuade, Esq;*

HE obstinately deny'd his being guilty of either of these Facts. And as to the Account he gave of his former Life, which he pretended (and by some Certificates appear'd) to have been virtuous. He said, that he was about 24 Years of Age, born of honest Parents, at *Dully*, a Village belonging to the Bayliwick of *Morge*, in the Canton of *Bern* in *Switzerland*; that he was brought up in the *Protestant* Religion, and ever continu'd in that Profession: That when he remov'd out of his own native Place, he went to *Geneva*, where he liv'd four or five Years in the Service of an honest Gentleman, and afterwards travel'd with another into *Italy*: That from thence he came into *England*, where (in the Space of three Years) he was at respective Times, entertain'd in the Service of divers honourable and good Families, and last of all in Mr. *Persuade's*; in which he continued two Months, and was then dismiss'd from it, for the Reason, and in the Manner mention'd at his Trial, *viz.* for his Carelessness in his Service, and Peremptoriness in asking to be discharg'd. He said, that for the most part of his Life he had been a Valet or Domestick; and that in his younger Years, having for about a Fortnight's time try'd to learn the Art of *Lapidary*, and not liking it very well, he lived afterwards with a *Joyner* for the Space of a Twelvemonth, or thereabouts; but that Trade being too hard for him, and he not strong enough for it, because of some bodily Infirmities he was afflicted with, he left that also, and went to Service, in the Capacity aforesaid, and liv'd by that, and by buying and selling of Goods. But he deny'd he ever meddled with any that he could suppose might be stol'n; and would fain have persuaded the World, that he had bought the Goods found in his Profession,

fession, belonging to Mr. *Perfaude*, of two Persons, one a Soldier, and the other a Seaman, whom he accidentally met with, *viz.* the former in *Moorfields*, who sold him the Linnen, the Gold Watch and Gold Tweezer, &c. and the latter on *Tower-Hill*, of whom he bought the two Pistols and Fowling-Piece, mention'd in his Indictment. All this he said; and being ask'd, Who those two Persons were, he answer'd, he never saw them in his Life before, neither knew what became of them afterwards, nor where they might be found. And yet he express'd a great deal of Dissatisfaction with the Proceedings against him, and thought much to be found Guilty; though he could alledge nothing that was any ways available to his Justification; he only saying, *that* which is the common Plea of those who can make no Defence, *viz.* *That he did buy those Things* (prov'd to be stol'n) *that were found upon him.* And so full he was of his pretended Innocence in this Matter, that (notwithstanding all that could be said to him) instead of confessing his Crimes, as a Thief and Incendiary, and begging Pardon of God and Man for them; he could not forbear his unworthy Reflections upon the Prosecutor, Witnesses, and Justice. There was no Admonition, or Exhortation; no Argument fetch'd from Scripture and Reason, no Representation of a future State, either of endless Bliss, or eternal Misery, that could prevail with him, and awake him to a due Consideration of what he ought to do before he left this World. Some worthy *French* Divines, who had the Charity to come and visit this Malefactor *Brian* in *Newgate*, found and left him in this his unaccountable Obstinacy, and uncharitable Temper, both with respect to his Neighbour and his own Soul; he not only denying his Facts, for which he was condemned, but charging them with Injustice, who had brought him under this Condemnation; and he protested that he was innocent of the Thing he was accus'd of, and condemn'd for. And in this Protestation of his Innocence he persisted even to the very last. All the Time he was under Condemnation, he seem'd to
 mind

mind nothing more, than to make his Escape; having attempted it, by unscrewing and filing off his Irons several Times: And when he was told that he should think of something else, and not spend in vain Contrivances the few and (therefore) precious Moments he had to live here, but should carefully employ them in the Thoughts of, and Preparation for Eternity, &c. He answer'd, *That Life was sweet, and that any other Man, as well as himself, would endeavour to save it if he could.* Upon this, I offer'd many things to his serious Consideration, proper for him under his present Circumstances: But they made no visible Impression upon his Heart.

At the Place of Execution I press'd him all I could to make an ingenuous Confession, to clear his Conscience, to give Glory to God, to satisfy the World, and to consider, that he was now upon the very Brink of Eternity. Instead of giving me that full Attention which so great a Matter requir'd, he turn'd his Eyes towards some Persons at a Window in a House at a little distance, and fell a reflecting upon them; while at the same time I was labouring to persuade him, rather to look upon the Ruins of that House just over against him, which he burnt, that so the Sight thereof might revive in him the Memory of his Crimes, and raise in his Heart a just Abhorrence, and force him to a sincere Acknowledgment of them. At this Discourse he shew'd himself very uneasy, and by no means would own his Guilt, though as plain as the Sun that was then shining upon us. I pray'd for him, and exhorted him more and more; yet he remain'd obstinate. I made him pray after me, *That God would please to touch his harden'd Heart, and melt and soften it into Contrition, Confession and true Repentance.* I desired him to rehearse the Apostles Creed, and sing with me some penitential Psalms, which he did. And all this (except a short *English* Prayer which I made for him, and desired those about me to join with me in) was perform'd in *French*, being the Language which (it seems) he understood best. Here I recommended him to God for his Grace to convert his Heart and save his Soul:

Soul: And exhorted him over and over again, *Not to go out of this World with a Lie in his Mouth, but lay all things open, and be reconciled to God through Jesus Christ.* He said (but I believ'd untruly) that he saw some Persons there laughing at his Calamity. Having spent much Time, and used all the Endeavours I could, to turn him the right way, I left him, with my last Advice to him to take Care how he dy'd in his Sins, by his Stubbornness and obstinate Denial of what he was so justly, and so plain an Evidence, condemn'd for. Then I withdrew from him, and (after some small time allow'd him for his private Devotions) he was turn'd off, without confessing any thing. So that I am afraid, he is gone with the Guilt of his unconfess'd Crimes into his everlasting State in the other World. Let other Sinners take Warning by him, and avoid such a dismal End.

He was executed in *St. James's-Street*, near *St. James's House, Westminster*, and hang'd in Chains at *Acton Gravel-pits* beyond *Tyburn*, on *Friday* the 24th of *October*, 1707.

*The Behaviour, Confession, and Dying-Words,
of John Morgridge, condemn'd for the
Murder of Mr. William Cope.*

THERE being a great Distance between the Commission of that Fact, and the Execution of the Sentence pass'd upon this Malefactor for it, I shall here refresh the Reader's Memory about it.

“ Mr. *Cope* having got a Lieutenant's Commission,
“ invited some Captains and other Gentlemen to dine
“ with him, at the *Dolphin-Tavern* in *Tower-Street*, on
“ the 17th Day of *June*, 1706. One of those Gentle-
“ men that were invited, did take Mr. *Morgridge* with
“ him thither, assuring him, that he should be as
“ welcome to the Lieutenant as any of the Company.
“ Upon

“ Upon that he went ; and after Dinner was over and
 “ paid for by Mr. *Cope*, they all staid a while and had
 “ more Wine, and each Man paid Half a Crown for his
 “ Club, and then they arose and most of them went away ;
 “ but Mr. *Morgridge*, with some of the Company, be-
 “ ing invited by Mr. *Cope*, to the *Corps-de-Garde*, they
 “ went along with him, who call’d for Wine as soon as
 “ they were come in. Two Bottles were accordingly
 “ brought in, and as they were drinking, a Coach came
 “ to the Guard-room Door with a Woman in it, of no
 “ modest Behaviour, who ask’d for Captain *Cope*. This
 “ Captain as she call’d him, presently came to the
 “ Coach, with Mr. *Morgridge*, and brought her into
 “ the Guard-room ; where having been a little while,
 “ she cry’d, *Who shall pay for my Coach?* Upon this Mr.
 “ *Morgridge* said, *I will* ; and so discharg’d the Coach.
 “ Then he offered to salute her ; but she scornfully re-
 “ jected him, and gave him ill Words ; to which he
 “ made returns of the like Kind. The Lieutenant
 “ took the Woman’s Part, and the Quarrel increas’d,
 “ and came up to a verry high ferment ; they (*i. e.*
 “ Lieutenant *Cope*, and Mr. *Morgridge*) being very
 “ much in Drink, and therefore in a raging Passion,
 “ and not in a Condition to consider, that they were
 “ contending about a lewd Woman, they took up the
 “ Bottles which were upon the Table, and threw them
 “ at each other’s Head ; and in that Heat, Mr. *Mor-*
 “ *gridge* drew his Sword, and gave the Lieutenant a
 “ Thrust, of which he dy’d immediately.

Upon which he was try’d at the Sessions held at *Jus-*
rice-Hall in the *Old-Baily*, in the 3d, 4th, and 5th Days
 of *July*, 1706, and a Special Verdict about the Matter
 was brought in by the Jury. Some Time after this, the
 Judges sat upon it, at the *Queen’s-Bench-Bar*, and found
 him guilty of wilful Murder. But in the mean Time,
 he making his Escape out of the *Marshalsea*, where he
 was then a Prisoner, Sentence could not be pass’d upon
 him ’till he was taken again. When he was so, he re-
 ceiv’d his Sentence ; to which he seem’d willingly to sub-

mit, owning the Justice of it, though he declar'd he had no premeditated Malice against that Gentleman whom he so unfortunately kill'd. He said, he heartily repented of it, and pray'd, that God would wash away the Stain, and deliver him from the Guilt of that Blood which he had so shed. He own'd that he had been a very great Sinner, but was sorry that he had any ways offended GOD and Man, and begg'd Pardon of both. And he further said, that he hoped God would shew him Mercy in another World, because he was always grieving for his Sins, and particularly for this, ever since he had made his Escape; and though he had no Apprehension of being brought to condemnation here for it, it was continually before him, and the remembrance of it, was grievous to him: He made strong Resolutions to live otherwise, and was always praying to God to pardon him, and to keep him for the future. He acknowledg'd the Justice of God that had overtaken him, and would not suffer him to live long unpunish'd for this heinous Crime: He declar'd his being in Charity with all the World, even with those who had brought him to this his Punishment, and pray'd for the Conversion of all wicked Persons, desiring that they would take warning by his Fall. He told me he was above 40 Years of Age, born at *Canterbury*, of good Parents, and brought up in the Church of *England*; that both his Father and Ancestors had had the Honour to serve the Crown for above 200 Years past, and that himself was for a considerable Time, Kettle-drummer to the first Troop of Guards, and was going into a Commission when this melancholy Accident happen'd. I think that Strumpet, who was the unhappy Occasion of it, has a great deal to answer for before God, however secure she may fancy herself from humane Laws.

The Behaviour of William Gregg, (executed with Morgridge) for holding Correspondence with Her Majesty's Enemies.

HE readily acknowledg'd his Crime, and express'd great Sorrow for it. He was a Man of Parts, born at *Montross*, and brought up at the Univerfity of *Aberdeen*, in that Part of *Great-Britain*, call'd *Scotland*, and had for some Years past been employed in publick Affairs. He confess'd, that he had formerly indulg'd himself in lewdness and filthy Pleasures, and that the Expence attending those sinful Ways, had brought him to Poverty, and Poverty had brought him to these treasonable Practices. When, on *Tuesday* the 20th of *April*, the Death-Warrant was brought to him, and he had read it in my Presence, I spoke to him to this Effect: *Mr. Gregg, I suppose this does not surprize you; for, I hope, you have long before now, been preparing yourself for Death, and are ready to leave this World at any Warning.* To this he reply'd, *This is what I have a long Time expected. This is what I am continually waiting and preparing for. I have already receiv'd too much Mercy, both from God and the Queen, in having so long Time allotted me for this Preparation. I humbly submit, and resign myself to the Divine Providence, and the Lord fit me for his Mercy,* He outwardly appear'd to be in a good Frame. He begg'd Pardon of God and the Queen, and of all he had offended; and all along behav'd himself as one that was truly sensible of, and sorry for his Faults; so that if he was not a true Penitent, he was certainly one of the greatest Hypocrites in the World.

On *Wednesday* the 28th of *April*, they were demand'd by the Sheriffs, and carried from *Newgate*, *Mr. Morgridge* in a Coach with me, and *Mr. Gregg* on a Sledge to *Tyburn*, where I attended them for the last Time. I exhorted them to stir up their Hearts more and more to God; I pray'd and sung some penitential Psalms

with them, and made them rehearse the Apostle's Creed. I ask'd them, whether they had any Thing more to say before they left the World : To which they answer'd, No.

They both desired the Spectators to pray for them ; and Mr. *Gregg* pray'd, That God would bless the Queen, from whom he had receiv'd so much Mercy, in sparing him so long. And Mr. *Morgridge* did likewise pray for Her Majesty with an audible Voice. They declar'd they died in Charity with all Mankind. After I had recommended their Souls to God in my last Prayer with them, they were left to their own private Devotions ; for which, Time was allowed them. Then the Cart drew away while they were calling upon God to receive their Souls.

The Account which William Gregg deliver'd to the Sherriffs of London and Middlesex, at the Place of Execution.

THE Crime I am now justly to suffer for, having made a great Noise in the World, a Paper of a more than ordinary Length will be expected from the Criminal ; who therefore takes this last Opportunity to profess his utter Abhorrence, and sincere Repentance of all his Sins against God, and the heinous Crime committed against the Queen, whose Forgiveness I most humbly implore ; as I shall heartily pray for her Majesty's long Life and happy Reign over her united People, and success against her Enemies, with my parting Breath.

This being all the Satisfaction I can possibly make her injur'd Majesty : I declare in the next Place, the Reparation I would make, were it in my Power, to those of her Majesty's Subjects, I have wrong'd in any kind ; and particularly the Right Honourable *Robert Harley*, Esq; whose Pardon I heartily beg, for basely betraying my Trust ; which Declaration, tho' of itself, sufficient to clear the said Gentleman ; yet for the Sake of those, whom it was my Misfortune not to be able to satisfy in my
Life

Life Time, I do sacredly protest, that as I shall answer it before the Judgment Seat of Christ, the Gentleman aforesaid, was not privy to my writing to *France*, directly or indirectly; neither I, his unworthy Clerk, any ways necessary to the Miscarriage before *Thoulon*, nor the Losses by Sea; all which happened before the First of my Letters, which was writ the 24th of *October*, 1707.

As for my Creditors, as I am in no Condition to satisfy them, so I earnestly beg they would forgive me; and I pray to God to make up their Losses to them Seven-fold.

For my own Part, I do freely forgive all Men, and die in perfect Charity with them; not without humble Hopes of finding Forgiveness, through the Merits of Jesus Christ with God; who in Mercy touched my Conscience so powerfully from the Beginning, as to prevent my prostituting the same to save my Life; for which Instance of his Love, to be prefer'd before Life itself, I bless and magnify his Holy Name, with unspeakable Joy and Comfort, at my Death; nothing near so ignominious as would have been such a Life.

After this Confession, the Duty of a Dying-Man leads me to profess the Religion in which I was brought up, and do now die, which is the Protestant: The Scandal given whereunto by my enormous Practices, can't be better taken away, than by my publishing to the World, my hearty Sorrow for those sensual Pleasures which have proved my Bane. Wherefore let all that shall read this poor Account, take Warning by me to shun the like youthful Lusts; to which, whoever gives up himself, can't tell how far they may, when indulged, carry him; even to the committing such Crimes as he thought himself incapable of, some Time a day: Of which sad Truth, I, to my woeful Experience, am a melancholy Instance: But at the same Time, I appeal to the great God, before whom I am now going to appear, That notwithstanding all the Pains taken to make me out an old Offender, by fastening on me the Crime of counterfeiting the Coin; this is the first Fault that ever I ventured up-

on, which was not out of any Zeal for the Pretender, whom I not only difown at my Death, but folemnly declare, that in all my Life, I never thought he had any Right to thefe Realms, how foolifhly fo ever I may have rendred myfelf obnoxious in this Particular: But the only Motive of my mad Undertaking was Money; of which I never received any, on Account of the Ship-paff, though I have met with the more juft Reward of fuch fecret Services, intended by

W. Gregg.

They were executed at *Tyburn* on *Wednesday* the 28th of *April*, 1708.

The Behaviour, and Last-Speech of Deborah Churchill, condemn'd for affifting in the Murder committed in Drury-Lane, on the Body of one Martin Were.

SHE deny'd her being concern'd in that barbarous Fact, or having fet any Perfon upon it, as it was alledg'd; but ſhe confefs'd indeed, that ſhe then was with one *Richard Hunt*, and that he was an Acquaintance of hers, and had kept Company with her for ſeven Years together, in a lafcivious and adulterous Way; during which Time ſhe had obſerv'd him to be a very paſſionate and dangerous Man, and was herſelf ſometimes afraid of her Life, when he was in a Paſſion; and that when they went abroad together, he was always very quarrelſome, and ready to draw upon any body that he fancied did affront him; but upon ſuch Occaſions, ſhe always endeavour'd to prevent, and often refrain'd him from doing Miſchief. And though ſhe was ſenſible that at ſome Time or other he might in his Rage do miſchief either to herſelf, whom he frequently threaten'd, or ſome others when he was in her Company, and ſo
ſhe

the might (as it has prov'd) be involv'd in his Crime, and the dismal Consequences thereof; yet she was so bewitch'd, that she could not leave off his Company. Now she was very much concerned and afflicted, and cried bitterly for her past Follies, and abuse of the good Education which her Parents and Friends (Persons of great Worth) had given her, who had carefully brought her up. She sadly reflected upon her past Life, and consider'd how great and heinous Offender she had been, and lamented and bewail'd her sinful and miserable Condition; and said, she heartily repented of all the Guilt she had contracted to herself by her foul Sins, and of the Dishonour which she fear'd she had thereby brought upon her Family, and particularly her poor Children, who were likely to suffer for her Faults, she having had two by her first Husband, whose Name she commonly went by, but seldom by her Second's, who about two or three Years ago (she could not well remember the Time) was married to her in the *Fleet-Prison*, upon an Agreement first made between them both, that they should not live together, nor have any Thing to do with each other; which Agreement was strictly perform'd; and so she continued freely to keep Company with *Hunt*, as she had begun to do in her former Husband's Time, who being a very unkind and bad Husband to her, had thereby given Occasion to her going astray in this Manner. She said she was about 31 Years of Age, born within six Miles of *Norwich*, of good Parents (as mentioned before) but began very early to be loose and ungovernable, and so by degrees arrived to that Pitch of Wickedness which brought her to ruin.

She was try'd and condemn'd in *February*, since which Time she remain'd a Prisoner in *Newgate*, and her Execution was respited till *December*, by virtue of a Reprieve given her upon Account of her being thought to be with Child. But now she own'd she was not, but was willing to use any means to save her Life, or at least put off her Death for a Time. Upon this, I told her, that she had done very ill to induce those Women, who

declared her to be with Child, to do (perhaps out of their misplaced Pity) such a wicked Thing, as to take a false Oath for her: To which she answered, *That they only swore her being with Child to the best of their Knowledge and Judgment; and so they might swear true in swearing that, though she was not with Child; for no body, no not herself, could certainly know at that Time, whether she was really so or no.* When she again reflected on her past sinful Life, and approaching shameful Death, she freely acknowledged, that though she did not look upon herself to be guilty of Blood-shedding, yet she could not plead Innocence, but was a great Criminal before God, whose Pity and Compassion she implored.

Here she wept most bitterly, and shew'd great Signs of Repentance; saying, that she hop'd God would be merciful to her, because she had ever since her Condemnation, endeavour'd to wean herself from the World in the abhorrence of her Sins, and preparing for a better Life. She wish'd all dissolute Persons would take Warning by her, and give up themselves no more to the foul Sin of Uncleaness.

When the Day of her Death was come, she was deliver'd out of *Newgate*, and carried in a Coach with me to the Place of Execution, where I attended her for the last Time, and (according to my usual Manner) pray'd and sung some penitential Psalms with her, and made her rehearse the Apostles Creed. And after I had been a pretty while with her, I took my leave of her; earnestly recommending her to the Divine Mercy, and wishing her a happy Passage out of this miserable World, and an endless Felicity in the next. Then she spoke to the Spectators to this Effect. *I desire all Persons, especially young Women, to take warning by me, and take Care how they live; for my wicked Life has brought me to this shameful Death. I had a good Education, and was well brought up by my Parents; but I would not follow their good Advice and Instructions. I kept Company with a young Man, who committed the Murder for which I am here to suffer. I did not prompt him to it, nor was near him when he did*
it.

it. *But it was my Misfortune to be concern'd with him, and God is just in bringing me to this Condemnation, for I have been a great Sinner, and very wicked. I desire those of my Acquaintance, that lead such a Life as I have formerly lead (and I see some of them here) I desire them, I beg of them, that they would take warning by my Down-fall, and amend their wicked Lives, lest they bring themselves to such an untimely End, and be undone for ever.*

She desired the Standers-by to pray for her; and turning to one she call'd *Nurse*, she earnestly begg'd of her to take Care of her poor Children, for whom she seem'd very much concerned.

After this, she spent some Time in Prayer, and when she had done speaking, the Cart drew away, and so she was turn'd off; she all the while calling upon God for Mercy, in these and the like Ejaculations: *Lord have Mercy upon me! Lord, receive me! Make haste unto me, O Lord! Lord, save me! &c.*

She was executed at Tyburn on Friday the 17th of December, 1708.

*The Behaviour, Confession, and last Speech of
Thomas Sollars, condemn'd for three Rob-
beries committed by him and two other Per-
sons on the Queen's Highway.*

HE readily confes'd that he was guilty of all those Robberies, but withal said, That a certain Person (who shall here be mention'd under *J. P.*) had induc'd them to the Commission of them; and that the said *J. P.* was the Man who had drawn him before into a Business that was like to have cost him his Life, *viz.* that Burglary for which he took a Trial and receiv'd Sentence of Death in the *Old-Bailey*, on the 16th Day of *October*, 1708.) and had since (and that very lately

too) obtain'd his Pardon for : And yet, notwithstanding the Mercy he had thus received, he was soon tempted to transgress again, even by him who had been the unhappy Occasion of his former Troubles, and had then brought him to Ruin and to his Death, had not Mercy interven'd. He freely forgave *all the World* (that was his Expression) and him particularly who had led him away, and was the Cause of this his unhappy Death, wishing that wicked Man might reform, and prevent the like shameful and untimely End.

Upon my asking him, What sort of Life he had formerly led ? He told me, That in his younger Years his Father, who had a little Farm, kept him to Husbandry ; but he not liking that Labour, came up to *London*, to live with an Uncle of his (a Fencing-Master) who dying after he had been about three quarters of a Year with him, went to live with his own Brother, a *Favrier*, and would have been of his Occupation ; but his Brother would not take him for his Apprentice, as not thinking it fit that they both should be of the same Trade ; and so advis'd him to chose another, which he did ; and bound himself to a *Carpenter*, an Inhabitant of the Parish of *St. Andrew Holbourn*, and served five Years of his Time with him. But an Aunt of his, who was also his Godmother, happening then to die, and leaving him one hundred Pounds, he presently bought off the two remaining Years which he should have served, and work'd Journey-work for some time. And then it was that *J. P.* a *Carpenter* also, being employ'd by his Master, became acquainted with him, and knowing he had Money, borrow'd some of him ; and as he was one Day asking him for it, the said *J. P.* appointed to meet him one Morning early by the Conduit in *Cheapside* : To which Place he then went accordingly, and there the said *J. P.* instead of Money, gave him some few good Words, and made him fair Promises to pay him very suddenly ; and in the mean time desir'd him to carry a Bundle of some things, (he knew not what) to his Lodgings, at the *Three Mariners* at *Mile-End* :
Which

Which he willingly undertook to perform, though he then suppos'd they were stol'n Goods, as they prov'd afterwards, when he was seiz'd with them, and (as is said before) took a Trial for them, in which he was cast for his Life, while the other (*viz.* *J. P.*) made his Escape beyond Sea, and was not heard of, till he (*Sollars*) had been repriev'd a good while, and was within a few Weeks of coming out of Goal, by Virtue of the Pardon he then expected; at which time *J. P.* first sent *Edward Juice* to him in *Newgate*, to know how it fared with him, and then came himself to visit him there. And when he had pleaded his Pardon, and had obtain'd his Liberty, the said *J. P.* follow'd him elose every where, and would be always with him, and particularly that Night the fore-mention'd Robberies were committed, he came to his Company, and brought the said *Juice* with him, who (he said) was his Brother-Soldier; but *Sollars* knew him no otherwise than by his having formerly come to *Newgate*, to visit him there, from *J. P.* This is the Substance of a long confused Account he gave me of this *J. P.* deluding him both first and last, and cheating him not only of his Money (for he never paid him all) but of his Life too. And this further Account he gave me with relation to himself, That he was about 25 Years of Age, born of very honest Parents, at *Hampton* in *Heresfordshire*; where he was, by their Care, brought up in a virtuous and religious way; but his unhappy Biass and Inclination to Vice made him neglect the Practice of the *good Things* that were taught him, and follow that wicked Courie which brought GOD's Judgments upon him.



*The Confession and Behaviour of Richard Juice,
(executed with Sollars) for the three above-
mention'd Robberies.*

HE acknowledg'd his Guilt for having been consenting thereto, and assisting the others therein ; but he said, they were not three, but two Robberies ; the one committed in *Lambs-conduit-fields*, upon a Servant of the Lord Chief Justice *Holt's*, and the other presently after that, upon two Gentlemen in a Coach, coming from *Marybone* ; and he thought that his having had three Trials, as for three distinct Facts, made him appear so much the greater Offender. But I satisfy'd him in that, and made him sensible, that there was no Reason for this his Nicety in making such a Distinction or Difference between robbing two Persons singly, or when in company together. The Person that induc'd him to commit those Robberies, was the same mention'd in the foregoing Confession under *J. P.* who was a Soldier with him in the First Regiment of the Queen's Foot Guards, and had brought him into the Company of *Thomas Sollars*, the Night when those Robberies were committed ; in which, he said, *Sollars* was most active ; for he first set on him they robb'd in *Lambs-conduit-fields* ; and after this, as they were walking on all together towards *Marybone*, he suddenly snatch'd his the said *Juice's* Sword from his Side, and with it assaulted the two Gentlemen in the Coach, whom they robb'd there, *J. P.* and himself joining in those Facts : But he said, he was surpriz'd and hurried into them ; for he neither knew nor intended any such thing when he first set out with *J. P.* and *Sollars*.

He further said, That he was about 23 Years of Age, born of poor, but honest Parents, at a Place call'd *March* in the Isle of *Ely*, and liv'd for the most part at *Torney*, not far off *Ely*, where he follow'd Husbandry, till he took a Fancy to come up to *London*, in hopes of finding

finding some Employment there, that might be better for him than Country-Labour: But being disappointed in his Hopes, and wanting Money, he went to the *Tower* and list'd himself a Soldier in Brigadier *Totton's* Company, under Col. *Bull*, in the First Regiment of Foot-Guards, in which he serv'd about six Months, and was actually in the Service when taken. He confess'd he had liv'd in great Neglect of God's Service, and been a profane Swearer; for which, and all other Sins, he asked God's Pardon, and said that his Companions were the chief Actors therein, and he did not so much as know what they took, but only had six Guineas of them for his Share in the Booty, which was what they thought fit to give him, for his standing by them in those Facts.

Now this Day being come, on which they were to suffer according to their Deserts, and the Sentence pass'd upon them, they were carried in a Cart to the Place of Execution, where I attended them for the last time; and having perform'd my Ministerial Function to them, as I us'd to do on such melancholy Occasions, *Sollars* deliver'd to me a Paper, which he said contain'd nothing but Truth, desiring me to impart it to the Pulick: Then I withdrew from them. They made a short Speech to the Spectators, which was to this Effect, *viz.* That *they would take Warning by them, and keep themselves from all ill Company: That they would serve GOD, and keep the Sabbath-Day: And, That they would now pray for their departing Souls.* They declared, That they died in Charity with all Men. And *Sollars* said for himself, That *he was not guilty of many ill things he was suspected of; but for the Crimes for which he died, he own'd with Sorrow he had committed them.* And then added, That *no Man ever more willingly and heartily died than he did; hoping God would have Mercy upon him.*

When they had done speaking to the People, they apply'd themselves to their private Devotions, for which they had some Time allow'd them: Afterwards the Cart drew away, and they were turn'd off; all the while calling

calling upon God (for Christ's Sake) to take Pity of them, and have Mercy upon their Souls.

Copy of a Paper deliver'd me by Thomas Sollars at the Tree.

I Do declare, That the Nine Pounds that was by me left in Captain Giles Hands, in the Presence of Jane Hill, was only for a Security for my Appearance to March with the Captain when he was ready to go, and then the Money was to be return'd to me again: And, That I do not know that any other Person paid the Captain any Money. This is Truth, as I am a dying Man. Witnesses my Hand this third Day of August, 1709.

Thomas Sollars.

He was executed at Tyburn on Wednesday the 3d Day of August, 1709.

The Confession and Behaviour of Grace Tripp, for Murder and Robbery.

SHE was very sparing in the opening of her Heart to me in the Matter she was found guilty of, and condemn'd for. I press'd her very much to be free, true, and sincere. And so did likewise other Divines, and several other serious Christians, (among whom there were some of her Friends and Acquaintance) that came to see her. But she would not be persuaded by any one to make a full Confession. Sometimes indeed she own'd, That she was present when (on the 26th of February last, at Night) James Peters, who was her Sweetheart, and by her let into the House that Night, committed that barbarous Murder upon Mrs. Elizabeth Blundel, House-keeper in the Earl of Torrington's Family, in which

which herself was also a Servant ; and, that this *James Peters* would have had her held the Candle to him, while he did the Fact ; but, instead of helping him therein, she took the Candle, and threw it upon the ground, and went towards the Window of the Room (where that bloody Action was done) with an intent to cry out Murder ; but she durst not, for fear of being also murder'd herself. At other Times she was quite in another Tale ; for she would positively deny her being then in that Room ; but said, she was in the Kitchen below Stairs when this happen'd ; and, That she knew nothing of the Murder, till *James Peters* told her of it, which was after they had pack'd up my Lord's Plate, and carry'd it away : In which Robbery she acknowledg'd she was concern'd, both with another Woman, and the said *Peters*, who was that Woman's Acquaintance, as well as her own. She said, that Woman had given her so much Wine and strong Drink that Night, that she was very much fuddled, so that she did not know what she then did. Yet she now pretended, that she could very well remember, That after they had carry'd away the Goods thus stol'n by them there, *Peters* charg'd her (if she was taken) not to discover that the said Woman knew any thing of the Murder, but take it upon herself ; saying, that she was the only Person present at it, and assisting him in it. Which she told me was the Reason of her owning (as she did several times) that she was aiding and assisting in that Murder. But now she deny'd it. Wherein I found she greatly prevaricated, and spoke contrary to Truth.

This is the Substance of what she then declared concerning these two heinous Facts, *viz.* The Murder of her Lord's House-keeper, and the Robbery of his Lordship's Plate ; for both which she was condemned to this sad and untimely Death, in the very Bloom of her Age ; she telling me, she was not yet 19 Years old. To all this she added, That she was born of honest Parents at *Barton in Lincolnshire* : That they had given her a good Education, but she could not say she had lived up to it.

That

That above two Years since she came up to *London*, and had (during that time) been in Service in four or five Families in the said City, and in that of *Westminster*, and had not, till this time, wrong'd none of her Masters or Mistresses, but her late Mistress, with whom she lived before she came to the Earl of *Torrington's* Family, in which she had been but three Days when those notorious Facts of Murder and Robbery were committed there: And that the Wrong she had done to that Mistress it was not great, she having stol'n from her only an old Shift, an Handkerchief, some pieces of Holland, and a pair of old Sleeves. Here she confess'd also (tho' with much Difficulty and Reluctance) that she had stol'n several Pieces of Gold, about thirty-one Guineas, one Half-Guinea, a Double Guinea-piece, and a broad Piece or two of Gold, which were in a green Silk Purse in Mr. *Bourn's* Closet, who was her Master. She had been ask'd several Questions, and she told as many formal Lies about this Matter; but at last she confess'd it. I endeavour'd to make her sensible of her wretched and deprav'd Nature, which had carry'd her up to that high Degree of Wickedness, as to dwell so long in her obstinate Denial of a Fact which her very Conscience (if she had any) could not but reproach her continually with the Commission of.

But further she confess'd, That she had been highly guilty of that which is the Devil's Sin, and that is *Pride*, which had led her into that of *Covetousness*, another odious Sin, that often proves (as it did in this Case) the Parent of *Theft* and *Murder*, and is likewise many times attended with several other Crimes. *Peters* had sed her up with Fancies, that when they had got a good Booty, he would make her live very high, and would keep her like a Lady. At last she was so far wrought upon as to be brought to confess, That she stood in the Passage near Mrs. *Blundel's* Chamber, when *Peters* murder'd her. But when she was thereupon ask'd these Questions severally, *viz.* 1st, *Whether she did not see him give the Blow or Blows?* 2dly, *Whether she did not bear*

hear any Blows given, or any Noise made in the Room? 3dly, Whether indeed she did not shew Peters the way to that Room? 4thly, Whether she did not go in her self with him? 5thly, Whether she held not the Candle to him while he was committing, or going about to commit that most barbarous Fact? 6thly, Whether she had not given him the Wooden Pestle with which he did it? And lastly, Whether she did not help him to search that poor murder'd Gentlewoman's Pockets, and rob her, as (by her own Confession) she had assisted him in the robbing the House, and carrying the Goods away?

All these Questions being put to her, and she being closely press'd to give her positive Answers thereto, either Yea, or No; she then would say nothing at all.

At the Place of her Execution, to which she was this Day carry'd from *Newgate* in a Cart, I attended her for the last Time. I exhorted her again and again to consider well whither she was a going, and to see that she did not carry the Guilt of any Sin unrepented of into the other World, which would make her miserable, and burn in Hell-fire for ever. I press'd her therefore to clear her Conscience, and make a more free and open Confession than she had yet done, of the Murder she was now to die for. To which she reply'd, That she was not present at it, nor consenting to it.

After some proper Exhortations, I pray'd, and sung some penitential Psalms with her, making her rehearse the Apostle's Creed. I pray'd again, and desired in her Behalf (which she herself afterwards also desir'd) the Prayers of the Standers-by. Then I committed her to God, and so withdrew. When I was retired, she had some farther Time allow'd her for her private Devotions. And while she was calling upon God for Mercy the Cart drew away, and she was turned off.

She was executed at *Tyburn* on *Friday* the 17th of *March*, 1709-10.

*The Behaviour, Confession, and Last Speech of
Andrew Baynes, condemn'd for assaulting
and robbing Mr. John Storer, upon the
Queen's Highway.*

HE readily own'd the Fact, and the Justice of his Sentence, and also acknowledg'd, That he had deserved Death long before. He said, that he was about 27 Years of Age, born at *Old Sanford* near *Saffron Waldren* in *Essex*: That he had been Apprentice to one *Vintner* in *London*, and a *Drawer* to another: That afterwards he had served some Merchants in the Capacity of a *Butler*: That he had kept two Publick Houses, *viz.* one that was a *Viſtualling-Houſe* in *Thames-ſtreet*, and another, the Sign of the *Bear and Ragged-Staff*, (a *Tavern* and *Inn*) at *Lambeth*: And, that he was at that time endeavouring to get his *Livelihood* in an honest way; but meeting with some *Diſappointments* in his Affairs, and falling into bad *Company*, he was drawn away and allured to the *Commiſſion* of several *Thefts*, which at first he could not have thought he should ever have been guilty of.

I putting him in mind of his having once received Sentence of *Death*, *viz.* on the 10th of *March* 1708-9, for breaking open the *House* of *Mrs. Elizabeth Copley* at *Stepney*, and taking thence two *Gold Chains* and other *Goods*, to the Value of above 30 *l.* on the 5th of *January* before; he at first deny'd, but at last confess'd, he was guilty of it; and that he was the only *Person* (besides the *Receiver* of those stol'n *Goods*) concern'd in that *Fact*. Then I mention'd to him another of a later *Date*, and that was the great *Robbery* committed by him and others in *October* 1709, in the *House* of the *Right Honourable* the *Earl of Westmoreland*, for which he had also received Sentence of *Death* the 14th of *January* following, and one of his *Accomplices* therein had Justice done him for it about that time, *viz.*
the

the 16th of *December* 1709. Here he readily acknowledged his Guilt, and likewise the Justice of that his Sentence; which was not executed upon him, by reason of his obtaining then a gracious Reprieve, and some time after a Pardon; and that was upon Condition, *That he should within six Months from that time transport himself into some Parts beyond the Seas*: Which as he did not, but remaining all the while in *England*, so he was press'd into the *Queen's Service*, and carry'd to *Gaunt in Flanders*; from whence he deserted, and return'd hither, and to his vicious and wicked Practices; having, since that time of his Return, committed the Fact for which he was now to die, and about eight others, which he call'd small Robberies; tho' one of them was of no less than thirty-two Guineas, which he, and two such other Persons with him (who cheated him of his Share) took from a Gentleman that was then upon going beyond the Seas, whom they met and assaulted near *Holborway*, about 15 or 16 Weeks ago, the Gentleman being on Horseback, and they three on Foot.

He said, he had since his Confinement and Condemnation endeavour'd to make, and in some Cases had effectually made, Reparation to most of the Persons injured by him and his wicked Associates; being made sensible, that this was absolutely necessary for him to do, in order to his obtaining, not only their Pardon, whom he had injur'd, but God's Pardon also, who had been greatly dishonoured by his wicked and loose Life, that had of late Years been attended with all manner of Lewdness and Debauchery; for which he now felt a Grief and Bitterness of Soul, much superior to all the Pleasure he formerly had in his Sins.

At the Place of Execution, to which he was carry'd from *Newgate* in a Cart this Day, I attended him for the last Time. I pray'd by him, and gave him such Exhortations as I usually do in the like Cases. I made him rehearse the Apostle's Creed, and sung some penitential Psalms with him. I pray'd again, and finally having recommended him to God's Mercy, I withdrew, and

and left him to his private Devotions, for which he had some time allow'd him. He spoke a few Words to the People there to this Purpose, *viz.* That he wisht they would pray for him, and take Warning by him, who by his Extravagancies and Sins, had brought himself to this shameful End. He advis'd them to be wiser than he had been, that they might not come to such a sad and untimely Death, &c.

Some time after this, the Cart drew away, and he was turned off, expiring with these and the like ejaculatory Expressions in his Mouth: *Lord have mercy upon me a vile Sinner! Lord I repent! Lord forgive! Lord receive me. Open me the Gates of Heaven! Lord, let me enter in! Lord receive my Soul. Lord Jesus receive my Spirit!* &c.

In these Prayers he shew'd great Earnestness and Fervour of Spirit, and spoke (as it appear'd) from his Heart.

He was executed at *Tyburn* on *Wednesday* the 8th of *August*, 1711.

*The Behaviour, Confession, and Last Speech of
John Sutton, (condemn'd with the aforesaid
Andrew Baynes) for assaulting and robbing
Mr. John Storer on the Queen's Highway.*

HE own'd he was guilty of that Fact, and that he, *Andrew Baynes*, and another Person not yet taken, did jointly commit it, himself being the first that assaulted *Mr. Storer*, and let off a Pistol, which, he said, he intended should not hurt any body, but only give Notice to the other two (not far off) to come to his Assistance: That the said *Andrew Baynes* ty'd *Mr. Storer's* Hands, and *W. M.* (the other Accomplice not yet taken) struck him on the Head with the But-end of a Pistol

a Pistol he had, they being armed with Swords and Pistols. This is what he said as to this Fact, for which he begg'd Mr. *Storer's* Pardon. As to other Matters, he was not willing at first to make himself (though it seems he was) a great Offender; saying, that this was the first Robbery he ever committed; adding, That he was about 30 Years of Age, born at *Norwich*: That he had been well brought up by his Parents, who lived honestly and with Repute: That indeed he had been taught better things than he had practis'd; that he had often mispent and profaned the Lord's Day; that he had been guilty of the Sin of Uncleannesse, and many other Vices, the Remembrance of which was very grievous to him; and that he heartily repented of them all, wishing he had been so wise as to serve God, and honestly follow'd his Calling of a *Baker*. Thus he accus'd himself of his ungodly Deeds and Extravagancies in general, but did not come up to any particular Account of those Robberies which he had committed, till I not only press'd him to it, but mention'd them to him: And though he would not plainly acknowledge, yet he faintly deny'd, that some Years ago he stole a Watch, and was committed to *Dover-Castle*; out of which he having made his Escape, was never try'd for the Robbery. But this he particularly confess'd, That he was guilty of all those Robberies mention'd in the following Paper.

The true Copy of a PAPER deliver'd to me by Andrew Baynes, in my Vestry (or Closet) in Newgate, a little before he was carried to the Place of his Execution, on Wednesday last, being the 8th instant.

A Particular Account of the Robberies committed by me Andrew Baynes, in Company with
John

John Sutton and William Maw, which I heartily desire of Almighty God to forgive me; and humbly ask Pardon of all those Gentlemen under-written, which I have, with Sutton and Maw offended; especially that worthy Gentleman, Sir David Hamilton, whose Pardon I humbly ask, and humbly desire he will forgive me, as I forgive the World.

ON Saturday March 31, 1711, we robb'd Mr. Potter, at the two Men hanging in Chains near Bow, and took from him a Watch, Rings, and other Effects, with a Snuff-box.

2dly, We robb'd between Islington and Highgate, Governour Beal, with one Henry Harding, and took from them two Coats, one blue trimm'd with black, and the other a light-colour'd Coat, trimm'd with Silver, one Pound eight Shillings in Money, and a Tortoise-shell Tobacco-box; which I own. But there was thirty-two Guineas in Gold, which the said Governour lost, which I suppose Sutton and Maw shared together: For, as I am a dying Man, I know nothing of them.

3dly, We robb'd a Gentlewoman and a Porter, between Kingsland and Shoreditch: We took from the said Gentlewoman six Guineas in Gold, and fourteen Shillings in Silver, and two Gold Rings. We met a Taylor at the same Time, and upon the same Road, and took some small Effects.

N. B. John Sutton observ'd, that there was a Mistake in this Article, as to the Date only; for, to his best Remembrance, the Taylor was robb'd three Days after the afore-mention'd Gentlewoman. And he said also, That between these two Robberies, he committed another (without Baynes) about that Place,

Place, on a Servant-man with a Basket in his Hand, from whom he took a small Matter.

4thly, We robb'd a single Gentleman by the Brick-kiln next *Tyburn*, and took from the said Gentleman a Silver Watch, and a pair of Silver Buckles, and some Money.

5thly, We robb'd Mr. *Thomas Baker*, and took two Queen *Ann's* Guineas, and 7 s. 6 d. in Silver, a Silver Tobacco-box, a pair of Silver Buckles, and three Gold Rings, and some other Effects from the said Gentleman. *Marw* not concern'd in this.

6thly, We robb'd that worthy Gentleman Sir *David Hamilton*, and his Man, near *Pancrafs Wells*, and took from Sir *David* one Diamond Ring, a silver-hilted Sword, inlaid with Gold, and some Money, with other Effects. The Robbery I own; but for his Man's Snuff-box, as I am a Dying Man, I know nothing of it.

7thly, We robb'd a Gentleman coming from *Hackney*, upon *Cambridge-Heath*, and took from the said Gentleman a small Parcel. *Marw* was not concern'd in this.

8thly, The Robbery (committed *May* the 22d, 1711.) which I am condemn'd to suffer Death for, upon Mr. *Storer*, between *Islington* and *Old-Street*, and took eight Shillings in Money; he having his other Effects again.

These are all the Robberies I have committed since I have been in *England*, [meaning since his Return from *Flanders*, as he express'd it to me] and *Sutton* and *Marw* were along with me. And as I am a dying Man, this is nothing but the Truth. So help me God.

Aug. 7, 1711.

ANDREW BAYNES.

When that Paper was deliver'd to me by *Andrew Baynes*, *John Sutton* being then present, own'd the Truth of its Contents. Since that time I read it to him again more than once; and thereupon he again declar'd, That the Facts were all true, and he was concern'd

cerned in every one of them : But he said withal, that he had none of the thirty-two Guineas taken from Governor *Beal*, So that it seems *William Marw* kept them all for himself.

This *Sutton*, I found, was under a very great Disappointment, as having (even to the last) been in Expectation of a farther Reprieve ; hoping, but in vain, that his Money (which he said was no less than three hundred Guineas, which he had ready to give to save his Life) might do great Feats that way ; but he was mistaken therein.

At the Place of Execution I attended him, and exhorted him to repent. I pray'd by him, then recommending his Soul to God, I withdrew. And he having spoken to the People to this Effect, *viz.* That they would take care not to break the Sabbath-day, nor keep lewd Company, as he had done ; and, That they would pray for his departing Soul. At this there was a great Shout made by the Standers-by.

Afterwards he betook himself to his private Devotions, for which he had some time allow'd him : And that being over, the Cart drew away, and he was turn'd off, while he thus call'd upon God. *Lord be merciful unto me ! Lord have Mercy upon me ! Lord Jesus have Mercy upon me ! &c.*

N. B. Before he was carry'd out of *Newgate* he gave me a Letter, which he had prepar'd for me ; and at the same time told me, That his right Name was *John Thurton*, yet he never went by that Name before. The Copy of which Letter is as follows, *viz.*

Mr. Lorrain,

I Have brought all my Misfortunes on my self : And tho' I had the tenderest of Fathers, yet my own extravagant Humour led me into Uncleaness, Drunkenness, and the unlawful Means to support both, which has brought
me

me to this unfortune End. I must own, I make this particular Observation; that when I first left God, and did not observe his Day, he left me to be led away to my utter ruin here, and I must only rely on the immense Mercy of my Creator, through the Merits of my blessed Redeemer: And I beg Forgiveness of all the World, but more especially my Father and Family. I beg the World may not reflect on my Wife and Children; she has been a tender Wife and a Mother. This is the first Time I ever was charg'd with injuring the least Soul; and the Lord have Mercy upon me; and comfort my Wife, and help my Children.

Aug. 11, 1711.

John Thurton.

He was executed at Tyburn, on Saturday the 11th of August, 1711.

The Behaviour and Dying-Words of Thomas Jarrott, for robbing Mr. Storer on the Highway.

HE, (even from the very first) gave such Informations to those Persons, who had received any Injury by him, as shewed he was sensible of, and sorry for, the Evils he had done; and that were he to have out-liv'd this, he would never have brought himself under the like Condemnation, nor ever more been concerned in such wicked Deeds; Which Behaviour of his at that Time, I must needs say, was some Demonstration of his Repentance. Among several Discoveries which he made, he gave me an Account of some Exchequer Notes, Bank-Bills, Bonds, and private Money-Notes, &c. amounting together to about 300 *l.* which he and two others with him, stole and dispos'd of for 51 *l.* And likewise several Yards of Cloth, of the Value of 15 or 16 *s.* per Yard, which they took out of three Carts, and for quicker Sale and Dispatch, they sold at 1 *s.* per Yard only; they having found Chapmen that had the Conscience to buy

VOL. I. F those

those Things at such an easy Rate, and to bid them bring in more.

When I had him alone in my Closet in *Newgate*, he confess'd himself to have been a very great Offender. He said he was about 24 Years of Age, born of honest Parents in *Highb-Holborn*, in the Parish of *St. Giles's-in-the-Fields*; That though he had from his Youth, received good Instruction, and religious Education, yet he had of late strangely abandon'd himself to a loose Life, had two Wives, and had been concern'd in many other lewd Actions. That being indicted for, and upon his Trial found (as he confess'd he really was) guilty of, a Felony, the Court then ordered him into the Queen's Service, and accordingly he was list'd a Soldier. But he being a short Man, and withal understanding the Sea, better than Land Service, as having for five Years together before been a Sailor, on Board some Merchantmen in the *West-Indies*, his Officer turn'd him over to a Sea Commander, and so serv'd on board the *Neptune*, and other Men of War for several Months: Then coming up to *London* again, he return'd to his wicked Ways, and (among other Robberies) committed a Felony and Burglary in the House of *Mr. William Gardener*, on the 10th of *August*, 1711, taking out of it eight dozen Pair of worsted Stockings, eight Pound weight of Thread, and other Goods; which Fact he publickly confess'd at the Bar, being (as he told me afterwards) persuaded so to do, by some Persons who had an Interest in his Death; and, upon that his Confession, he was brought in guilty of this Fact, and so receiv'd Sentence accordingly.

Having lain a long while under this Condemnation, and being first told, that his Execution should be on *Wednesday* the 19th of *September*, and then on the 21st, and then again on the 5th of *October*; and when that Day was come, and he ev'n ready to be carry'd off, the said Execution being then again deferr'd to the 12th, and last of all to the 24th of *October*. He all that while, entertain'd the vain and unhappy Hopes, *That he should be still further reprieved*; but at last, he found himself mistaken

mistaken, and had he not so much depended upon this Life, he might more stedfastly have apply'd himself to the making a due Provision for another. But his Thoughts being confus'd and distracted by the many flattering Promises daily made to him, he did not make that good Use of his precious Time, which probably he would have done, had not his Mind been so discompos'd and tofs'd between Hope and Fear, between Time and Eternity.

*The Behaviour, Confession and Dying-Speech of
William Maw, executed with Jarrott.*

HE was convicted upon five Indictments, *viz.* 1st, For breaking open the House of Mrs. *Ann Johnson*, and taking thence eight pewter Plates and other Goods. 2dly, For breaking open the House of Mr. *John Avery*, and taking thence twenty-four Pair of leather Clogs. 3dly, For assaulting and robbing Mr. *Charles Potts*, on the Queen's Highway, taking from him a Silver Watch, 5 gold Rings, Money and other Things. 4thly, For assaulting and robbing likewise on the Highway Mrs. *Ann Grover*, taking from her 3 s. 6d. 5thly, For assaulting in the like Manner on the Queen's Highway, Mr. *Thomas Coleman*, and robbing him of an Handkerchief, some Money, and other Goods. Of all which Facts he being found Guilty, (as he might have been of many others, had he been try'd for them) he received Sentence of Death. Which Sentence he at first deny'd, but afterwards acknowledg'd, to be very just, in that God had brought this Evil upon him, because he had been a very great Sinner.

He said, that he was 50 Years of Age, born in the *North of England*, from whence he came up to *London*; that he served his Apprenticeship with a *Cabinet-maker*, and for a long while follow'd that Occupation, in the Parish of *St. Giles's, Cripplegate*, where he dwelt for twenty Years together; that he having for some few Years before his Execution, left off working at his Trade, and betook himself to some illegal Ways of Living, as the buying stolen Goods, and thereby encouraging Thieves

and Robbers. This he own'd; but he would not confess, that himself had actually been concerned in several Felonies and Robberies, and in Coining, &c. for which Things sake (as he might remember) he had a Fine of 10*l.* laid upon him in *September 1705*, was burnt in the Hand in *April 1710*, and in *September* following; and twice, if not more, order'd for *Bridewell*, &c. These were Facts so plain and so fresh in my Memory, that he could not deny them. But when I proceeded to urge him further, and endeavour'd to bring him to an open Confession of the Robberies he was condemn'd for, and of several others by him committed in Company with *Andrew Baynes* and *John Sutton*, lately executed, who before their Death, most solemnly affirmed, that he, the said *Mau*, was concerned with them in those Robberies on the Highway, mention'd in their aforesaid Account. He used all the Art he could to evade the giving a positive Answer to the Questions I ask'd him about these Matters; and as often as I offer'd my Arguments to him, to induce him to declare the Truth; he then reply'd, *Sir, You are too hard upon me; you press me too much; your Prayers, your Exhortations, your Exposition of the Word of God in the Chapple, your Doctrine is very good; and I receive great Instruction and Comfort by them, and thank you for them; but give me leave to tell you, I cannot indure, that in private you should be so severe upon me, as to press me to speak that I know nothing of.*

My plain Dealing with him (I perceived) was very unpleasant and grievous to his Temper. But I told him, that I must not flatter him to the destruction of his Soul, and thereby bring Guilt upon my own. And therefore, I would not give over pressing him, to make such a sincere Acknowledgement of his Faults, and give such Proof of his Repentance, as might rejoice my Heart from the Satisfaction I should have, that this would procure Peace to his Conscience.

I went so far with him, that he perfectly grew angry with me; but I told him, I would deal with him as a good Physician or Surgeon, who does not so much mind
the

the Cries of his Patient, as his Cure ; for, said I to him, *though you exclaim never so much against what I offer you, I am fully resolv'd to endeavour the Salvation of your Soul.*

With this I calm'd his Passion a little ; and then I laid before him these two Things chiefly, which I pray'd him to ponder upon, as being indeed most weighty and remarkable ; the Providence of God most conspicuously appearing in them for his exemplary Punishment.

1. That he was justly brought to this Condemnation upon the plain Evidence of that very Youth, whom he had trained up in this wicked Way of Robbing.

2. That the avenging Hand of God had now taken hold on him, and would not suffer him to live long after that heinous Fact, which he knew in his Conscience (and I knew also from *Andrew Baynes* and *John Sutton*, then in Company with him) he had committed, in assaulting that honourable Person on the Highway, even when he was then just come from saving a Life ; and that too, not only by his great Skill, but in that charitable Manner, which he frequently exerts towards the Needy. And though he had escap'd the Punishment of common Robberies for so many Years, he could no longer avoid the Punishment of a Robbery accompany'd with such Aggravations, both on the Part of the Gentleman robb'd and on his own Part, shewing a crueller Disposition towards him, than either *Baynes* or *Sutton* did, as that honourable Person made it appear, (when in my presence) he told him the said *Marv*, many Particulars relating to the Part he acted in that Robbery. Which if he did now duly consider, he must needs conclude, that therein he had committed an uncommon Offence ; and therefore tho' he was not condemn'd for it, no more than *Baynes* and *Sutton* were, yet this his Condemnation was the Effect of it, and the just Punishment which the great Judge of the whole World inflict'd upon him, particularly for that his great Barbarity.

When he was seeking for (without shewing any Disposition by Confession that in the least deserved) that Mercy at the honourable Hand, who had obtained it for

Andrew Baynes, because he was more gentle and civil in the Commission of his Crimes, and more tractable and penitent under his Condemnation ; I told him plainly that his Temper and Carriage being in all respects, and every where (both on the Highway and in Irons) much different from that of *Baynes*, he had no reason to expect the same Favour that *Baynes* had, of a Reprieve ; which tho' but for a few Weeks, yet was (as it prov'd) a great Blessing to him, who within that Time, was (through Mercy) brought to such a happy Disposition, as not only to be well prepared for Death, but to wish it rather than Life itself, which he then began to discover was attended with Temptation to Sin, and consequently with great Misery.

Thus I laid before *Marw* those Things that I thought most proper to melt him into true Repentance, and oblige him to an open Confession of his Crimes, but hitherto in vain ; his habitual Temper being stubborn. All I could get out of him, was this Answer only. *I am a great Offender, and what can I say more ?*

These Bodies being demanded by, and deliver'd to the Sherriffs Officers, they were carry'd out of *Newgate* in a Cart, to the Place of Execution, where I perform'd my last Office to their Souls. I exhorted them (especially *Wm. Marw*) to die with a clear Conscience, and not to leave that undone in this World, which could not be done in the other, into which they were just going to be launch'd.

Thomas Jarrott said, *He had declar'd already all he had to say for the clearing of his Conscience.* Which as I was satisfied in, so I did not press him further herein. He then gave me a Paper, he call'd his Last-Speech, which (according to his Desire to me) I made publick.

As for *Marw*, he said, *He had (he hop'd) made his Peace with God: He would not be ask'd any Questions: He knew he had been a great Sinner, and God was just in bringing him to this Death.*

After this I pray'd by them, sung some penitential Psalms, and made them rehearse the Apostle's Creed. Then I gave them some farther Exhortations, and pray'd again

again with them, and having recommended their Souls to God's Mercy in Christ, I left them to their private Devotion's, for which they had some Time allow'd them.

Before they were turn'd off, they spoke to the People to this Effect, (*viz.* Jarrot) *I pray all, young and old, to take Warning by me. I had good Education from my Parents, who are honest People. They did not bring me up to this I am now come to. But I was undutiful and disobedient, and would not follow good Counsel. I desire that none would be so unjust as to reflect upon my Friends, who are no ways concern'd in my ill Actions, &c.*

And Maw spoke thus, *I desire all Gentlemen and others here present, to take Warning and amend their Lives betimes.*

They both desired the Prayers of the Spectators; and when they had ended their Speeches, and pray'd a while to themselves, the Cart drew away, and they expired with these and the like Ejaculations in their Mouths, *viz.* Maw, (*who spoke very little and very low*) *Lord! have Mercy on me, a great Sinner.* Jarrot; *Lord! look upon me in thy Mercy.*

Two distinct Accounts of several Robberies, lately committed by William Maw and Thomas Jarrot, who were executed at Tyburn on Wednesday the 24th of October, 1711. To which is added, another Paper, given me at the Place of Execution, by the said Thomas Jarrot, which he call'd his Last-Speech, desiring me to publish it, both for private and publick Good.

- I. *An Account of some late Robberies committed by William Maw, in Company with Andrew Baynes and John Sutton, mention'd in a Paper deliver'd to me by the said Baynes and*

Sutton, *who were executed at Tyburn, viz. the former on Wednesday the 8th, and the latter on Saturday the 11th of August 1711, which Paper I have read to the said Wm. Maw, he neither would own, nor could deny the Truth thereof. Here follows the said Paper, in Andrew Baynes's own Words.*

A particular Account of the Robberies committed by me Andrew Baynes, in Company with John Sutton, and William Maw, which I heartily desire of Almighty God to forgive me; and humbly ask Pardon of all those Gentlemen under-written, which I have with Sutton and Maw offended, especially that worthy Gentleman, Sir David Hamilton, whose Pardon I humbly ask, and humbly desire he will forgive me, as I forgive the World.

ON Saturday, March 11, we robb'd Mr. Potts, at the two Men hanging in Chains near Bow, and took from him a Watch, Rings, and other Effects, with a Snuff-box.

2dly, We robb'd between Islington and Highgate, Governor Beal, with one Henry Harding, and took from them two Coats, one blue trimm'd with black, and the other a light coloured Coat; 1*l.* 18*s.* in Money, and a Tortoiseshell Tobacco-box; which I own. But there was 32 Guineas in Gold, which the said Governor lost, which I suppose Sutton and Maw shared together; for as I am a dying Man, I know nothing of them.

3dly, We robb'd a Gentlewoman and a Porter, between Kinsland and Shoreditch; we took from the said Gentlewoman six Guineas in Gold, and 14*s.* in Silver, and

and two gold Rings, We met a *Taylor* at the same Time, and upon the same Road, and took some small Effects.

4thly, We robb'd a single Gentleman by the Brick-kiln next *Tyburn*, and took from the said Gentleman a Silver Watch, and a Pair of silver Buckles, and some Money.

5thly, We robb'd that worthy Gentleman Sir *David Hamilton*, and his Man, near *Pancras Wells*, and took from Sir *David* one Diamond Ring, a Silver hilted Sword, inlaid with Gold, and some Money, with other Effects. The Robbery I own, but for his Man's Snuff-box, as I am a dying Man, I know nothing of it.

6thly, The Robbery which I am condemn'd to suffer Death for, upon Mr. *Storer*, between *Islington* and *Old-Street*, and took Eight Shillings in Money; he having his other Effects again.

These are all the Robberies I have committed since I have been in *England*, and *Sutton* and *Marx* were along with me. And as I am a dying Man, this is nothing but the Truth. So help me GOD.

Andrew Baynes, Aug. 11, 1711.

I Shewing this Paper of *Baynes* to *William Marx*, that very Morning he was carried to his Execution (as I had done before) in my Closet in *Newgate*, where I discours'd with him privately, and desiring him to tell me, upon the Word of a dying Man, *Whether he had been concerned in any of the Robberies therein mention'd*; he still discover'd more and more his unhappy harden'd Temper; he was so far from being persuad'd to disburthen his Conscience, that in a Passion he flew away from me, out of my Closet into the Chapel, whither I follow'd him, advising him to cool a little that Passion, which by no means was becoming a dying Man. He answer'd me, *That I was so hard upon him, that I hinder'd him from his Devotions.* To which I reply'd, *That what I endeavour'd to persuade him to, was in order to the rendring his Devotions*

otions acceptable to God, and beneficial to his Soul; which could not be, if notwithstanding all that was said to him in this Matter, he would still persist in his obstinate Humour, and thereby oppose the Means of Salvation, which were offer'd to him, by One he might be sensible had no other design herein, than to incline his Heart to that which was so necessary for him to do, and that all my Instructions to him, and Prayers for him, tended to no other End. Upon this, he said, (as he had several Times done before) That he liked my Doctrine and Prayers very well; but I was too hard upon a dying Man, in forcing him to confess what was not prov'd against him. In this his obstinate Disposition, I could work no good upon him; all I could say, would not prevail with him, so much as to bring him to answer this plain Question, which I put to him before many Strangers, that were there present. Whether Yea, or No, He was guilty of any of the Robberies I had mention'd to him, of which some were positively Sworn against him, and all of them affirm'd upon the Salvation of two dying Men, his Associates, that he was concern'd in them? To this Question he gave me no positive Answer, but instead thereof, he turn'd himself towards the Wall, and said, That if he had any Thing to confess, he would confess it to God. I shew'd him, That such a Confession was not enough, and would not serve in the present Case; and then I desired him to consider this Thing calmly with himself, How he hazarded nothing, if he would openly speak the Truth in this Matter; whereas, if he did not, he put his Soul in great Danger of being lost for ever. To which I added, That as he did not, nor durst, positively deny that he was concern'd in those Robberies, so I took it for granted he was, and would represent him to the World accordingly, unless he should give me the happy Opportunity (which I so much desir'd) of representing him as a true Penitent. To this he said little or nothing, but that He was sorry for his Passion.

II. *A particular Account of several Robberies committed by Thomas Jarrot, besides that he was condemn'd for ; all which he did betimes discover, giving this Account (written as he said in his own Hand) to the Ordinary of Newgate, who for the Use and Satisfaction of the Publick, sets it forth in the Words it was digested in by the said Thomas Jarrot, as follows.*

An Account of what Robberies I have committed.

I. **I**N *White-Chapel*, about 11 Months since, I took a Hair-Trunk from before a Stage-Coach, standing at the *Maid-in-the-Moon* Tavern-door; wherein there was 100 l. Exchequer Notes, two Bank-Bills, 10 l. each, a Bond of 100 l. and several other Notes, some payable upon Sight; with a silk Night-gown, and some wearing Apparel; which I sold to *M. H.* for 51 l. which she paid unto me *Thomas Jarrott*, and to *R. H—d*, and *C. H—n*, to each 17 l.

II. About seven Months since, I took a leather Port-mantle from before a Stage Coach at *White-Chapel-Bars*, wherein was a Night-gown, Linnen, and several Books and Notes; which were sold to *P. M.* for 4 l. *T. D—is.* *H. W—n.* *S. H—rt.* and *R. H—nd.* had each their Shares of the Money.

III. A Silver hilted Sword I took out of a Sword-Cutler's Shop in *White-Chappel*, about 7 Months since, and sold to *M. H—se*, for 25 s. *S. H—rt.* and *R. H—nd.* had their Shares of it.

IV. Out of an Entry in *Leadenhall-street*, taken between 15 and 16 dozen of white Stockings, about six Months since; sold at 4 s. per doz. to *Mr. M—w*, and
J.

7. *S—t*, *R. H—nd*, and *P. Gr—es*, had their Share of it,

V. About 7 Months since, out of a House in *Arlington-street*, *St. James's*, in the Night, a Silver Candlestick, two Swords, and two Canes, one Silver handle Knife, a great Trunk with six Holland Shirts, a Nightgown, a fustian Frock, green Breeches with gold Lace, and other Things; which *R. H—nd*, *S. H—rt*, and myself, carry'd in a Coach to the *P. Horse* Alehouse in *H—rn*, which was our usual Harbour. For his Trouble, we give Mr. *H—s*, the Landlord, some small Things, and sold the Goods to Mrs. *Wb—d*.

VI. About nine Months since, broke open the Door of an House in the *Seven Streets*, at Night, and opening a Chest of Drawers, took out some Linnen, which we brought to the *P. Horse*, and sold to Mrs. *W—d*, for 14 s. *R. H—nd*, and *Ant*, *G—sb*, had their Shares.

VII. Took a Silver-hilted Sword out of a Window by *Little-Turn-stile*, in *Holborn*; sold for 14 s. to *C. H—n*, and *R. H—nd* had his Share.

VIII. Taken out of a House in *Holborn-Bridge*, some wet Linnen, which I sold my Part to Mr. *H—* for 14 s. *R. H—is*, and *C. H—n*, had their Shares.

IX. A Box from behind a Horse by *Pauls-Church*, about 7 Months since, full of Chocolate, and twelve doz. China Dishes; sold for 4 l. to Mrs. *B—rd*, *Ant*, *G—sb* shared with me.

X. Thirteen Months since, a Hair Trunk from a Hackney-Coach in *Bedford-Fovv*. In it a Silver Porringer and some Apparel; sold to *T D—is* for 5 l.

XI. Nine Months since, a Portmantle-Trunk from the *Blue-Baar-Inn*, *Holborn*, with 4 Yards of scarlet Cloth sold for 11 s. a Pair of Jumps, pawn'd now, Gold-lac'd Slippers and Headcloths, &c.

XII. About eight Months since, from a Tripe-shop in *Clare-Market*, pushing back the Lock, some wet Linnen; sold to Mrs. *B—n* for 6 s.

XIII. A Portmantle-Trunk out of a Stage-Coach, about 11 Months, which a Bailiff I know in *Clare-market*,
took

took from me, and carry'd away home, and I dar'd not go to him, he knowing me to be an idle Person ; but I know not what was in it.

XIV. About eight Months since, a Box from a Stage-Coach, going to the *One Bell* in the *Strand*, wherein a 25 s. Piece of Gold, a Gold Cypher Locket, and some wearing Apparel ; sold to Mrs. *Wh—le* for 7 or 8 l.

XV. Broke a Window in — by the Monument, and took a Wig ; sold for 20 s.

XVI. Twenty-three yards of green Cloth, out of a Cart in *Bishopsgate-Street*, parted between *R H—nd*, *C. Fr—n*, *C. M—ws*, a *Butcher*, in *Wh— Ch—*, and myself ; sold my Part to Mrs. *W—le* 7 Quarters wide, at 2 s. per yard.

XVII. About eight Months ago, two Pieces of fine broad Cloth, blue and green, one 14 Yards, the other fifteen ; taken out of two Carts, at two several Nights in *White-Chapple* ; sold to Mr. *B—y*, a *Taylor*, altogether for 35 s. and 6 d. and bid me bring what I would, and he would buy it of me. *J. L—ton*, *R. P—er*, and one *D—tch* had their Shares,

XVIII. About five Weeks since, out of a Pawn-broker's Shop, in *St. John's-Lane*, some Cloaths ; sold to *M. C—rd*, for 14 s. *Ant. G—sb*, *A. Aw—y*, had their Shares.

XIX. About six Weeks since, two Gallons of sweet Oil from an Oil-shop, *Holborn-Bridge* ; sold to *M. C—rd*, for 12 s. the same Sharers.

XX. Five Weeks since, a piece of Callimancoe, thirty Yards, from a House in *Moorfields*, and seven Yards of Shalloon ; sold to Mrs. *W—le*, for 40 s. the same Sharers.

XXI. In at a Window, *Leicester-Fields*, two Scones and a large Looking-glass ; sold to Mrs. *Wh—d*. for 18 s. six Months since.

Thomas Farrott.

Here followeth the Paper deliver'd to the Ordinary of Newgate, by Thomas Jarrott, at the Place of his Execution.

GOOD PEOPLE,

Although the frequent Advices of the many who part with the World in this melancholy Place, have not the happy Influences intended by those who recommend them with their last Breath, yet I cannot forbear warning all Persons, to take exact Care, that every Action of their Lives may be consonant to God's Commandments, the Knowledge of which, so early inculcated into my greener Years, makes the Reflection upon my present Circumstances so much the more grievous; for, if I had pursu'd my indulgent Parents Example, or Instructions, and paid the Honour and Obedience due to them, I might have justly hoped for the Promise annex'd to the Fifth Commandment; whereas the wilful Contempt of their repeated Admonitions to forsake my Sins, and return to the true Service of God, has been the real Cause of cutting my Days shorter, in the most exemplary Manner you now behold. And though my sensual Pleasures had lull'd me into a perfect Neglect of my future State, yet the more than ordinary Time that God has been pleas'd to allow me since my first Sentence, and the sweet Refreshments which I constantly receiv'd by the elaborate Performances of the Rev. Mr. *Lorrain*, encourages me to esteem this as the happiest Minute of my Life, though attended with all these outward Marks of Infamy; which I am very fully assur'd, no Good Man nor Christian will impute to my poor Father or Mother, Brother or Sisters, who utterly disown'd and abandon'd me, when they thought me irreclaimable. But if any should bear so little a Sign of Christianity as to reflect upon my innocent Relations, *Father forgive them, for they know not what they do.*

And

And now I hope all Persons whom I have injur'd, either in Thought, Word, or Deed, will grant me Forgiveness, as I forgive all the World, even the *blackest Manager* against my Life.

Tho. Farrott.

They were executed at *Tyburn* on *Wednesday* the 24th of *October*, 1711.

The Behaviour, Confession, and last Speech of Elizabeth Mason, for the killing of her Mistress by Poison.

THE Account which she gave me of her self and barbarous Fact, is as follows, *viz.*

To begin with her Age: She said, That on the 10th of *April* last, they told her, she then was just fourteen Years old; but whether so or no, she knew not; neither did she know any thing relating to her Birth or Parentage, any more than that she had heard some People say, her Father was an Excise-man, and that she was born at *Melton Mowbray* in *Leicestershire*, and from thence carried very young to *Sutton*, near *Peterborough* in *Northamptonshire*. There she said she was at Nurse, and so remain'd till she came to be about seven Years of Age; and then was brought up to *London*, and liv'd above seven Years with Mrs. *Jane Scoles*, (who told her she was her Godmother) and Mrs. *Catherine Chokwell*, Sister to Mrs. *Scoles*; they dwelling both together, at that time without *Temple-bar*, and afterwards in *Covent-Garden*. As this young Maid grew up, they put her to all manner of House-work they had for her to do, and she help'd them also in their Business of Clear-starching: But growing weary of this Service, which she found hard, and hoping (as they promis'd her)

that

that they would leave her all they were worth at their Death, she resolv'd to Poison them both; which she accordingly did; and it was thus.

On *Thursday* in the *Passion-Week*, being sent by her Mistresses on an Errand, she tarry'd so long that they were very angry with her, and severely corrected her for it at her Return. After that, they sent her out again upon another Errand to *Grace-church-street*; while being full of Spleen against them, she by the way stepp'd into a Druggist's Shop, and there bought two Ounces and an half of *Yellow Arsenick*, (which she pretended was to kill Rats) and next Morning (that was *Good-Friday*) she mix'd part of that Poison with some Coffee she had then made for her Mistresses, and threw the rest away, as supposing she should have no further Use for it. This Coffee thus prepar'd, thus poison'd, she brought to her Mistress, who drank it; and thereupon one of them (*viz.* Mrs. *Scoles*) found her self extremely ill, and, without knowing the real Cause of her Illness, said, *She felt Death upon her*: And so it prov'd. For thereupon being strangely alter'd, and visibly growing worse and worse, she expir'd the next Morning, before the Minister (who was then sent for) could come and pray by her. As for Mrs. *Chokwell*, the Poison did not kill her; which this treacherous Maid observing, and finding herself disappointed of her Design, resolv'd to poison her a second Time, and do it effectually, as she had serv'd her other Mistress before: And to this wicked End (about ten or twelve Days after) she went to the same Shop again, and bought an half-penny-worth more of that *Arsenick*, and put it into a Porringer of Water-Gruel prepar'd for Mrs. *Chokwell's* Breakfast. Here the good Providence of God manifestly appear'd, in the Preservation of Mrs. *Chokwell's* Life, for when this deadly Breakfast was brought up to her, it seems it was so hot, that she was forc'd to let it cool a while before she could take it, and so by that means the *Arsenick* settling at the bottom of the Porringer, she did not swallow it all down; however, what she took in of it made
her

her immediately very sick : Upon which she looking in the Porringer, and seeing something in it that appeared strange, she sent for her *Apothecary*, who examining (with other Persons) what that was which remain'd in the Porringer, and perceiving it to be rank Poison, gave her a good Quantity of Oil to drink ; and by that, and other proper Remedies, the Poison was expell'd, and the farther mischievous Effect of it happily prevented : Upon which the wretched Maid was now suspected of having poison'd both the deceas'd, and this her surviving Mistress ; and so being charg'd with it, she readily confess'd it, her own Conscience, which accus'd her, not permitting her Denial of it. Then she was examin'd by two of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*, who (from her own Confession) finding her guilty of the Fact, did by their Warrant commit her to *Newgate*, which was on the 30th of *April*, she having had all this while to prepare her self for that Death which she acknowledg'd she had justly deserv'd, for that her most heinous and barbarous Crime.

Upon my asking her (as I did several times) whether any Sweet-heart, pretended Lover, or other Person, had prompted her to the Commission of this great Wickedness, she always answer'd me, *No* ; adding, *That the Devil and her own Pride, and the Hope of living at Ease, by having all that her Mistresses should leave behind them, were the only Causes of it.* And being farther asked, Whether she had not sometimes cheated her Mistresses of Monies, which she did receive for them, she not only own'd it, but withal confess'd : *That to hide those Cheats, and other Faults, she had often told abundance of Lies ; the Remembrance whereof was a great Grief to her.*

I gave her the best Advice I could ; shewing her on the one hand the severe Judgment of God, and the intolerable Torments of Hell, due to such Sinners as she was, if dying impenitent ; and on the other hand, the unbounded Mercy of God, and the great Glory and Felicity of Heaven they should obtain, if truly penitent ;
whose

whose Sins, though never so many, though never so heinous, even Murder itself, should (upon their Repentance and Faith in Christ) be entirely remitted and pardon'd: And therefore I earnestly exhorted her to stir up her self to God, and to implore a lively Faith and sincere Repentance.

These Things at first seem'd not to make much Impression upon her Mind; but at last she was awaken'd, and became sensible of the miserable Condition her Sins had brought her into, and express'd her great Desire of God's Pardon, praying in the Words of *David*, Psalm 51. *ver.* 14. That he would please to *deliver her from Blood-guiltiness*. She also asked Forgiveness of her surviving Mistress, Mrs. *Chokwell*, for attempting twice to kill her with Poison, and for all other the Injuries she had at any time done, both to her and her deceas'd Sister.

The day before she dy'd, she received the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (which she long'd after) with great Devotion: And when the Time of her Death was drawing near, she seem'd to be so far from being discompos'd with any uneasy Thoughts about it, that she comfortably resign'd up her self to God, saying, "I feel now more Joy in my Heart, than if I were going to a Feast and Merry-making. Methinks I see the Gates of Heaven open, and the glorious Things therein, plain before my Eyes; and I doubt not in the least but I shall obtain them, through the Merits and Intercession of my dear Redeemer."

This being the Day appointed for her Execution, she was carried from *Newgate* in a Cart to *Tyburn*, where I attended her for the last; and after Exhortations, Prayers, singing of penitential Psalms, and rehearsing the Apostles Creed, as usual on these melancholy Occasions, I withdrew, and left her to her private Devotions, for which she had some time allotted her.

She made no other Speech, but desir'd the Spectators to *pray for her, and take Warning by her*.

She

She pray'd much by her self, but spoke so low, that very little of what she said was heard.

Then the Cart drew away, and she was turn'd off; calling all the while upon God (in great Fervour of Spirit, though with a soft Voice) to *pardon her Sins, and save her Soul.*

She was executed at *Tyburn* on *Wednesday* the 18th of *June, 1712.*

The Confession and Behaviour of Elizabeth Chivers, condemn'd for the Murder of her Bastard Child.

SHE readily own'd the Fact, and told me, that the manner of her Life had been thus: That she being very young when her Father died, and her Mother left in very poor Circumstances, she was forc'd to go to Service at fourteen Years of Age: That she had liv'd in several worthy Families, where she behav'd her self faithfully and honestly in all Respects: But, that about two Years since, she removing from the Service she was then in to another, her Master perswaded her to lie with him, and got her with Child: That when she began to grow big, she went from his House to another Service, where she staid about six Weeks, and then took Lodgings for her self; where some time after being brought to bed of a female Child, which they nam'd *Elizabeth Ward*; the Father promis'd he would provide both for the Mother and the Child; which he did, till (about three Months after) the Devil putting it into her cruel Heart to destroy the poor Infant, which she suckled, carry'd it to *Hackney*, and drowned it in a Pond there. And this she did without being driven to it by any Necessity, or feeling any Remorse for it then: That she being observ'd by some People that were about the
Place

Place at that Time, she was presently apprehended, brought before a Justice, and committed to *Newgate*. There she was a Prisoner a good while before her Tryal, as she has been since, and all along in a despairing Condition: For when I exhorted her to Repentance, and shew'd her how she might perform this great and important Duty, she said to me, *O Sir! I am lost! I cannot pray, I cannot repent, my Sin is too great to be pardon'd! I did commit it with Deliberation and Choice, and in cold Blood; I was not driven to it by Necessity: The Father had all the while provided for me, and for the Child, and would have done so still, had not I out of my wicked Heart destroy'd the Child, and cast my self away.* Upon this I took occasion to show her how the Devil generally brings those who suffer themselves to be tempted by him, from one Sin to another; and that therefore we should be aware of his Sleights, and keep at as great Distance from any Sin as possible; always praying to God, that we may not fall into Temptation.

With these, and such Admonitions, I perceiv'd she was somewhat mov'd, and seem'd to be made sensible of her most heinous and crying Sin, and of the Mercy of God to repenting Sinners: But still she said her Heart was hard, and she could not repent as she should, nor have any good Hope of her self. In this sad Condition she continued till within a few Hours of her Death, and then she seem'd to have more comfortable Thoughts, saying, *That she hoped God had turned her Heart, and would save her Soul.*

The further Account she gave me of her self is this, That she was above 30 Years old, born of honest Parents in *Spittle-fields*, in the Parish of *Stepney*; and that excepting this her Adultery and Murder, the former whereof (which was the Occasion of the latter) she committed by the pressing Solicitations of her then Master *Ph. W.* she could not charge her self with any enormous Crime whatsoever; she having always before that Time kept her self chaste, faithful, and honest.

This is the Substance of what she declar'd to me. And upon this, without judging what is now become of her, as leaving that with God, to whom I committed her, I must needs say this, That in my Judgment, the lewd Person that deluded her, and made her commit Adultery with him, is highly guilty before God, and must expect to be call'd to a very severe Account, by Him, who is the Great Judge of the whole World, unless he takes effectual Care to prevent it by a timely and sincere Repentance.

She was this Day carry'd from *Newgate* in a Cart to *Tyburn*; and after my Exhortations, and the singing of some penitential Psalms, and rehearsing the Apostle's Creed, I finally commended her Soul to the Mercy of God in Christ, and retir'd: And then the Cart drew away, and she was turned off, all the while calling on God to have Mercy upon her Soul.

She was executed at *Tyburn* on *Friday* the first of *August*, 1712.

The Behaviour and Confession of William Johnson alias Holloway, for the Murder of Mr. Richard Spurling, one of the Head Turnkeys of Newgate, whom he shot to Death, even at the Time he was in the Discharge of his Office at the Old-Bailey, and the Court then sitting.

THE said *Holloway* deny'd his being guilty of that Murder; saying, *That he had no Pistol in his Hand, for ought he knows, and tho' he had, it was far from his Intent to have killed the said Mr. Spurling.* Upon this I told him, that suppose he had no Design particularly upon *Mr. Spurling's* Life, yet he could not disown his having Malice in his Heart, so as to do
some

some Mischief, if not to him, yet to somebody else. To which he answered, *His coming then to the Old-Bailey was to see Mrs. Jane Housden, and other Friends, that were at that Time in that Place, and to drink with them.* But when I told him that to make me and the World believe any Thing of what he said herein was true, I desired to know of him the Reason he had to come thither with those two Pocket-Pistols loaded with Slugs that were found upon him. Here he was at a stand for a while, and then said, *He ever carry'd those Pistols about him since he did (some Weeks before) break out of Newgate, where he was only detained for his Fees.* Which Fees he telling me he had paid after his Escape, and was free to go about his Business, without any Danger of being apprehended. I observed to him, that all this could not consist with itself, nor consequently with Truth; for if he apprehended himself in no Danger, why did he carry about him Pistols ready charged, which indeed must be for his Defence and Security, when he thought himself unsafe; or it must imply, as I said before, a malicious Design in him to do somebody Mischief. To this he reply'd, *That he intended no such Thing:* And this is all he could or would say.

This *William Holloway* (who as I am inform'd) was hang'd in Chains at *Holloway*, between *London* and *Highgate*, he had been a very great Offender before, and was condemned in *July 1711*, for stealing a light Bay Gelding that belong'd to the Right Honourable the Lord *Pierpoint*, on the 4th of *June* in the same Year. When under Condemnation, he confessed his Guilt of this Fact, and gave me this further Account of himself, *viz.* That he was then 33 Years of Age, born at *Grafton* in *Northamptonshire*, that he had followed divers Callings, being sometimes a *Butcher* in *Newport-Market*, sometimes a *Grafter* in the Country, at another Time a *Printer of Calicoes*, and afterwards kept a *Corn-Chandler's-Shop* in *Long-Acre*, and then remov'd to *Southwark*, where he kept a *Victualling House* in the Parish of *Christ Church*; that he had also practis'd *Surgery*

gery both there and at Sea, where he was in the Queen's Service, and being carried to *Gibraltar*, he was admitted a Surgeon's Mate in the *English* Garrison there; and tho' he own'd, That he had led a very ill Life, yet he was then unwilling to make any particular Confession, and having obtained a Pardon in *June*, had then shew'd himself most unworthy of it. I asked him whether he was concern'd in, or knew any Thing of the Murder of 'Squire *Hanson*, or that of Mr. *Carleton*, who some Years before was found dead in the Fields, *viz.* the former near *Hoxdon*, and the latter not far from *Cambray-House*. To which he answered, *He knew nothing of these Matters*; and so likewise he pretended to be ignorant of this Murder for which he suffered, saying over and over again, *That he could not tell how it happened, neither was he in the least sensible he had any Pistol then in his Hand.*

This is the Subtance of what he declar'd, while under Sentence of Death, he shewed very little Sign of true Repentance, and indeed I had all along but little Hopes of his Amendment; for during the whole Time he had his Life by a Reprieve, he seem'd very unwilling to receive the means of his Instruction and Conversion, he not coming to the Chapple to pray and hear the Word of God above eight Times (that I can remember) all the while he lay under Condemnation, which was near a Year.

The Behaviour of Jane Housden, Condemned for counterfeiting the current Coin of this Kingdom.

THIS *Jane Housden* would make no Confession at all, either of her older or newer Sins. When I put her in Mind, that on the 18th of *August* 1702, she was committed to *Newgate* for High-Treason, *viz.* for counterfeiting the Current Coin of this Kingdom; that she was to have been try'd for it at the *Old-Bailey*
in

in *Sept.* following, but at her Desire she had her Trial put off to the next ensuing Sessions; that she being found guilty of the said Fact, receiv'd Sentence of Death the 15th of *October* following. When I put her in Mind of all these Things, and pray'd her to consider what she had done, and how great an Offender she had been, she owned indeed, that she was then condemned to die, but denied what she at that Time confessed to me, *viz.* her Guilt of that Offence. When I further endeavoured to make her sensible of the Mercy shewed her in the Pardon granted her afterwards, and that instead of improving it as she ought to have done, she had returned again to her old sinful Way, and therefore had a second Time Sentence of Death passed upon her the 9th of *Sept.* 1710, and again obtained a Pardon the 6th of *June* following; she said she had not deserved Death for she was innocent. Thus she denied what most plainly appeared to be true; as she likewise did the Justice of her Commitment the 13th of *August* following, when she was brought to *Newgate* upon a fresh Suspicion of Coining, but was not tried for it, she being unhappily concerned in the Murder with *Holloway*, which prevented that Trial, and brought her to a worse than that might have proved. She shewed no great Remorse or Repentance for her Sins, but denied them all, and would not be put in Mind of them, nor receive any Ghostly Advice. And herein she appeared much of another Temper than *David* was of, who said, *That his Sin was ever before him,* Psalms li, 3.

Thus far is the Account I can give of these two Murderers, *William Holloway* and *Jane Housden*, of whose true Repentance I am in Doubt; and this brings back to my Mind what I have long before observed, that those Persons who are guilty of wilful Murder, are very hard to be wrought to Repentance; though of all other Criminals, one would think they should be the most concerned to repent.

In the Morning about 9 o'Clock they were both of them carried in a Cart to the Place of their Execution, and there were hang'd on a Gibbet erected for that Purpose, in View of the *Old-Bailey*, where they committed the bloody Fact.

They were executed on the 19th of *Sept.* 1712. in the *Old-Bailey*.

The Confession of Richard Town, of London, Tallow-Chandler, condemned for cheating and defrauding his Creditors, by Concealment of his Goods, &c.

HE said he was an *Oxfordshire* Man, and just 41 Years of Age. When I had him under Examination, he at first said but little for himself, save that he did not intend to be unjust to any Man; but his Adversaries were bitter against him, and took what Opportunity they could to ruin him, &c. Upon this I told him, that such frivolous Excuses would not now serve his Turn: He was fairly tryed, and justly condemn'd, and so must die; and therefore what concern'd him to do under the sad Condition he was in, was to make his Peace with God and Man, clearing his Conscience of all Sins, known and unknown, by Repentance towards God, and Satisfaction to all Men he had wrong'd, so far as he was able to discharge this great and indispensable Duty. This was the Substance of my Admonitions to him, which whether he heard or no, I cannot well tell; for he seem'd to be so very deaf, that tho' I spoke as loud as ever I could to him, yet he gave me no Answer to the Purpose; but taking a small Book in his Hand that lay by him, concerning *Death and Judgment*, he said to me, *This is a very good Book.* Upon which I told him it was so, and wish'd him to make

a good use of it, and prepare for his approaching Death, and the unavoidable Judgment that should immediately follow it.

Before his Condemnation, he had a Chamber by himself in the *Press-yard*; but when he had Sentence pass'd upon him, he was with his Fellow-Condemn'd put into the Hold, where (as he told me) he contracted such a Cold, that his former Deafness (for I find he had been ever afflicted with it since his Confinement) was now returned upon him. And as he much complain'd of the uneasiness of the Place he was in, and the little Conveniency he could find there among so many other Prisoners, to recollect himself, and prepare for another Life; so he was soon after remov'd to his former Room in the *Press-yard*; but instead of mending there, he seem'd to grow worse and worse, his Weakness and Deafness encreasing to that Degree, that I could hardly understand what he said, neither he what I said to him; and he remaining in that Room (and for the most part too in a Bed) till the Day of his Execution; there it was chiefly that I pray'd by him, and gave him the Exhortations which I have mentioned above. Some Time before he was so weak and Deaf, he told me, he would write his Case, and leave it to the World; but whether he did it or no I knew not certainly; for perhaps his Illness might have prevented his doing it, which Illness of his gave me a great deal of Trouble, and I am afraid with little Success.

Some Time before his Death, he having partly recover'd his Hearing, came to Chapel, and attended at Prayer. I had also some private Discourse with him; but he would not confess himself guilty, and said, the World should hereafter better know what he has been, than they now do, and that one certain Person whom he had charitably reliev'd and sav'd from Ruin, had prov'd the chief Cause of his. Adding, that indeed those he was most kind to, had been his greatest Enemies; but he died in Charity with them, praying God to forgive them, and him also, who (he acknowledg'd)

had

had been too eager to make himself rich in this World, and too remiss in the Service of GOD.

As he was riding in the Coach with me to the Place of Execution, he told me, that this was a remarkable Day to him, for on that Day he was born. Upon which I took Occasion to mention this of *Solomon* to him, *viz. That the Day of Death is better than the Day of one's Birth*; shewing him, That by our Birth we enter into a World of Sin and Misery, but by our Death are deliver'd out of it, and admitted (if well prepared) into a State of Bliss and Glory which shall never end.

At the Place of Execution, *Mr. Town* spoke to this Effect, *That he died with a clear Conscience, that he had been very much abused by some he had shewed great kindness to, and that he would let the World know it by a Paper he had left behind him.*

He was executed at *Tyburn*, on *Tuesday* the 23d of *December*, 1712.

The Behaviour and Confession of Richard Keele, for abetting and assisting Charles Houghton and William Lowther, in the Murder of Edward Perry, a Servant to Mr. Bowman, Keeper of Clerkenwell-Bridewell, on the 19th of Sept. 1712.

HE denied his being guilty of this horrid Fact; saying, he had no Intent to do that Mischiefe, but so far from it, that he did what he could to prevent it; yet acknowledg'd God was just in inflicting such a Punishment upon him, for he had been a loose and wicked Liver, tho' not so bad as the World had represented him. Upon this I put him in Mind of his being once try'd and convicted for Blaspheemy, and another Time for a Felony; for which latter Fact he was sent to that

Work-houfe, where *Charles Houghton*, *William Lowder*, with himself and others made a Riot, in which *Houghton* was killed upon the Spot, himself and *Lowther* much wounded, and *Edward Perry* receiv'd some mortal Wounds, of which he died not long after : All which being fully prov'd upon his Tryal, it was in vain for him to deny it. To this he answer'd, That what I said was true as to the Fact itself, but it was not chargeable upon him, protesting that he was clear of it; because he had no such Design as to oppose the Officers of that Prison in the Discharge of their Duty, tho' he thought it a heavy Thing to have Irons put upon him, and be obliged to hard Labour besides. This is all the Confession I could get of him concerning this Matter. As to other Sins he felt his Conscience loaded with, he declared them to me, telling me, he had been very much addicted to Swearing, cursing, Profanation of the Lord's Day, Drinking, Whoring, &c. and that he had for these six Years passed, kept Company with a Woman that was not his Wife, *viz. Arabella Thomas*. He said he was about 33 Years of Age, born at *Rumney* in *Hampshire*, and brought up at *Winchester*, where he learned the Art of making Perriwigs, and then came up to *London*, and kept a *Perriwig-makers* Shop in *Rotherhithe* for six Years together; but some Difference arising between him and his Wife, they parted, and that prov'd the Cause of his going astray, and having to do with a another Woman, and one that had an Husband; but he did not then consider, what a great Crime that was, of which I now endeavour'd to make him sensible, by shewing him from Scripture, *viz. 1 Cor. vi. 9.* and other Places, *That as no Murderer, so no Fornicator nor Adulterer shall inherit the Kingdom of God.* To which he reply'd, "How then can I be sav'd? This is enough to cast a Man into Despair." Upon this I shew'd him, That if he truly repented, God would be so merciful to him, as to pardon all his Sins, and save his Soul. And here I gave him particular Instructions for his Encouragement to apply himself to God for Grace, *that he might be deliver'd from the Wrath to come, &c.*

The Confession of William Lowther, for being concerned in the said Murder, in assisting the forenamed Richard Keele and Charles Houghton, in the Commission thereof.

HE said, That indeed he oppos'd the Officers in that Werk-house, to which they were sent to be kept to hard Labour, when they offer'd to put him and the rest in Fetters, but intended no Mischief, so that what happen'd there was not by his Fault; and if in the Fray and Hurry he was then in, he hurt any Body, or did any Thing which he should not have done, he was very sorry for it, and asked Pardon, which tho' he did not expect in this World, yet he hop'd to receive it in the next, being much concern'd that he had not liv'd that Life which he shou'd have done, and that Swearing, Drinking, Whoring, and the like, had been (for some Time pass'd) his common Practice, into which he was intic'd by keeping bad Company when Abroad, and particularly in *Newgate*, where being a Prisoner for Debt, he had then so much Conversation with Felons and other wicked Persons there, that he easily grew worse; yet he said, he never was a common Thief, nor ever took a Trial in his Life before *September* last, when (at the Sessions then held in the *Old-Bailey*) he was convicted of two Felonies, which he would not confess himself guilty of; but cou'd not deny, that for the smaller of them the Court order'd he should be whipt, and for the other burnt in the Hand, (together with *Richard Keele* concern'd in it) and were both sent to the said *Bridewell* or House of Correction for two Years, where that sad Accident happen'd. A sad and melancholy Thing indeed! when we consider, that it was the Loss of two Men's Lives, whereof one was suddenly taken away, who having no Time to call upon God for Mercy, it was to be fear'd he died in his Sins unre-

pented of, and if so, carry'd the Guilt of them upon his Soul into another World. From which Consideration, I endeavour'd to make this *Lowther* and *Keele* sensible of God's Goodness and merciful Providence towards them, whom he had suffer'd to live longer, giving them Space and Time, and other Means for Repentance, which they ought duly to improve, and be thankful for. And thus I went on, exhorting them to take Pity of their poor immortal Souls.

The further Account I am to give of *William Lowther* is, that he told me he was but 22 Years of Age, born at *Whitehaven* in *Cumberland*, and from his tender Youth brought up at *Newcastle upon Tyne*, in *Northumberland*; and that he had used the Sea almost ten Years, and once was (for a little while) Master of a small Collier, (giving him by his Father) trading between *Newcastle* and *London*, and might have done well if he had kept to that honest Employment. Now he saw his Folly, and lamented his deplorable Case, who had thus by his wicked Life brought Misery, Shame and Death upon himself in this World, and might (unless God would be graciously pleas'd to shew him Mercy) be loss to all Eternity.

In the Morning they were carry'd from *Newgate* to *Clerkenwell-Green*, where they were hang'd on a Gallows erected there for that Purpose, at which Place I attended them, and discharged my Ministerial Office to their poor Souls for the last Time, giving them Ghostly Admonitions and Exhortations, praying and singing some Penitential Psalms with them, and made them rehearse the Apostle's Creed, as is usual on such melancholy Occasions, and finally recommending them to God's boundless Mercy and all-sufficient Grace, I withdrew from them.

As *Keele* and *Lowther* were going to speak to the People in their own Vindication I stopt them, telling them, 'twas more proper for them to apply themselves to God for the Pardon of their Sins, and Salvation of their Souls. And this Advice they comply'd with, earnestly praying God to shew them Mercy.

They

They were Executed on *Clerkenwell-Green*, on *Wednesday* the 23d of *December* 1713.

The true Copy of the consolatory LETTER which was sent to Mr. Richard Keele in the condemn'd Hole, the very Night before he died.

Mr. Keele,

I Am really heartily sorry for the fatal Circumstances you now lie under; and though I have received some Injury at your Hands, yet I freely forgive you; but as you are a dying Man, I beg of you to do me that Justice, as to inform Mr. *Lorrain* before you leave this World, whether I was guilty or not of that most horrid Crime of *Blasphemy*, for which I was convicted with you and *George Milson* at the *Old-Bailey*, for that will be very satisfactory to me, because I may not still lie under the Aspersions of ever being thought so profane a Person as those ill-minded People who swore against us, represented me on my Tryal. It lies now in your Power to justify my Innocency in that Matter; so most sincerely praying God may have Mercy on your poor Soul, which I hope he will be most graciously pleas'd to receive into his eternal Rest, give me leave after exhorting you to behave your self like a true and good Christian, the few Moments you have to reside on Earth) to subscribe my self your

London, Dec. 22,
1713.

Humble Servant,

R. Bourage.

A true Copy of Mr. Keele's LETTER, deliver'd to Mr. Lorrain.

Mr. Bourage,

I Received your Letter, and in Answer thereto I send you this; that as for the Injury you received from me in the Quarrel that happen'd between us, it was your own seeking; so I hope I have nothing to answer for it; but however, am glad you forgive it as lying under such Circumstances; and as for the Blasphemy which you and I was swore against wrongfully, you are very sensible, as well as I, that we were all swore against falsely: So as I am a dying Man I freely clear you as in my Company, which I hope you will do me the like Justice. This, Sir, is all I can say, only desire you would pray for my dear Soul, which I hope God Almighty out of his great Mercy will receive into his Heavenly Kingdom from your

Humble Servant,

Richard Keele.

I beg the Favour of an Answer to this in Writing, or by Word of Mouth by Mr. Lorrain.

The abovesaid Letter is a true Copy of that written by himself, and deliver'd to Mr. Lorrain in the Chapel of *Newgate*, just before his going to the Place of Execution on *Clerkenwell-Green*, where he was upon extenuating the Crime for which he was to die, but being interrupted by the Ordinary, he desisted from that Matter, and then asked the Deputy Sheriff whether his Body was to be buried, or hang'd in Chains, of which he had some Suspicion, by the *Smiths* going to take measure of him and *Lorother* for their Chains, but would not let him do his Office; and the Deputy Sheriff saying to
Keele,

Keele, " Pray Sir, don't concern your self about your " Body, but take care of your poor Soul." He then casting his Eye on his Book, 'twas never off the same till the Cart drew away. After he and *Lowther* had hung their full time, they were cut down, and put into a Cart, drawn with four Horses, deck'd with black Plumes of Feathers, with several party-colour'd Ribbons; and being convey'd to *Holloway*, where they were kept one Night at an Ale-house, the next Day, being the 24th of *December*, 1713. they were hung up in Chains, for an Example to all others, of ever being guilty of Murder.

They were executed at *Clerkenwell-Green* on *Wednesday* the 23d of *December*, 1713.

The Confession and Behaviour of Francis Gosling, condemn'd for the Murder of John Hutton, a Seaman.

HE said he was about 21 Years of Age, born at *Greenwich* in *Kent*; that he had serv'd his Apprenticeship with his own Father, a Waterman of that Place, and after that went to Sea, and serv'd sometimes in Her Majesty's Royal Navy, and at other times on board Merchant-men, for these eight Years past. He confess'd, That he had liv'd a vicious Life, and committed some small Robberies heretofore, as stealing Oars, Sails, &c. out of Watermen's Boats, Barges, Lighters, &c. but could give no Account of them. And as to this barbarous and bloody Fact, for which he stood condemn'd, I perceiv'd he endeavour'd to extenuate and lessen his Guilt of it, saying, He did not commit it himself, nor lay'd violent Hands upon the Deceased; yet acknowledg'd, that he so far assist'd in it, that while *John Shaw* was knocking him down, and

Peter Furlow cutting his Throat, himself was in th Boat with them, rowing along and seeing what they did, but knew not whether it was a premeditated Thing in them ; or, that finding an Opportunity to do that wicked Deed, it came on the sudden into their Mind to do it. As for himself, he said, he knew nothing before of the Man, nor of any Design they had either to murder or rob him, till he saw them kill him and search him, and take what they found about him. But he own'd, That himself took the Coat of that poor Man, as being better than that he had on, which he left in the Room of it ; and then they all went away, and left the Boat, and the dead Man in it ; *Shaw* and *Fulrow* giving him forty or fifty Shillings of the Money ; he was not positive how much, for he did not exactly tell it. This is the Substance of what he confess'd to me, who found him a stupify'd, harden'd, and obstinate Sinner. While he lay under Condemnation he was taken so ill, that one could hardly speak to him, or receive any Answer from him : And this his Illness, as I suppose, did arise, not so much from the Closeness and Loathsomeness of the condemn'd Hole or Dungeon he was kept in, as from the dismal Fears and Horrors he felt in his guilty Conscience : Which may be a Warning, as to all other Offenders in general, so to Murderers in particular, who (I am afraid) do often out-sin Mercy, in rejecting the means of Grace, and dying without Repentance. Whether this was altogether the miserable Case of this unhappy Wretch, I will not here determine ; but am sorry I must say, that from his whole Behaviour I could not observe he griev'd and repented as he should have done.

N. B. *Peter Furlow* being apprehended and committed to *Newgate* last *Wednesday* Night, I had him brought up (with the condemn'd Prisoners) to the Chapel the next Morning : After divine Service was over there, I took him with *Gosling* into my Closet, and there the said *Gosling* charg'd him home with

with the Murder of *John Hutton*; telling him to his Face, " That he cut the said *Hutton's* Throat, " after *John Shaw* had knock'd him down, and " broke his Skull." Which having said, I asked *Furlow*, What he said to that? He answer'd, " He never saw *John Hutton*, nor *John Shaw* in " his Life, nor was then in the Boat with *Gosling*." But *Gosling* persisted in this his Declaration; and upon my admonishing him to speak the Truth, whatever it was, he protested (upon his eternal Salvation, as he was a dying Man) " That this " *Furlow* was the very Person that cut *Hutton's* " Throat, as he had said before."

He was executed at *Tyburn* Jan. 29, 1712-13.

*The Confession, Behaviour, and Last Speech of
Thomas Douglass, condemn'd for the Mur-
der of William Sparks, by stabbing him
with a Knife.*

HE said that he was 33 Years of Age, born at *Durston*, about twelve Miles from *Berwick upon Tweed*. That he was brought up to the Sea from his Youth, had been an able Seaman for these twelve Years past, and serv'd on board the *Shrewsbury*, the *St. George*, the *Bedford*, and several other Men of War, and sometimes in Merchant-Ships. He would not own himself otherwise guilty of this Murder, than say, " That being " much in drink, he might have done it, not knowing " then what he did; for he entirely lov'd the Man, " and had no manner or matter of Grudge against him; " and their meeting together at that time was friendly, " as being to take their Leave of each other in a loving " Cup, wherejn they happening to exceed the Rules of " Sobriety

“ Sobriety, were both of them so very much diseom-
 “ posed with Drinking, that they knew not well what
 “ they did.”

Upon which I told him, “ That I suppos’d such ex-
 “ cessive Drinking made him so rash and inconsiderate,
 “ as to hurry him into the Commission of that horrid
 “ Fact, which, and many other wicked Actions, too
 “ often prove the sad Consequences of Infobriety: Yet
 “ I could not but think that he must needs have har-
 “ bour’d Malice and Hatred in his Heart against that
 “ poor Man, whom he thus basely stabb’d, for else he
 “ would not have done it, though in drink: And what
 “ confirm’d me in this Opinion, was, the Deposition of
 “ two Witnesses, who at his Tryal swore, *That they*
 “ *heard the Deceased say, a little before he dy’d, that he*
 “ *(the Prisoner) kill’d him upon an old Grudge.* And
 “ further it was then depos’d by one of them, *That he*
 “ *saw him give William Sparks the mortal Blow, and*
 “ *heard him curse him; which he own’d at that time he*
 “ *had done: Whereupon he being apprehended, the bloody*
 “ *Knife with which he had committed that horrid Fact*
 “ *was seen to fall from him.*”

When I had observ’d these things to him, and asked
 him, Whether all this was not true, he made a Demur,
 or Stop, before he would give me any Answer, seeming
 to be very full of Thoughts, and bitterly lamenting his
 miserable Condition. Here I press’d him to make a
 full and ingenuous Confession of his Crime; telling him,
 That upon his true Repentance of it, and of all his other
 Sins, he might find great Ease in his Mind. With this
 and other Exhortations I wrought so far upon him, that
 he said, “ He was truly sensible of his Guilt, and the
 “ Justice of his Sentence, and begg’d Pardon both of
 “ God and Man.” Yet all this while he would not
 plainly acknowledge, that he committed this *Murder*
 out of Ill-will to the Deceas’d; saying further, That
 “ he did not think the Deceas’d had any against him.
 “ neither, though some Years ago (and that was when
 “ he serv’d in the *Shrewsbury*) he press’d him into the
 “ Sea-

“ Sea-service, and carried him to the *St. George*, on
 “ board which both of them went on the Expedition to
 “ *Vigo*, where Sir *Stafford Fairborne* was Rear-Admiral
 “ of the White Squadron, and Capt. *Whitton*, Com-
 “ mander of that Ship.”

This is all the Account he gave me of the former Pas-
 sages of his Life, saying that he own'd, “ That he
 “ was afraid his breaking of the Sabbath-day, as he had
 “ frequently done, his committing Fornication and A-
 “ dultery, his profane Swearing, and excessive Drink-
 “ ing, &c. together with this murdering of his Friend;
 “ had render'd him hateful to God, and made his Heart
 “ so hard, as that he did not know how to repent, and
 “ could find no manner of Comfort or Hope within
 “ himself.” Upon this I gave him the best Advice I
 could, shewing him how he should pray to God for
 Grace, that he might truly repent; and, That upon
 the Confession of his Sins, and his Abhorrence and For-
 saking of them, though they were never so great, he
 might obtain the Pardon of them, and the Salvation of
 his poor, yet precious Soul.

At the Place of Execution I pray'd by him, and
 wish'd him that *Communion of Saints*, that *Forgiveness of*
Sins, and that *Life Everlasting*, which he had thus pro-
 fess'd to believe. After this, I finally commended his
 Soul to God's Grace and Mercy, and then withdrew,
 leaving him to his private Devotions, for which he had
 some Time allotted him. He spoke to the Standers-by
 to this Effect, “ That they would pray for him, take
 “ Warning by him, and above all avoid Drunkenness;
 “ for that was the Sin which brought him to his Ruin.”
 And when he had done, the Cart drew away, and he
 was turn'd off, calling all the while upon God.

He was executed on *Wednesday* the 27th of *October*,
 1714.

The Behaviour and Declaration of Nathaniel Parkhurst, Esq; for the Murder of Count Lewis Pleuro in the Fleet-Prison.

HE said he was 39 Years of Age, born at *Catesby* near *Daventry* in *Northamptonshire*, came of a good and honourable Family, and had an Education (at *Wadham* College in *Oxford*, and elsewhere) suitable to his Birth, but did not make the right Use of it; for falling into bad Company, and being too conversant with Men of erroneous and dangerous Principles, who ridicul'd all Religion, denying the Immortality of the Soul, and even the Revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, and looking upon his Gospel (and indeed the whole Book of God) as an idle Romance, he was thereby soon induced to all manner of Debauchery and Sensuality. And by these vicious and irregular Ways of Living, so displeasing to God, so scandalous to the Christian Religion, (which he outwardly profess'd) and so hurtful to the World in general, and to his own Soul in particular, he wasted his Substance, dull'd his Spirits, weaken'd his Faculties, and at last brought himself into such a melancholy State and Discomposure of Mind, that a little before he committed this barbarous *Murder*, he had resolv'd within himself to kill some body or other, and make his Escape out of the *Fleet*, where he was a Prisoner for Debt; or, if he could not effect that, to lay violent hands upon himself, as being weary of his Life.

When he was come to a more sober Temper, and was sensible of his miserable Condition, he own'd, his Sins were very great and heinous, (and particularly that of murdering a Person who gave him no Provocation) saying, That he heartily repented, and pray'd God to forgive him for Christ's Sake, in removing the Guilt from his Soul which he had thereby contracted, and giving him Grace, that in this World he might make a
good

good End, and in the next enjoy that Felicity which is to have no End.

He would often say, (and that too before he had duly consider'd his sinful State) That " he was very willing and ready to die ; and, that if Life or Death were put to his Choice, he would chuse to embrace the latter ; for he could have no Prospect that the Miseries he had undergone for these twenty Years past would have an End, but with his Life ; and therefore (saving the Shame of his untimely Death) it rejoic'd his Heart to see himself so near his Dissolution and Deliverance." Upon which I told him, I wish'd he would seriously consider what it was to die, and what was to follow after Death, that he might not launch into another World without a sure Guide, namely, the *Spirit of Grace*, purifying his Soul, and enabling him to make a due Preparation for his great approaching Change ; to which he answer'd, " That though he had not, nor could ever have, a clear Idea of the State to come, yet as he heartily repented of all his Sins (this in particular for which he was now to die) and resign'd up himself to God's Will and Pleasure, so he hoped to receive Pardon and Salvation through Christ's Merits." And herein he desir'd me to put up earnest Prayers to God for him.

I constantly visited him, and at several times found him in several Tales, and in very different Dispositions : Sometimes he was calm and easy, willing to hear of his Faults, and receive good Advice with Patience and Submission ; and at other times express'd a great deal of Anger and Uneasiness, and very much reflected upon some of his Relations, as supposing they might, if they would, have sav'd his Life ; which, though he had told me before he was not desirous of, yet I now perceiv'd he would have been glad to have preserv'd it ; and was very much discompos'd when he found the Report of some of his Acquaintance not to be true, who told him, there was a *Second Reprieve* obtain'd for him. And whilst he was in this sad Perplexity and fretting Humour,

mour, he went on with his Reflections upon his Relations, attributing all the Miscarriages of his past Life, and present sad Circumstances, to their Unkindness towards him; and so ran from one thing to another, that he appear'd to be at that time very much disturb'd in his Spirit; and himself own'd, That he had a thousand Thoughts at once flowing in like Billows upon his Mind. Hereupon I endeavour'd to quiet him, and bring him into a better Composure, and to that end did often pray with him, begging of God, that he would be pleas'd to rectify all his Disorders, and *renew a right Spirit within him*: At last his Passions seem'd to be pretty well allay'd, and he well dispos'd to die.

At the Place of Execution (whither he went in a Mourning-Coach with me) I discharg'd for the last time my ministerial Office to him, earnestly exhorting him to stir up himself to God, in an humble Acknowledgment and thorough Repentance of all his Sins, and in an earnest imploring the Divine Mercy: I pray'd by him, sung some penitential Psalms with him, made him rehearse the Apostles Creed, and wish'd him that *Forgiveness of Sin* and *Life everlasting* he had now profess'd the Belief of; and finally, recommending his Soul to God, I put up this Prayer for him, "That he might be deliver'd from Blood-guiltiness, and all other Sins; have a safe Passage out of this miserable World, and a happy Entrance into the everlasting Habitations.

When I had done praying in the Cart with him, I withdrew from him, who made no other Speech to the People there than this, "That the *Small-Pox*, which he had about twenty Years ago, left such an Infirmary in his Head, that he never was perfectly well; so desired the Prayers of all the Standers-by for his departing Soul." Which having said, he apply'd himself in private Prayer to God: Then the Cart drew away, while he was uttering these and the like Ejaculations; *Lord have Mercy upon me: Lord save me!*

N. B. Among the several pious Books which he perused, he seem'd to be most affected with one entitled, *The Christian Monitor*, containing Directions and Exhortations to a *Holy Living* and *Holy Dying*; which Book, he said, he wish'd he had read before, for if he had, he might have avoided many Sins, done many good Deeds, and never have come to this shameful untimely End.

After he had receiv'd Sentence of Death, he desir'd little Company besides me, and (in his Retirement) much exercis'd himself in Acts of Devotion; for a Furtherance whereto he had divers Books of Prayers, which he constantly look'd over: But that he most frequently read; and found most Comfort in, was a Prayer which is at the End of the *Charitable Visit to the Prisons*. A Book which (together with the *Christian Monitor*, and other short Treatises of Godliness) *the honourable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and the Reformation of Manners*, take care to distribute among Prisoners, and other poor People. The Prayer is this:

O Most righteous and merciful Lord God, the Creator, Ruler, and Judge of the World; I humbly own thy Justice, as also that of Man, in bringing me under that Condemnation, which by my own Sins and Offences I have deserv'd, and have none to blame so much as my self. *Thou art righteous O God, but I have sinned.* In the midst of Judgment remember Mercy; and suffer me not to seek thee in vain: It were most just in Thee now to laugh at my Calamity, and not answer me, though I should make many Prayers in this my Distress, because Thou hast call'd, and I have refused, and have set at nought thy Counsels, and regarded Iniquity in my Heart, and practis'd it in my Life, and turned away my Ears from hearkening to thy Law. 'Tis very late, O Lord, O let it not be too late, that I now seek unto Thee. I am deeply affected with the Terrors of Death approaching, and concern'd greatly
at

at the awful Thoughts of thy strict and righteous Judgment, and believing the future State of Rewards and Punishments, being sensible also of my great and many Sins ; I am greatly afraid of thy Wrath, which is revealed from Heaven against all Unrighteousness and Ungodliness, and in particular is threaten'd against such Sins as I have liv'd in, which I now desire, with Shame and Grief of Soul, humbly to confess before Thy Throne of Grace, &c.

Before the day of his Death, I endeavour'd to persuade him to leave something in Writing behind him, concerning his past Life and Conversation ; with an Admonition to such Sinners as he had been too much acquainted with ; but he said, What he had confess'd to me (being given to the World in the manner I should think fit) would be sufficient ; and, he hoped Men of loose Principles and wicked Lives would (as he wish'd they might) take Warning by his Fall. But as for himself, he did not think fit to write any thing ; and if after his Death any Papers were put out under his Name, besides this Account, he would not have the World believe he had wrote them.

He was executed at *Tyburn* on *Friday* the 20th of *May*, 1715.



The Confession and Behaviour of Joseph Sullivan, alias Silver, condemn'd for High-Treason, viz. for levying War against our Most Gracious Sovereign Lord King George the First, and his Government, in enlisting Men into the Service of the Pretender.

HE said he was 29 Years of Age, born in *Ireland*; That in the late Reign he serv'd nine Years in the *Royal Marine Regiment*, and when that Regiment was broke, he went into *France*, and there serv'd for the space of six Months in *Dorrington's Regiment*; then quitting that Service, he came into *England* again. He declar'd himself to be of the *Romish Religion*; and, that as he was born, so he resolv'd to die in it. He at first deny'd the whole Fact he stood condemn'd for, but afterwards own'd it in part, acknowledging that he had been somewhat concerned in those traitorous Practices which had brought him under this Condemnation. I endeavour'd to make him sensible of the Heinousness and Baseness of his Crime, who at the same time he had enlisted himself into the King's Service, and received his Bounty-Money and Pay, he did (*underband*) carry on such wicked and hellish Designs against His Majesty's Sacred Person, Royal Family, and whole Government. This indeed he could not deny, yet would not fully confess his Guilt; which I press'd him to do for the clearing of his Conscience; but he said, he would *confess* where it was *proper* for him to do so, and no where else: For though he were (which he disown'd to be) guilty of all that was allerdg'd against him, it would now avail him nothing to make a publick Declaration of it; and therefore desir'd me to ask him no more Questions about it, nor offer any further Advice to him, but let him die in his own way. To which I reply'd, " That he must
" give me Leave to do my Duty, and also to ask him
" a plain

“ a plain Question, to which I desir’d his positive Answer : ” And the Question was this ; “ Whether he thought it lawful for any Man to attempt the dethroning King *George I.* and thereby involve these Kingdoms in Blood and Ruin ? ” At this he made a Pause, and seem’d to be surpriz’d, as not knowing at first what to answer : But at last he said, “ He meant no such Thing. *I told him,* That whatever his Meaning was, his Actions naturally tended to that, and if it had not been prevented by the over-ruling Providence of God, the Wisdom and Justice of the King, and the Watchfulness and Loyalty of his Ministers, and other good Subjects, Things had, by this Time, been much worse than ever we can conceive : How many innocent Persons, both Men, Women, and Children, would have been destroy’d !—Who can think of this without Horror, that has any thing of Humanity left in him ? Pray consider, (*said I to him*) and let me have a positive Answer to my Question, *viz.* Whether it be lawful to dethrone King *George I.* To which he reply’d, he could not tell whether it was lawful or not.” Upon this I endeavour’d to inform him better, offering some Arguments to convince him of his Error, but he would hear nothing of that, and seem’d resolv’d to persist in his Obstinacy to the last.

N. B. The day before he died, after Evening-Prayer, in the Chapel of *Newgate*, *Joseph Silver* read the following Paper, and deliver’d it to me, declaring, that it contain’d nothing but Truth ; which he also asserted at the Tree the day of his Execution.

A Copy of Joseph Silver’s PAPER.

“ **I** *Joseph Sullivan*, alias *Silver*, being now under the Sentence of Death, and having no other View or Consideration at present, but to discharge my Conscience, do hereby solemnly declare in the Presence of God, that Colonel *Josua Paul*, of the first Regiment of Foot-Guards, is not in any respect guilty of acting
‘ for

' for the Pretender's Service, (to my Knowledge) or
 ' ever employ'd me to that End. And I do further
 ' declare in the Presence of God, and to all Mankind,
 ' that the Furlow found on me when I was apprehend-
 ' ed in St. Martin's Parish in the Fields, and sign'd
 ' *Joshua Paul*, was not signed by the said Colonel *Paul*,
 ' or with his Privy or Consent, directly or indirectly.
 ' Given under my Hand at *Newgate* the 20th of *October*
 ' 1715.

Joseph Silver alias Sullivan.

*The Behaviour and Confession of Felix Hara,
 for High-Treason, in listng himself into the
 Pretender's Service.*

HE said he was about 30 Years of Age, born near
Dublin in *Ireland*, that he serv'd his Apprenticeship
 with a *Vintner* in that City, and afterwards set up
 there for himself, but for want of a sufficient Stock to
 carry on that Employment, being forc'd to quit it and
 the Place, he came to *London*, where he liv'd with two
 or three *Vintners* alternately. He declar'd himself to be
 a *Roman Catholick*, and desir'd to have nothing offer'd to
 him that might make him doubtful of his being
 in the right Way; for as he had no Time, so he had
 no Mind to receive any Instructions contrary to his first
 Principles, and was resolv'd to die in that Religion he
 had been brought up in, and always profess'd. Finding
 him in that Disposition, I only laid before him in ge-
 neral, the Doctrine and Duties of Christianity, and al-
 so endeavour'd to bring him to a free Confession of the
 Crime he was condemn'd for; but I found him very
 hard to be mov'd upon that Point, he plainly declaring,
 that he would make no Confession to me, as not being
 of the same Persuasion. However I press'd him to tell
 me, whether he thought it lawful to levy War against
 King *GEORGE*? To which he thus readily answer'd,
 I cannot determine that, I leave it to better Judgments.

I told him he might, (if he would) be clearly inform'd in the Matter, but he reply'd, That he desir'd no such Information.

The Confession of Robert Whitty, for High-Treason, in being concerned with the two forenamed Criminals.

HE said he was 55 Years of Age, born within 20 Miles of *Dublin* in *Ireland*; that in the late Reign he serv'd Colonel *Harvey's* Regiment then in *Spain*, and that having receiv'd many Wounds in that Service. he was admitted one of the out Pensioners belonging to *Chelsea-College*. He said he was not heartily for the *Pretender* but for King *GEORGE*, and that if he list'd himself into the Service of the said *Pretender*, he did not know what he did, for he had at that Time been made so drunk with *Geneva*, and other strong Liquors, that he was not sensible of what he did or said. He acknowledg'd it to be a great Fault in him to have thus unmann'd himself, and by that be drawn away; for which and all other Sins, that were many and great, he declar'd he repented from his Heart, and begg'd Pardon of God. Upon my desiring him to recollect himself, and call to Mind, and tell me what pass'd between him and the two others condemn'd with him, in the Matter that had brought him to this Trouble, he said, he could say no more of his own Knowledge, but *Silver* cou'd tell a great deal on't if he wou'd. He did from the first almost to the last, profess himself a *Protestant*, and a Member of the Church of *England*, (not a *Low Churchman*, but one of the *High-Church*) as he express'd himself; but at the Place of Execution, he declar'd himself to be of the *Romish* Religion, thinking (I suppose) that to be the best Religion for such a Criminal as he was.

At the Place of Execution, to which they were carry'd from *Newgate* on a Sledge, I attended them for the

the last Time, and exhorted them to clear their Consciences by a free and full Confession, and sincere Repentance of their wicked Deeds. But they would say no more, only *Silver* read a Paper, wherein he pretended to justify his Fact; and *Hara* said much to the same Purpose in his behalf. I pray'd with them, sung a Penitential Psalm, and would make them rehearse the Apostles Creed, but they gave but very little Attention to what was perform'd. When I had done my Ministerial Office to their Souls I retir'd, and left them to their own private Devotions. Then the Cart (into which they were put at their Arrival there) drew away, and they were turn'd off, all the while calling upon God to receive their Souls.

They were executed at *Tyburn* on *Friday* the 28th of *October* 1715.

The Behaviour of Alexander Danzil, or rather Dolzel, for Piracy.

BEING in Company with a *French* Sea Captain, and four other Mariners, who all coming on board a certain *French* Vessel, then at Anchor about a League off *Havre-de-Grace* in *France*, assaulted, and ty'd both Hand and Foot, the Master (one Captain *Maurice*) and his Crew, being in all six Persons, and one of them thus ty'd, either fell, or (which is most probable) was thrown into the Sea, wherein not being able to help himself, nor receive any Assistance from his Companions, to whom he cry'd, *Dear Friends save me*, and then perish'd.

This *Dolzel*, who was formerly try'd and convicted at the *Old-Bailey*, and there condemn'd for High-Treason some Years before, as being a Privateer, acting with a Commission of the *French* King's, when that Prince actually was in War against *Great-Britain*, and having afterwards

afterwards obtain'd a free Pardon, which he pleaded at the *Old-Bailey* on the 12th of *August* 1713, was so far from being minded to improve that Mercy, by an Amendment of his Life, which had been all along very vicious, and hurtful to Mankind; that he presumptuously went on in his wicked Course, till arrested by the Hand of Justice, which has deservedly brought him to this shameful Death.

He was about 42 Years of Age, a *Scotchman* by Birth, and a Seaman by Profession, a pernicious and dangerous Person, of a morose, stubborn, and ill Disposition. When he was a Prisoner in *Newgate* (as has been mention'd before) under Sentence for High-Treason, he shew'd himself to be a *Papist*, and at that Time he said, he never was at Mass after his being pardon'd and discharg'd: But what he was then, as he would not satisfy me in, so I might suppose him to be the same, if not worse than before; and to speak my Opinion of him, I really thought he behav'd himself as one that had no Sense nor Principles of any Religion whatsoever that could restrain him from Evil; and tho' one would have thought he should have grown more rational and considerate at the Approach of Death, yet he still retain'd his harden'd Temper, and irreligious and impious Humour, who would neither hear the Word of God, nor make Confession of his Sins, rejecting all my Admonitions, and refusing likewise the Instructions of any other Minister.

Upon my asking him some Questions relating in particular to the Crime that had brought him to this sad and untimely End, and in general, to his past wicked Life, and what Preparation he had made for a happy State in the next World; he said he would answer no Questions, nor receive any Advice from me, who was the Cause of his Death, as he was pleas'd most unworthily to say; and the Reason he pretended to give for it was, my being made an Interpreter on his Trial, he supposing if I had not been so, he should have been clear'd. It is true, I was call'd by the Court to interpret

pret what the Witnesses (who cou'd not speak *English*) swore against him, but in that Office (which I neither fought nor desir'd) I did him no Injustice, but truly and impartially deliver'd to the Court in *English* (according to my Oath) what the Evidence said in *French*, which he own'd to be true; and if I had not been there, or had been unwilling to comply with the Court's Request therein, there were enough then present, or if there had been none, some might have been immediately sent for, that would have done what I did; for (as I told him) he should not fancy to have been discharg'd for want of such an Interpreter as the Court thought fit to make Use of upon his Trial.

This I endeavour'd to inculcate upon his Mind, and make him sensible of; but he was so brutish and obstinate, that he would not be satisfied with any Thing I offer'd to him in the Matter, saying, he hated to see my Face, and wou'd not attend in Chapel, nor receive any publick or private Admonition from me, but with his dying Breath declare that I had been the Cause of his Death, and that he would do me some Mischief or other before he died, or haunt me afterwards. I told him I fear'd him not, nor his Ghost, but was sorry to see him in such a furious Passion (very unfit for a dying Person) even his Diabolical Animosity against me, who conscientiously endeavour'd to administer such spiritual Helps to his Soul, as by the Grace of God, which I implor'd, might be conducive to the rescuing of him out of the Snares and Slavery of Sin and Satan, and admitting him into the glorious Liberty of the Children of God.

But nothing of this, (as I perceiv'd) could move him, or bring him into any serious Consideration; so far from this, that his ill-grounded Prejudice against me was such, as to make him threaten me one Day when he was at Chapel, that he would kick me down Stairs; and not contented with that, but he threaten'd also to tear the Bible which I had lent him to read in while he was in the *Condemn'd-Hole*, saying, he would see none

of my Books ; I told him that was none of my Book, but the Book of God, and let him tear it if he durst.

This was such a Piece of impious Wickedness as I never saw during the 15 Years I had been in this melancholy Employment. Now whether his Malice and Rudeness to me were altogether owing to him, or rais'd and fomented by others, I will not determine ; but only say, that I had Cause enough to suspect there were some ill-grounded People in the World (Enemies to the Government) that did all they could to cross my good Purposes in the Discharge of my Office, as a sincere Minister of Christ, I endeavour'd to perform in all Respects, especially with regard to those poor Souls, whose Sins as Malefactors, or Poverty as Debtors, brought under my Care.

But to make an End with this *Alexander Doxal*: When he came to the Place of Execution, to which he was carry'd from *Newgate* in a Cart, where I attended him, and offer'd to perform my Office to him, which he had often refus'd before, telling him, that now I hop'd he would accept of it, and make good use of these last Moments to reconcile himself both to God and Man, to redeem the precious Time he had miserably mispent, and do whatever he cou'd by hearty Prayer to God, to improve this little of it that remain'd, so as it might be exchange'd for a happy Eternity.

With these, and the like Admonitions, he seem'd to be somewhat affected ; but whether that Repentance was sincere, and not to late, was much to be doubted. He desir'd my Prayers, which had, and my Pardon also, which he begg'd for his rude and unjust Behaviour towards me.

After I had pray'd with him I retir'd, and left him to his private Devotions, for which he had some Time allotted him, then the Scaffold he stood upon was taken down, and he was turn'd off.

He was executed at *Execution-Dock*, on *Monday* the 5th of *Dec.* 1715.

The Confession and Behaviour of Capt. John Gordon, Capt. William Kerr, and Mr. John Dorrell, for High-Treason.

THESE three Gentlemen (who had been Officers in the Army, *viz.* Capt. *Gordon* and *Kerr*, for a considerable Time under the two late Reigns, and Mr. *Dorrel* of later Years, in the same Service, for which he left the Employment of a Brewer he was concern'd in) were try'd for, and convicted of High-Treason, at the *King's-Bench Bar* at *Westminster*, *viz.* *Dorrel* on *Tuesday* the 22d of *November*, 1715, and the other two the next Day after; and accordingly receiv'd Sentence of Death on *Monday* the 28th of that Month, being the last Day of the Term.

While they lay under this Condemnation I constantly visited them, sometimes in the Room they were kept in all together, and at other times in the Chapel, where I read the Word of God to them, and pray'd with them, endeavouring to dispose them to a due Examination of their past Lives, and a serious Consideration of their present State, which they had made very deplorable indeed by their Sins, and particularly the horrid Crime of High-Treason they were condemn'd in this World, and must for ever suffer in the next for, unless they took timely Care to avoid by a timely Repentance that unspeakable Misery they must inevitably fall into, upon their Neglect of seeking Mercy now at God's Hand; who, for the Encouragement of Sinners returning to him, has in his Holy Word declar'd, That "He desires not the Death of a Sinner, but that he may be converted and live.

Upon this I enlarg'd; and as I shew'd them on the one hand the tender Mercy of God in and thro' Christ to the Penitent, so on the other his severe Justice to the unrelenting and harden'd Sinner.

As I was one time laying before them the Heinousness and dismal Consequences of Rebellion and Civil War, and how the Authors of it and Actors in it were highly guilty before God and Man; they deny'd their being concern'd in any such thing: But, not being satisfied with this their Answer, I advis'd them farther to consider and bethink themselves, and not aggravate their own Guilt by denying a Fact they were fairly try'd for, and convicted of; desiring them impartially to search and examine their own Consciences in the Matter, and then speak the Truth, which must needs terminate in the Acknowledgment of their Crime, and that they had done very wickedly, who, by their disturbing the Peace of a Just and Gracious King, and the Tranquillity of his faithful Subjects, were the Cause of so much Bloodshed already, of what may further be spilt, and of other Calamities arising on this Account. And herein I endeavour'd to make them sensible of the Misery they had wilfully involv'd themselves in; praying them seriously to consider, whether it had not been better for them to be Loyal than Rebellious; and not to have (as they had in this Treason) acted contrary to Laws both of God and their own Country, for which they were now to suffer, not only in this World a shameful Death, but in that to come (unless they truly repented) an eternal one of Horror and Misery, as I have hinted before. And therefore I advis'd them now to act wisely in this weighty Matter, by taking due care of their own Souls, that were in great Hazard of being forfeited and lost for ever by their Wickedness and Folly.

Upon this, and several other things of the like Nature, which I represented to them, Mr. Gordon said, *It had been good for them to have been wiser.* I expected he would have gone on further, and made a fuller Confession; but Mr. Dorrel, who was close by him, for I could not at that, nor at any other time speak to them privately, giving him a Push, he then stopped his Mouth, and said no more. But this Mr. Dorrell and Mr. Kerr then made it their Desire to me (as Mr. Gordon

don also did) that I would not put them upon any thing that requir'd a particular Answer from them, for they would resolve no Questions, nor confess any Sin, but to God only, saving this, " That in general they had been grievous Sinners, and greatly offended the divine Laws through the whole Course of their Lives ; and, That therefore God in his Justice had brought this Calamity upon them for their former Sins, and they submitted to his Providence."

They outwardly behav'd themselves very civilly and respectfully, but often pretended some Business or other to excuse their Absence from Prayer, and receiving my Exhortations and Instructions, which (according to the Duty of my Place) I frequently offer'd to them, but they would not fully receive them.

And thus it was with them, who when they were brought to the Chapel to join in Prayer and hear the Word of God, which (according to my usual Method) I expounded, they said to me as the rebellious Jews did to the Prophet, *Jer. 11. 21. Expound Not.* This, it seems, grated upon them when (as the Text now and then led me) I touch'd on some Points that were not agreeable to their Minds. Neither did they, as I observed, join in *all* the Prayers appointed for the Service, which, as a Minister of the Church of *England*, and a Subject of our Lawful Sovereign King *George I.* I look'd upon my self in duty bound to perform.

Mr. *Gordon* at first was most unwilling to come to Prayer, and most uneasy at it ; yet afterwards he comply'd with it (seeming to be better satisfy'd) and both himself and the other two at last confess'd, that they were justly condemn'd according to Law ; but neither of them would plainly own that this their bloody Design was most unnatural and heinous.

As I thought it my Duty to press them to declare, " Whether they could think it a Lawful thing to de-throne King *George I.*" ? so I put the Question to them, as I had done before to the three Traitors executed at *Tyburn* the 28th of *October* 1715, for which I

receiv'd from an unknown Hand a most abusive and threatening Letter; but neither of them being willing to give an Answer to it, I might reasonably infer, they were all of a Stamp, and deluded by Satan alike: Therefore I endeavour'd still to inform their Judgments better, by observing to them, *First*, The Duty of Obedience to *Principalities and Powers*, so much recommended in Holy Writ; and then *Secondly*, I laid before them the Laws and Practice both of this and other Nations herein; but they would not receive any thing of this, saying, "It matter'd not what their Thoughts had been, or were; they did not look upon themselves oblig'd to reveal them." Thus they evaded the Question, and would give no Answer to it.

Upon this I further shew'd them, That they ought to give some *publick Token* of their Repentance for the *publick Crime* that had deservedly brought them to this open Shame; and, That such a Repentance they could not express better, than by an ingenuous Acknowledgment and open Detestation and Abhorrence of it, confessing before God and Man, that *they had done very foolishly, yea, very wickedly*; and so beg Pardon of the *King of Heaven*, and his *Vicerent on Earth*, as also of all others they had wrong'd, and caus'd so much Loss and Sorrow to.

In this manner I went on, but (I am afraid) to little purpose; for they told me, "They would not hear me if I harp'd any longer upon this String; and what they only desir'd of me was, my reading to them the Prayers and Lessons appointed for the Day, and no more." By this I plainly saw that their Design was to prevent my giving them those Instructions which their woful Case and my Duty to their Souls requir'd. And hereupon I told them, That as I found them under a spiritual Disease, so I would not give over trying what spiritual Medicine I could administer to them while they were under my Cure.

Having

Having heard that Capt. *Gordon* had formerly committed Murder, I told him of it, and represented to him the Heinousness of such a Crime : But he denying it, I ask'd him, Whether he did not remember that some Years since having kill'd a Person here, he then fled from Justice, and went to the *East-Indies* ; where (*viz.* at *Benzal*) he stabb'd a Gentleman, and was brought over in Chains into *England* for his Trial ; but the Evidence dying by the Way, he escap'd for that Time ? At this he seem'd to be very much surpriz'd and discountenanc'd, and made a Pause : And then said, *He knew nothing of those Matters.* With this Answer being not satisfy'd, I desir'd him to speak plainer, that it might be known, " whether he was, or was not guilty of those Facts." To which he reply'd, *He was not* ; adding, " That he would not deny but that a fair Chance might sometimes have happen'd ; but he had made his Peace with God." This is all I could get from him, who could not absolutely disown, nor would plainly confess his Guilt.

At the Place of Execution, (to which they were carried from *Newgate* in a Sledge) I attended them for the last Time, and earnestly exhorted them to make a free Confession, and repent, &c. imploring God's Mercy and Grace for their Salvation, thro' the alone Merits of Christ. They told me, " They had no Confession to make, nor no Pardon to ask for what they knew was no Sin.

I pray'd, sung a penitential Psalm, and rehears'd the Apostles Creed. When I was at Prayer for them, beseeching God to forgive all their Sins, particularly the Crime they now suffer'd for, *Kerr* and *Dorrell* interrupted me, saying, " They could not join with me in " this Petition, for they look'd upon it to be no Crime." As for *Gordon*, he said nothing then, neither did he join with me in any Prayers at all, nor in the Creed, he being of the *Romish Religion*, and I am afraid his Fellow-sufferers were too much inclin'd that Way.

After this, having recommended their Souls to God, I withdrew, and left them to their private Devotions; for which they had some time allotted them: Then the Cart (into which they were remov'd out of the Sledge at their Arrival) drew away, and they were turn'd off, calling upon God to receive their Souls.

They were executed at *Tyburn* on *Wednesday* the 7th of *December*, 1715.

And to this I shall add, That as I heartily wish that the Number of Malefactors may not increase, but diminish; so I pray God to convert all those that abandon themselves to wicked and illegal Courses, particularly such as are of that Diabolical Spirit, He or They appear to be of, who wrote to me an impudent Letter (without either Date or Name) of which a true Copy, with my cursory Animadversions or Remarks thereon, here follows :

The L E T T E R.

IT is strange, as my Lord *Wharton* said on a remarkable Occasion, that of all Societies of Men, there is none practise so little common Honesty or Candour as the Clergy. They preach Morals indeed, but never go any further.

Whether you have not made good this Character in your Paper relating to the poor Wretches that suffer'd Yesterday, I leave the World to judge. You must certainly be either the most ignorant Person alive, or else the most accomplish'd Sycophant; for surely your Questions

sions to those Wretches are so very impertinent, and so inconsistent, that I can hardly repeat them without surfeiting. You ask them, whether they thought it lawful to dethrone *George I.* when no Man alive, that has the least Insight into the Laws of God or Man, can doubt of it. For, is there one Syllable in all the Doctrine of the Church of *England*, (of which you now declare your self to be a Member) that can justify deposing King *James*, or abjuring his Son on account of Religion?

I know not what you think now; but turn the Tables, and I dare say you'll be of my Opinion: And so let me ask you, Whether you did not think it a Hardship to be driven out of *France* for your Principles?

And shall not *K. J.* and his Son have the same Regard, when the Monarchy has been declar'd by all the Laws that ever were made till the Revolution, to be hereditary and indefeasible; and this strengthened and confirm'd by the Church of *England*, and withal, that Passive Obedience is due to the King, not out of any Regard to his Religion, but to his Person and Office? And if so, then can you be alarm'd at the Son's endeavouring to recover what Usurpers and Rebels tore from the Father? And are there any other Means of accomplishing this but by the Sword? And is then the Loyal Subject, that is under a Duty both by the Laws of God and Man, to assist his lawful Prince in destroying Usurpation and Rebellion, to be hang'd, drawn, and quarter'd? Is there any Difference between *G*— and a common Robber? This defends his Acquisition by force, and so does the other. And has either of them any other Plea for their Wrongs but Power? Will any Man pity *George* when he is dethroned?

Give over your Cant, thou vilest of Mankind: Forbear your Flatteries and Lies in prejudice of your lawful King *J.* the 3d, or else your Funeral Elegy shall soon be cry'd about the Streets.

Directed thus :

To the Reverend

Mr. Paul Lorrain,

At his House near St. Bartholomew-Close,

West-Smithfield.

REMARKS *on the foregoing Letter.*

HERE is a Saying alledg'd as spoken by a Noble Lord, on a remarkable Occasion ; but what that *Remarkable Occasion* was, this Detractor does not think fit to tell us. However, let those of the Clergy look to it, who do not lead such a Life *as becomes the Gospel of Christ*. This does not concern me ; I am not to answer for them.

I refer those Papers of mine, about the *Traytors* executed at *Tyburn*, to the impartial Consideration of the honest and understanding Reader.

This scurrilous Writer here discovers his furious Passion, not any Reason at all, he having none for his giving me these hard Names.

The Question I put to those *Rebels* and *Traytors* he would not find *Impertinent* and *Inconsistent*, were he not such a One himself, who most unjustly and blasphemously presumes here to asperse the *best of KINGS*, with that Spirit of Rebellion, which speaks him either a *Papist* or an *Atheist*, or both.

Here he sets down his erroneous Opinion, and would make us believe it to be a Law universally receiv'd, and a Doctrine particularly taught by the *Church of England*. But more of this and of his Uneasiness about K. *James*, and his pretended Son, which I shall have occasion to speak to by and by.

If he will know my Thoughts, let him be inform'd, That as I was driven out of *France* by the Cruelty of the

the *Papists Religion*, so (by the Grace of God) I shall do my utmost to prevent that Bloody Religion's driving me out of *England*.

If he will have Law, and will know the Reasons for the late Revolution, let him look back to the Legal Practices of former Times in such Cases, and let him read the Statutes of Queen *Elizabeth*, and particularly the Act of Parliament made (upon King *James's* Abdication) for the Settlement of the Crown as it now is, and I hope will for ever remain in the Royal Family of our Most Gracious Sovereign King *GEORGE*, whom God preserve.

What he understands by *Hereditary* and *Indefeasible*, and what Laws he means here, he does not plainly tell: Neither does he appear much dispos'd to *Non-Resistance*, or *Passive-Obedience*, though he makes such a Noise of it.

As for the Doctrine of the Church of *England*, by which he vainly endeavours to support his weak Arguments, it evidently makes against him; for it condemns all such Rebels as he is, who (contrary to the Precepts of Christ and His Apostles) refuse to be *subject to the powers that are*, and do *speak Evil of Dignities*. And for his better Information herein, let him read *St. Matthew* 22. 21. *Rom.* 13. 1, &c. *Tit.* 3. 1. and *1 Pet.* 2. 13, 14.

These Names of *Ufurpers* and *Rebels* properly belong to the *Pretender* and his *Adherents*, and all *Forsworn Favourers* of that restless and traitorous Party; the very Spirit whereof the Author of this impudent Letter does so lively express therein.

The Loyal Subject indeed is to assist, and will assist, his Lawful Prince. And pray, Who is this Lawful Prince, but King *George*? And, who are those here mention'd that have been *hang'd, drawn and quarter'd*, but such as were *Rebels*, and consequently deserv'd that Punishment?

This strange Comparison, which none but a most profligate Wretch can make, shews their Religion and

Manners, who are the Promoters of *Popery* and *Arbitrary Power*.

There will be no Cause of Pity, but rather of Praise, chearfully giving Thanks to God, and with loud and joyful Acclamations congratulating His *Anointed*, Our Most Gracious Sovereign Lord King *George*, when the Almighty shall have given him the Necks of his Enemies, as he has the Hearts of all honest Men and true *Protestants*.

As I do not deserve those reproachful and unjust *Appellations* of *Vilest of Mankind*, *Flatterer* and *Liar*, so neither does the Pretender *that of my Lawful King* J. the 3d. I have heartily abjur'd him, and do in like manner abhor all the base and treacherous Practices of his audacious Party; and am not terrify'd with these their *Threats* of having my *Funeral Elegy* soon cry'd about the *Streets*, tho' at the same time I am sensible enough of such wicked Men's Malice and Ill-will to me. But let me advise them, out of my Good-will to their Souls, That they would betimes look to themselves and repent, duly considering, that there is a just God, who will one Day call them to a very severe Account for all their pernicious Deeds, and particularly for those Tumults they have rais'd, that Blood they have shed, and other Mischiefs they have done in a Nation that liv'd in Peace before.

Now for a Conclusion, I shall here observe, That as this whole Letter swells with horrid Absurdities and Lies; so neither is the very Supercription of it without Mistake; forasmuch as I have no House nor Lodgings in the Place it is directed to: Which (perhaps) might be the Occasion (as I gather from the Tenour of it) that 'twas thirty Days after its being written e're it came to my Hand; which was the 29th of *November* last. And the Reason why I then did not, and now do, answer it, is because I was in hopes this wicked Party would reform: But finding they do not, I must here give them Warning, praying them to consider the heinous Sins and unspeakable Miseries they are daily involving themselves in,

in, who thus presume to continue provoking God's Indignation and Wrath, by their *resisting the Powers that be, which* (saith St. Paul) *are ordain'd of God*; and by their disturbing the whole Nation in general, and abusing me in particular, *who am quiet* (and I hope not useless) *in the Land.*

The true Copy of a Paper deliver'd by Henry Powel, wherein he gives necessary Cautions to all Waggoners and Carriers, how to prevent their being robb'd.

I Henry Howard, alias Powel, which last is my right Name, was condemn'd for a Robbery on the Highway on Barnet-Common, on the Body of *Sarah Maddocks*, and taking from her 2 s. 6 d. in Money. I was born the 5th of *August*, 1691, in the Liberty of the City of *London*, of very honest and reputable Parents; whose Care and Industry in my Education was sufficient to qualify me for any Business whatsoever; and, with the Grace of God, to prevent this ignominious Death: At nine Years of Age I was put to *Merchant-Taylor's* School, under Mr. *Pickering*; and in two Years' Time was remov'd under Mr. *Parcels*, from whence (in a short Time) I was remov'd to the Care of the learned Dr. *Shorter*; and attain'd, at twelve Years of Age, to such a Knowledge of the *Greek* and *Latin* Tongues, as none could exceed me: Being about that Time taken from *Latin*, I was put to *Writing* and *Arithmetic*, in which I improv'd my self very much; and being qualify'd for any Trade whatsoever, none was (to my Misfortune) approv'd of as a Surgeon, and accordingly was bound, at *Surgeons-Hall*, to a very eminent and ingenious Man of that Profession, who profess'd both *Pharmacy* and *Surgery*, and (tho' I speak it to my Shame)

one

one who, by his exemplary Piety and Virtue, might have ingrafted good Principles into the Hearts of any less obdurate than mine; and, how many thousand times have I repented within my self for slighting his wholesome Admonitions; and once I remember, in a prophetic Way I believe, he told me, that this untimely Death was predestinated Fortune, unless I reform'd my self. But my Father and Mother dying in a little time after I was bound, expos'd me to several Wants, that I protest the Remainder of my Apprenticeship, while my Master liv'd, was tedious to me. But, however it pleas'd God to take my Master to Himself before I had serv'd six Years, and my Mistress leaving off this Business, I was expos'd to all the Inconveniencies and Frowns of Fortune, and (as it were) destitute, being but eighteen Years of Age; but however, Almighty God was so gracious to me in preventing my falling into bad Company, tho' reduc'd to Want; but going one Day to visit a Kinswoman of mine, she fancying a Ring which I had, was willing to exchange it for hers, but afterwards it not proving according to her Expectations, contriv'd and took me out of my Bed; and not being permitted to beg pardon, or make any Apology for my self, was sent to *Flanders* for a Foot-Soldier, which was undoubtedly the Ruin of me; for, having not frequented vicious Company before, I fulfill'd the Saying of St. Paul, that, *Evil Communication corrupts good manners*. I continu'd in that Station almost three Years, tho' I made two Attempts to regain my Native Country again, but was re-taken, and narrowly miss'd a severe Punishment; and, considering the Mercy and Providence of God in my Deliverance, I was resolv'd to content my self in the Circumstances I was in, and got acquainted with several of the Clergy, who took great Delight in my Conversation, having the *Latin* Tongue as fluent as my Native: And altho' no means was neglected for my Conversion to their *Faith*, God Almighty open'd the Eyes of my Understanding, to discover their Insinuations, confute their Arguments, and condemn their superstitious

Idolatry;

Idolatry; their Purgatory, Invocation of Saints, and the *Doctrine of Transubstantiation*, were the main Obstacles of my Conversion. Would Time permit me, I would expound the Arguments they us'd to prove the Verity of them, and my Objections; but it being the Day before my Death, and having a great Task to perform, and but little Time to perform it, I hope you'll excuse me; and therefore I'll proceed to give you an Account of my Escape from thence, altho' I had narrowly escap'd twice before, yet beginning to grow uneasy again, I was resolv'd to have the other Trial, and accordingly *June* the 27th, 1712, with seven more, I made my Way to *Holland*, from whence, in a short time, by the Assistance of an honest Master, bound for *Burlington* in *Yorkshire*, I regain'd my native Country, and in nine Days after my Desertion from *Newport*, I came to *Fair Augusta*, *Albion's* Metropolis.

Finding every Thing turn'd up-side down, and not a Friend left that would serve me, I began to reflect and repent within my self for leaving my Military Function, being reduc'd to that Want, that I must either beg or steal; the former I despis'd as despicable, the latter I dreaded as destructive to my Soul and Body: And therefore I apply'd my self to a servile Employment at the Water-side, and I wish to God I had continu'd in that Station; but getting acquainted with an idle Fellow, I was seduc'd to the Commission of a Fact, for which he dy'd; and Almighty God, who knew the Innocence of my Heart at that time, was merciful to me, that (by his fatal Example) I might reform my Life and Conversation, which God Almighty to promote, sent me as loving, tender, and endearing a Wife as ever Man enjoy'd; who endeavour'd (by her Actions and Behaviour) to convince me that the wicked Courses I took would be my inevitable Ruin; and to do her Justice, as I am a dying Man, had I been rul'd by her, I had never come to this untimely End; and there's no transitory pleasure that with Regret I leave, but her dear Company: My Heart melts within at the Thoughts of
her;

her ; and if ever Love was reciprocally joyn'd, it was between us ; and therefore I humbly beg of every body, that they would cast no Reflections upon her ; and to vindicate her from any Confederacy with me, I kept her ignorant of my way of Living for a long time, till my coming into Trouble acquainted her with it ; and altho' I think a Confession to Almighty God is a sufficient Acknowledgment in this World, I'm oblig'd (for Vindication of her) to acquaint Mr. *Fletcher*, that his Waggon was robb'd by my self and *Thomas Edwards*, at *Sevenoak* in the County of *Kent* ; and I never sold any but to Mrs. *Keys*, except one dozen of Handkerchiefs to another Person, whose Name I omit, tho' he does not deserve it at my Hands ; and as for other Matters, as it is not in my power to retaliate those Persons I have wrong'd, I think it needless to bring other Men into Trouble, who have been either Confederate or Receiver. But this Caution I'll give to all Country-Waggoners, to take particular Care of their Waggon in the Inn-Yards at Night : As to the Fact I die for, I acknowledge it just, but being in Liquor, was seduc'd by that Villain *Edwards*, or I had prevented this Misfortune.

I count this ignominious Death as a just Judgment for my Sins against His Divine Majesty and my Neighbour, and therefore patiently resign my self, with Patience, to His Blessed Will, and hope (with true Repentance and a stedfast Faith in Christ Jesus) He will seal my Pardon in Heaven *before I go hence, and be no more seen* : And I bless God, I have had more Consolation under my Condemnation than I ever had these many Years ; and I hope that those who survive me will take Warning by my fatal End. I have this Comfort, that no Man can accuse me of enticing them to the Commission of such Facts, especially one Person, who hath accus'd me of it since my Condemnation ; but for the Value I have for him, I'll omit 'his Name, and desire him to take Warning by me ; being resolv'd within my self, that if God had prolong'd my Days, I would relinquish

all

all such Courses. This is a true Account of my Life
past ; Witness my Hand,

Dec. 22, 1715.

Henry Powell.

*A true Copy of the PAPER deliver'd to the
Sberiffs of London by Colonel Henry Ox-
burgh, who was Drawn, Hanged, and
Quartered at Tyburn for High-Treason,
against His Majesty King GEORGE I.
May 14, 1716.*

CUSTOM has made it almost necessary for Per-
sons in my Circumstances to say, or leave some-
what by their last Words, declaring their Sentiments
with relation to what they die for : In Compliance with
which, I have thought fit to make the following De-
claration. In the first Place, I declare I die a Member
of the Holy *Roman* Catholick Church, tho' a very un-
worthy one, and I desire all the Members of that Com-
munion to assist my Soul with their charitable Prayers.
I declare my self in Charity with all the World, and do
from my Soul forgive all my Enemies, and all others
who have any ways injur'd or done me wrong ; and par-
ticularly, I forgive all those who have promoted my
Death by malicious Misrepresentations or otherways,
and earnestly beg God to forgive them, and grant them
the same Blessings I desire for my own Soul. I like-
wise ask Pardon of all such as I have offended.

It has been said, that the Catholicks, who were taken
at *Preston*, engaged in that Affair in View only of fet-
ting a Catholick King on the Thronc, and re-establi-
shing the Catholick Religion in *England* ; but that is not
the only Calumny charged on them. I declare for my
own particular, that if King *James III.* had been a

Protestant,

Protestant, I should think my self oblig'd to pay him the same Duty, and do him the same Service, as if a Catholick ; nor do I know any Catholick that is not of the same Principle : For I never could find that either by the Laws of God, or the antient Constitution of the Nation, Difference of Religion in the Prince made any Change in the Allegiance of the Subject.

I might have hop'd from the great Character Mr. *Wills* gave me at *Preston* (when I treated with him for a Surrender) of the Clemency of the Prince now on the Throne (to which he said we could not better entitle ourselves than by an early Submission) that such as surrendr'd themselves Prisoners at Discretion on that Prospect, would have met with more Lenity than I have experienc'd ; and I believe *England* is the only Country in *Europe*, where Prisoners at Discretion are not understood to have their Lives saved.

I pray God of his infinite Goodness to restore the Nation to its former Happiness, by extinguishing all unhappy Divisions, that all Animosities and Feuds may be buried, and no other Emulation remain among the Subjects of *Great-Britain*, but who shall be most zealous in advancing the true Glory of God, and the true Interest of the Nation.

Henry Oxburgh.



A true Copy of a PAPER deliver'd to the Sheriffs of London by Richard Gascoign, who was Drawn, Hanged and Quartered at Tyburn for High-Treason, against His Majesty King GEORGE I. which he deliver'd at the Place of Execution, May 25, 1716.

I Take it to be my Duty to leave this Paper behind me, to refute those false Accusations and Calumnies that have been designedly spread by People, who, I am afraid, took Pains to procure unhappy Wretches to confirm them.

In the first Place, I declare I die an unworthy Member of the Holy Catholick Apostolick Roman Church, and do acknowledge my self to be the greatest of Sinners; but blessed be my God, I have a firm Confidence in the Sufferings of my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, by whose Merits I hope I shall be saved.

I from the bottom of my Heart forgive all those that were my Enemies and Persecutors; and hope Almighty God in his great Goodness (and I beseech him to do it as heartily as I beg Pardon for my own Sins) will pardon them, and give them Grace to repent.

And I earnestly beg Pardon of all those whom I have any ways offended or injur'd, and lament that it is not in my Power to make them Reparation; but as they expect to be forgiven, I hope they will do so to me. I also beg Pardon of all those whom I have disedify'd by my Life or Conversation.

That I have had an uncommon Ardour or Zeal in my Duty and Loyalty for my most injur'd and Royal Sovereign King *James III.* I own at my Death, as I
did

did to every Body that knew me whilst I liv'd ; and I affirm that it was not only on the Account of his being a *Roman Catholick*, or any worldly View, but from a true Sense of my Duty, as I took my self to be bound by the Laws of God and my Country ; and as his succeeding to the Throne of his Ancestors could only make these three Kingdoms happy ; and from impartial Accounts of his Royal Person and Qualities, which make him one of the most meriting Princes in the World.

My Loyalty descended to me from my Ancestors, my Father and Grand-father having had the Honour to be sacrific'd in doing their Duties to their Kings, *Charles I.* and *James II.*

I think it incumbent on me to do Justice to a Gentleman, whose Name I was sorry to hear mention'd at my Trial ; which surely was irregular and unprecedented, to give Evidence of any Treason that had no relation to what I was indicted of : I declare, in the Presence of God, I never saw him but twice, and in those Times, I think, there was not a Word talked of Principle or Party. And I declare in the same solemn Manner, I never knew any of his Measures or Designs ; or ever had any Intimacy of any kind with him : And declare, that what was sworn at the Council and at my Trial, was false in relation to him.

And I know a great Man should say, I was intimate with a Lord in the *Tower* : I declare, I never spoke to him, nor saw his Hand-writing, nor to my Knowledge, was I ever under the same Roof with him ; nor was I ever Agent, or employ'd by any Person in my Life (as was suggested at my Trial) in any Political Design ; nor did I ever carry a Letter, or was ever entrusted by one great Man to another ; nor did I ever know of any concerted Measure to restore my Royal Master in my Life, more than what was talked in Publick, and in the Papers ; nor, as I expect Mercy, did I, directly or indirectly, know any Thing of the Arms that was seiz'd at *Bath*, directed to *R. G.* as was said at my Trial.

And

And as to Mr. *Caldorwood's* Evidence against me, of my being in the Market-place on *Saturday* in the Afternoon, and that he saw me there: To my Knowledge, I had not been there until seven o'Clock at Night, when he cou'd not see me; and if he did, not with my Sword drawn, his Evidence was entirely false; and he sent me Word two Days before my Trial, that he cou'd not swear any Thing against me whatever. And he said I was in the Council of War; I never (so far from being in it) knew the House it was held in, nor did I know there was one held.

The Evidence of the Footman *Walmsly* was as false, he swearing me drinking of Brandy with Excise-men, six Times on *Saturday* in the said Market-place.

These are the two Men that swore me out of my Life; I forgive them with all my Heart, and recommend to them to repent.

And as I have upon the Word of a dying Man, declar'd all these Truths, in order to caution People not to believe Reports, and to do all the Justice I am capable of doing; so now let me recommend to all People to think of their Duties to God and their Country, and to heal all Divisions, and exhort them to think of the Means of uniting and reconciling all their Interests, and unite in the only Measure that can render them happy: Which that they may do, I beg of Almighty God to direct them, and that they may compass it.

I bless my God, who has given me the Grace to submit patiently to all the Injuries that has been done me; as also for enabling me to resist the many Temptations I have had frequently, in relation to a Gentleman, upon whose Account, I presume, they have taken my Life, because I would not concur to take his Life: but God forgive them, I do heartily.

And I humbly beg the Prayers of all good Christians.

May 25, 1716.

Richard Gascoigne.

Whereas

*The Behaviour of Mr. William Paul and
John Hall, Esq; for High-Treason.*

MR. *Paul* a Clergyman, and had been then late a Member of the *Nonjuring Church*, otherwise the true Catholick *Nonjuring Church of England* (to make use of his and Mr. *Hall's* own Expressions) would never enter into the Verge of arguing concerning his mistaken Principles; for when I would have shew'd him how contrary his Actions had been to those plain Precepts which we have in *Rom. xiii. 1. Tit. iii. 1. 1 Pet. ii. 13, &c.* all the Answer he gave me to this was, "That I took those Texts in one Sense, and he in "another." But indeed, it seem'd by his disloyal Practices he was as far from having a right Understanding of them, as he was unwilling to be better inform'd.

When he and Mr. *Hall* was carry'd to *Tyburn*, as soon as they were taken out of the Sledge into the Cart, they desir'd to have a Minister of their own Communion (as they call'd it) to pray with them, which was granted, and accordingly such a Minister (whoever he was, or whence he came, I knew not) stept into the Cart, and pray'd by them a considerable Time, and then suddenly went off.

No sooner had he made his Exit, but Mr. *Paul* began to make his Speech; wherein he reflect'd most unworthily on the late happy Revolution, and the Glorious Instruments of it, sparing neither crown'd Heads, nor the Bishops and Ministers that were legally consecrated and ordain'd since that Revolution, nor any others that had taken an Oath to it; the said Mr. *Paul* going on at this Rate, he was desir'd to forbear such unbecoming Expressions, not fit to be heard: Upon this he stopt, and he and Mr. *Hall* deliver'd each of them a Paper to the Sheriff. 'This done, I went up to pray
by

by them; but Mr. *Paul* being then on his Knees reading a Prayer in Writing (whether in his own or another's Hand I can't tell) I did not disturb him, but let him go on in his reading. When he had done, and was got up, I then address'd myself both to him and Mr. *Hall*, telling them, that I was come to do my last Duty to their Souls, which I heartily recommended to God's Mercy, praying him, that he would be pleas'd to enlighten their dark Minds, and undeceive their deluded Hearts, that they might acknowledge the Truth, renounce their Errors, and ask Pardon of him (our good and gracious God) whom they had greatly offended, and likewise of the King and these Nations, that they, and those of their Party, had so much disturb'd. And here I advis'd them also to warn the People to be Loyal and truly religious, taking Care not to follow their Steps in Rebellion and unfound Principles, lest they should be brought to such a shameful and untimely Death as themselves were now come to: But instead of complying with these Admonitions, they still persisted tenacious in their Way, endeavouring to justify their Actions to the Standers by, who seem'd to be so far from liking, that they shew'd a great Abhorrence of their wicked Practices and scandalous Speeches.

I did what I could to take off their Thoughts from these, and turn them to better Objects, offering to pray with them; but they were not very desirous I should, neither would they kneel at my Prayers, as they did at their *Nonjuring* Minister's; upon which I told them, that since they were unwilling to kneel down with me, I would stay till they were ty'd up, which I did, and then pray'd.

When I had begun to pray, I perceiv'd Mr. *Paul* was affected, and would fain then have kneel'd, but a Person standing by him, told him he could not. As for Mr. *Hall*, he would not at all join in Prayer with me, but all the while turn'd his Back upon me, a Thing which no Protestant ever did before on such an Occasion. This oblig'd me, after I had done praying, to
tell

tell Mr. *Hall*, Methinks you might have been more serious and more civil : What Harm have I done to you, in imploring God's Mercy to your Soul? One would think you might very well have join'd with me herein, &c. Having said this (to which he made no Reply) and given them both some further Admonitions, and begg'd of God of his infinite Goodness thro' Christ, to convert and save them, I left them to their Recollection and private Devotion. Then the Cart drawing away, and they being turn'd off, the People gave a mighty Shout, and with loud Acclamations said, God save King GEORGE.

They were executed at *Tyburn* on *Friday* the 13th of *July* 1716.

The Behaviour and Confession of Joseph Still, alias Cotterel, (or rather Cockerel, nick-nam'd Robin Chickē) who was hang'd on a Gibbet erected for that Purpose, on Stamford-Hill, for a Murder by him committed the 5th of January 1716-7, near Newington Church in Middlesex, on the Body of John Green, an honest Servant to a worthy Gentleman.

Robert Still, alias Cockerill, alias Robin Chicken, was much under (tho' he seem'd to be above) 40 Years of Age, (so he began with a Lie) that he was born in the Country; but would not tell in what Town or Parish; that he had been nine Years in the Service, whether at Sea or Land, he did not declare : That he had kept a House in *London* for three Years together; but what he did all that while, or had done before, he would by no means let me know, except that
he

he sometimes sold Poultry, and got his Livelihood very honestly. He would not confess himself guilty of the Murder for which he was condemn'd, saying, he kill'd the Man in his own Defence: But when I ask'd him, What Business he had to climb over the Wall into a Gentleman's Garden, and then make haste to run away; he could give no Answer to that, neither did he seem ready to justify himself when I told him of his being known to be an old Offender, and was reported to have been so long engag'd in the wicked Trade of robbing, as to have been some Years before, one (and was then the last surviving Person) of *Whitney's* Gang; and that I remember'd he had been in *Newgate* before, under the Lash of the Law, being order'd to be whipt for a Felony he had committed some Years before. Besides, the Record produc'd against him in Court fully prov'd, that he had been burnt in the Hand at *Hartford*, for robbing a Lady in that County; to which he gave me this Answer, "I am sorry the World should have such an ill Opinion of me, I have done nothing to deserve it." After this I ask'd him, whether he was not the Man that formerly went by the Nick Name of *Robin Chicken*, given him on account of his robbing several Persons, Higlers and others, of their Cocks, Hens, Chickens, &c. This unexpected Question so much surpriz'd and confound'd him, that I presently perceiv'd he was at a Non-plus, not knowing at first what Reply he should make to it, which recollecting myself, inclin'd me to conclude he was the Man, and told him so, adding, that therefore he must needs be that wicked Person concern'd in the Murder of Mr. *John Stone* at *Shiperton*, with *Thomas Mars*, alias *Cudley*, who was executed for the same on *Friday* the 15th of *December* 1710. To which (after a Pause) he gave me this Answer, "That he never went by the Name of *Robin Chicken*, nor knew any Thing of *Thomas Mars*, nor of Mr. *Stone's* Murder, so far as he could then remember." Which having said, I still more and more press'd him to clear his Conscience about these and other

Matters, and not die in the Denial of his Sins, in Impenitence and Hardness of Heart; but all I could say did not appear to melt him into Repentance, till he saw Death making its closer Approaches to him, then indeed he seem'd to relent a little, yet without shewing that deep Sorrow for his evil Deeds, which would have well become him, and he could not have forbore to express, had he truly repented, and been inwardly affected with Grief and Contrition of Heart for having so heinously offended God, and wrong'd his Neighbour as he had done. I here again endeavour'd to persuade him to confess what Robberies he had committed, and particularly whether he was concern'd in, or knew any Thing of that in Mr. *Beardly's* House at *Newington* in *Middlesex*, out of which a great Quantity of Pewter and other Things were taken, about three Weeks before he perpetrated the Murder he then stood condemn'd for. To this he answer'd, "That he could not (nor ought I " to expect he should) make any Confession of being " guilty of Facts he knew nothing of." This was not a positive Answer, yet he thought thereby to impose on me, and make me believe him innocent. He being indicted by two Names, *viz.* *Joseph Still* alias *Cotterel*, I ask'd him which of these was his right Name, he answer'd, that his right Name was *Joseph Cockerel*, not *Cotterel*. Then I said to him, What makes People call you *Joseph Still*? Why, said he, "That's right " enough, I am *Joseph still*, and shall be so as long as " I live." Thus he made a Jest with the Word *Still*, in Allusion to the Meaning of it; whereupon I observ'd to him, that this merry Turn was very unseasonable, and very improper for a Man in his woeful Condition, who, one would think, should have more serious Thoughts, at such a Time as that especially; but it seems he lov'd the Jest too well to let it be lost, tho' he was upon the Brink of Eternity, and his Soul in great Danger of everlasting Destruction, which I endeavour'd to make him sensible of; but it was with much Difficulty he could in any Degree be brought to a Sense of his heinous

heinous Sins, and to an Apprehension of the dreadful Judgments of God hanging over his Head for them, unless he prevented this his approaching Misery by earnest Prayer to God for the Grace of Faith and Repentance, and for the Mercy of a free Pardon seal'd in Heaven by Christ; that all his Offences might be blotted out, which were (as he at last confessed to be) many and great.

As this was but a lame and imperfect Confession, as it discovered nothing that might be of Use, or any Satisfaction to the World; so I told him, that herein he did a great deal of Injury, not only to those Persons who had lost their Goods, and knew not how, nor by whom they were stole; but chiefly to such as, tho' innocent, might perhaps be suspected to have been guilty of those which were secretly committed by him. And upon this, I shewed him what Necessity there was, that he should freely speak out the Truth, who was in a few Days to make his inevitable Appearance before the dreadful Tribunal of the God of Truth, could never expect to be clear'd there, unless he likewise clear'd his Conscience here. But all I could say to oblige him to give a plainer and more particular Account of himself had no other Effect, than the drawing from him this poor Confession, *viz.* That Drunkenness (to which he was much addicted) had been the Cause of his Ruin.

The Approach of Death growing nearer, I pressed him the more to leave nothing undone, which might be done by him for the clearing of his Conscience before his Departure out of this World; and therefore earnestly desir'd him again, plainly and truly to declare, Whether he was not one of *Whitney's* Gang? Whether he had not formerly committed some Robberies with *Thomas Mars*, and had been concern'd with him in the Murder of *Mr. Stone*, and whether he did not know of *Mr. Beardley's* being robb'd? Which Questions I had asked him before: And now (as I was desir'd) added these two, *1st*, Whether he knew any
I 2 Thing

Thing of the Murder of Squire *Hanson*, who was found killed in the Fields near the *Vinegar-house*, some Years ago. *2dly*, Whether he could give no Information concerning a Robbery committed in the House of Sir *Robert Nightingale* at *Enfield*, in *August*? To all which several Questions he gave me this one Answer, "That " he was as innocent of those Facts as the Child unborn, and did not so much as know any the least " Thing of them."

When he was carry'd from *Newgate* in a Cart to the Place of Execution, where I attended him, exhorting him to consider well what had brought him to this shameful and untimely End, and to confess and repent of all his Sins, that he might be deliver'd from Blood-guiltiness, and from all other Guilt. And here I put to him again those Questions before mention'd, upon which he seem'd uneasy, and still persisted in his former Denials; adding, that he neither knew of, nor was ever concern'd in any Murder, save this for which he was then to suffer, acknowledging (tho' with some Reluctancy) that his Sentence was just, and that shameful Death his deserv'd Reward.

After this I pray'd by him, sung some Penitential Psalms with him, made him rehearse the Apostle's Creed, and implor'd God's Grace and Mercy to him, then withdrew, and he was turn'd off.

He was executed on *Friday March 22, 1716-17*, at *Stamford-Hill*, on a Gibbet erected for that Purpose.

The Behaviour and Confession of John Montieurs for the Murder of John Rule, the 17th of October, 1717.

HE said he was 27 Years of Age, of good Parentage, and born at *Enwegen* in *Gelderland*: That he

he had been brought up in the Business of Merchandizing, and the chief Commodities he commonly dealt in were Wines and Brandy, which he bought in the *Low-Countries*, and imported into *England*. The Religion he professed was that he called the *Roman Catholic*. As to the Fact he was try'd and condemn'd for, he at first stily deny'd it, and would fain have persuaded me, that he was perfectly ignorant and innocent of it; and that he had been a Person of a good Life and Reputation in his own Country; upon which I told him, that tho' I could not charge him with other Crimes, as having no Knowledge of him before, yet this for which he then stood condemn'd, was so evident and fully prov'd upon him, that I wonder'd he durst deny it, considering that such a Denial could not clear him before God nor Men, neither would it avail him in the least as to his present State in this World, but would greatly aggravate his Sins and Condemnation in the Sight of God, and make him infinitely the worse as to his future State in the other World. Being inform'd, that some Time ago he intended to have marry'd a *Dutch* Woman, a Protestant; and that one of the Conditions of the Contract which was to have been made between them was, That he should leave the *Church of Rome* and embrace the *Protestant Religion*; I asked him whether it was so? To which he reply'd, it was. Then asking him further, Whether he was still in the same Mind, that is, Whether he would now (as to this Change) do for the Good of his Soul, what he promised to perform for his Love's Sake, and would be a *Protestant* whether he liv'd or died? He answered at first, That he would; but after some time said, That as he supposed both Religions were good, and as he was to die very soon, that then he had neither Time, nor indeed any proper or free Disposition of Mind, under his present Distraction and Disquietude, to attend any Instructions relating to those Points or Principles, wherein they differ the one from the other; and considering also that he was born in the *Roman Com-*

munion so he thought it not fit to renounce it, and embrace another; which (for ought he knew) he might have done, were he to have liv'd longer in the World; for he was inclineable enough, from the Instructions he had received of me since his Confinement in *Nevgate* (both before and after his Condemnation) to believe, that of the two, the *Protestant* Religion was the best. He so far agreed with me, that he professed he rely'd on the alone Merits of Jesus Christ for the Pardon of his Sins; and that he look'd upon him as the only Mediator between God and Man, and hop'd to be sav'd by him. Here (after some further Instructions to set him forward in the right Way) I pressed him to a free Confession of all his Sins in general, and in particular of that enormous Crime of Murder, which had brought him to this shameful and untimely Death. Whereupon he (tho' he positively deny'd it before) now own'd, that he was Guilty of it, but said, That the Deceased having first began a Quarrel with him, they both by Consent went out together, to decide the Difference by dent of Sword: This he alledging for his Pretence as a legal (or at least allowable) Way, to ask and receive Satisfaction for Affronts and Injuries given, was presently shewn his great Mistake herein, and his indispenfable Duty and Interest to repent. Besides, I told him, that if that was a Duel, I greatly suspected him to be the Aggressor, but could not think otherways, then that this Murder was by him committed without Provocation, and with all the Aggravation of Baseness and Barbarity imaginable. To which he said little or nothing but this, " I am now to satisfy the Law for it, and pray God to have Mercy on my Soul. Then I went on in exhorting him to Repentance, and such a one too, as might be proportionable to his high Crime, crying with *David*, Pf. li. 12. *Deliver me from Blood-guiltiness, O God!* &c. Before I parted at that Time, when I had a long Conference with him, which was the next Day after I had preach'd chiefly against Murder, and I found he was something mov'd, and seem'd

to

to relent. I desir'd him for God's sake, and his Soul's, to tell me what Crimes of that Nature, or what other heinous Sins he had committed before, either in his own Country or any where else. To which he reply'd, that he had formerly fought several Duels with Officers and other Gentlemen, wounding some of them, but never kill'd any; and that as to other Matters, he had liv'd like other young Gentlemen, not so well he must confess as he should have done, for which he implor'd God's Mercy and Pardon. Being not fully satisfy'd with his Confession, I further desir'd him to declare freely and ingenuously, what was the true Cause of his committing that Murder. To which he giving no Answer, his Silence put me upon asking him this plain Question, which I press'd him to answer positively one way or other, *viz.* Whether he did not kill the Deceased with an Intent of having his Moncy and other his Goods? Whereto he made this only Reply, *Sure enough*; and would say no more, nor express that Sorrow he should have had for the great Evil he had done, and the Guilt he thus contracted by his Commission of such an inhumane and bloody Fact. I endeavour'd all I could to make him thoroughly sensible of his Sin and Misery. How affected he was with what I said, and what were his inward Thoughts I know not, but his outward Appearance discover'd his not being much concern'd. And this hard Temper I was afraid would continue with him to the Time of his Death; but thro' God's great Mercy it did not, for at the nearer Approach of it, I found that what had been laid before him to bring him to Repentance, began to make some Impression on him, and mollify his obdurate Heart. Then he expressed his Grief for all his Sins, and particularly the heinous Crime that had brought this severe Punishment upon him, and he fully confessed, That he was guilty of wilful Murder; that the Person he kill'd had not in the least provok'd nor challeng'd him to it, and that out of a covetous, malicious, and cruel Heart he did it, thinking to find with the Deceased a great deal

deal of Gold, Money, &c. but he was disappointed therein, for he found but little of that about him. The manner of his committing that barbarous Murder (which he said none but himself knew any Thing of, or was concern'd in) was by a Hammer he carry'd in his Pocket for that Purpose, and with which he struck him in divers Places on the Head, and other Parts. When he had made an End of this his Confession, I represented to him the horrible Nature of that Fact, and the greatness of his Guilt, earnestly exhorting him duly to consider it, and take it to Heart, to the End he might so repent of it, as to obtain God's Pardon for it, without which he must be eternally miserable.

With such Exhortations as I thought most proper to move him, I endeavour'd to reclaim him out of his dangerous State. And this I did till he was carry'd to the Place of Execution, where I attended him. When I was withdrawn from him, he desir'd the Standers-by to take Warning by him, and pray for his departing Soul, then the Cart drew away, and he was turn'd off, calling upon God.

He was executed at Tyburn on Friday, Dec. 20, 1717.

The Confession of John Stone, for High-Treason, in counterfeiting the current Coin of England, by making false Shillings and Half-Crowns.

HE said he was 22 Years of Age, born in the Parish of St. Margaret, Westminster: That before he had attain'd to 12 Years of Age, his Parents bound him Apprentice to a Vintner who kept the Ship Tavern in Princes-street, near Leicester-fields; that when he had liv'd there about four Years, his said Master dying, and soon after his Mistress too, he then went to serve (but not as
an

an Apprentice) other *Vintners* alternately, *viz.* One, that kept the *King's-Head* Tavern near *Hicks's-Hall*, and another the *Tun* Tavern near *Hungerford-Market* in the *Strand*: That after this he went to *Hampstead* in the Summer Seafon, and liv'd sometimes at Mother *Huff's*, and some Time after in another Publick-House there; and when he was out of Buſineſs he went to his Mother, who then maintain'd him as well as ſhe was able. As to his Morals and Religion, he could give but a ſlender Account thereof, as having liv'd a very vicious Life, which he acknowledg'd in general; yet was ſo obſtinate, as to reſuſe the Diſcovery of thoſe Things he had moſt offended in, and even deny'd the plain Fact he was juſtly condemn'd for.

The Behaviour and Confefſion of Henry Chickley, condemn'd for affaulting Mr. Charles Brown on the King's Highway, and taking from him a Silver Watch, a Pocket-Book, and a Bank Note of 25l. July 16, 1717.

HE ſaid he was 21 Years of Age, born in the Pariſh of *St. Mary* in *Warwick*; that he had ſerv'd a *Tobacconiſt* in that Town for five Years together, who employ'd him in cutting and making up Tobacco; that when he left his ſaid Maſter, he came up to *London*, and follow'd the ſame Employment with a *Tobacconiſt* here, whom he ſerv'd two Years; that he had been for three Years in the Sea Service, *viz.* two on Board the *Roebuck*, and one in the *Torbay*, both Men of War. He own'd he had for the greateſt Part of his Life much neglected the Service of God, and committed many Sins, ſuch as Lewdneſs, Debauchery, &c. but never was guilty of Theft or Robbery. He poſitively deny'd his being concern'd in the Fact he ſtood condemn'd for; but when afterwards I ſhew'd him how he ought ſeriously to conſider, that if he was guilty

of it, and endeavour'd to cover it with a Lye, he would be so far from getting any Advantage by such a Denial, that it would but aggravate his Crime. Upon this he said, That if he had done it, he was sorry for it ; and that was all I could get of him.

At the Place of Execution, to which they were carried from *Newgate*, viz. *John Stone* on a Sledge, and *Henry Chickley* in a Cart, where I attended them, and with such pressing Exhortations and Prayers, as I judg'd most proper to use for them, I endeavour'd to work them into a due Sense of their miserable Condition by Sin in this World, and of the infinitely greater Misery (if they died in Impenitence) which they would undergo to all Eternity in the next. Then I asked them severally, Whether they still persisted in the Denial of their Facts ? To which they answer'd, viz. *John Stone*, That he should make no Confession to me, nor to any body else : And *Henry Chickley* said, That he would tell me nothing.

After this, I gave them some further Admonitions, and pray'd again, made them rehearse the Apostles Creed, and wish'd their Souls might be sav'd. Then retiring from them, the Cart drew away, and they were turn'd off, praying for that Mercy which they had so abused, and so often rejected ; but I am afraid they came short of it, considering all these Things ; 1st, That they had been great Offenders, guilty of many ill Facts, and would not particularly own any of them. 2^{dly}, That all the Time they were under Condemnation they would not be made sensible of their miserable Condition, nor be perswaded to apply themselves to God with all the Powers of their Souls for Help and Mercy ; but instead thereof, even when at Prayers in the Chapel, they could not forbear playing with one another, and were ready upon any Call, to go out to the Chapel-Door and drink there. 3^{dly}, That the very Morning when I had them in Chapel, and told them I was then come to meet them for the last Time there, and hop'd they had been (and were still) considering how they might

might obtain God's Favour, the Pardon of their Sins, and the eternal Salvation of their Souls; and that to this Purpose I was come to pray with them, &c. they did not seem at all affected; but when I was at Prayer, *Stone* took out of his Bosom one of those creeping Creatures, with which I supposed he abounded, and put it upon an open Book that lay before *Checkley*, and said, *See how he is galloping over the Prayers!*

N. B. When they were come to the Tree, just before they were turn'd off, they exclaimed against me for not administering the Holy Sacrament of the Lord's Supper to them; which indeed I thought them not in the least fit to receive; but upon my telling the People that was about the Cart, of their wicked and unheard-of Behaviour, I do believe every Man of Reason and Religion was satisfied, that that Sacred Ordinance ought not to be given to such prophane and impious Wretches as they were.

They were executed at *Tyburn* on *Monday Jan. 27, 1717-8.*

The Behaviour and Confession of Ferdinando, Marquis de Paleotti, for stabbing his Servant John Niccolo, on the 11th of Feb. 1718.

HE said he was 38 Years of Age, born of a Noble Family in *Italy*, brought up in the *Roman Catholick* Religion, and had been for many Years past an Officer, and was actually a Colonel of a Regiment of Dragoons in the Emperor's Service. In my frequent Visits to him, and Conversation with him in *French*, which (next to his Mother-Tongue) was the Language he understood best; he expressed a great deal of uneasiness at his close Confinement and his Fetters, an Usage

he said, he had never met with before ; and upon that, was very much dissatisfied and impatient. He denied the Murder he was condemn'd for, and would not at first hear any body talk to him of Repentance ; saying, He was a Man of Honour, who never did a base Thing, nor injur'd any Man. It was a great while before he could be brought to a serious Consideration of a Future State, and of the Duty incumbent upon, and the great Necessity there was for every Man (dying Men especially) to make a due Preparation for it ; but at last he seem'd to be more affected with what was laid before him in this weighty Matter, and said, He was obliged to me for my good Advice, and he would follow it : And so I hope he did, for as Death made its nearer Approach to him, I perceiv'd he grew more considerate, and more devout. Hearing from many Persons, that he had kill'd several beyond Sea, I asked him, Whether it was so? To which he gave me this Answer, That he never did any such Thing, never was guilty of Murder. At the Place of Execution, to which he was convey'd in a Mourning-Coach from *Newgate*, between 6 and 7 o'Clock in the Morning, I was willing to attend him, if he desir'd it, but he thank'd me, and only desir'd my Prayers, saying, He was a *Roman Catholic*, and there was no great Need of my taking that Trouble : So I did not go ; and therefore can give here no Account concerning his Behaviour there.

An Account of his Behaviour at the Place of Execution.

THE Marquis gave into the Hands of Mr. *James Atkinson* Serjeant of *Wood-street-Compter*, some small Trinkets, which he desir'd his Acceptance of ; being a fine set of Tweezers, a Knife and Fork, with a very good Stone to be set in a Ring : Moreover, he had it in his Requests to the Father that attended him in his last Moments, to make a Tender of his best Affections

fections, and Thanks to his Sister the Dutcheſs of *Shrewsbury*, from whom he had receiv'd many Favours, and to whom he had done many Injuries, beſeeching God to ſhower down his Bleſſings upon her in this Life, and to give both him and her a joyful Meeting in the World to come. After which he retired to his Prayers, and was tied up.

The Confefſion, Behaviour, and Laſt Speech,
of James Sheppard, condemn'd for High-
Treafon, in imagining and compaſſing the
Death of his moſt ſacred Majeſty King
 G E O R G E I.

HE ſaid he was under 18 Years of Age, born in the Pariſh of *St. Saviour, Southwark*: That when very young, his Father dying, he was left to the Care of an Uncle of his, who provided for his Education, and put him to a *Latin School at Salisbury*, where he was about three Years, and afterwards coming up to *London*, was bound Apprentice to a Coach-Painter in this City, with whom he had liv'd about fourteen Months when apprehended. As to the horrid Crime he ſtood condemn'd for, he ſaid, That by the reading of certain Sermons and other Books he had learnt, That He whom we call *Our King*, had no Right to the Crown of *England*, and ſo he was fully perſuaded, that the Killing of Him would be a good and commendable thing; and from that time (which was about three years before) he had a mighty Impulſe upon his Heart, that he muſt be the Perſon that ſhould do the Deed, namely, aſſaſſinate King *George I.* in his own Palace, and by this means make way for the *Right Heir*, as he call'd the *Pretender*. When he had thus declar'd his deteſtable

ble Intention to me, and withal added, " That he
 " rily believ'd it was a Motion that came from God to
 " his Soul ;" I then told him, " That as such an In-
 " tent was most wicked, the most horrid Thought that
 " ever could enter into the Heart of Man ; so (confi-
 " dering the Nature of it) he should have concluded it
 " rather to be, as it really was, an Impulse or Suggest-
 " tion from the Devil, who had seduced him, and led
 " him to this unparallell'd Wickedness ; for no other
 " End or Purpose than to bring general Calamity upon
 " this Protestant Nation, and Destruction upon his own
 " Soul in particular : That if he had taken the Pains to
 " weigh the Matter well, he would have discover'd it
 " was so, and have understood, that the Law implanted
 " by Nature in every Man's Heart, the Moral Law,
 " and the Divine Law (reveal'd in Holy Scripture) ex-
 " pressly forbid Murder in general, much more such
 " (particularly) as that he would have committed, which
 " speaks Horror to humane Nature, as being a
 " of the greatest Magnitude, and by all Laws, and the
 " Sense of all civiliz'd Nations, punishable in the most
 " exemplary Manner ; whereof he might be now con-
 " vinc'd, if he would submit himself to be directed by
 " the Word of God, who (in the Sixth Commandment)
 " expressly says, *Thou shalt do no Murder* ; a Command-
 " press'd more still upon us Christians by our Blessed
 " Saviour in his Gospel. Which makes it appear, That
 " tho' the Prince he would have murder'd in that trea-
 " cherous Manner, were but a private Person, yet the
 " Thought of Killing Him, would have been a heinous
 " Crime. Many Arguments I us'd with him, in order
 " to convince him, if possible, of his damnable Error,
 " and undeceive his poor deluded Soul ; but he would
 " hearken to none. I told him, that as he had had
 " (since this inhumane Thought came into his Mind) a
 " long time, so he had Leisure and Opportunity to con-
 " sider the heinous Nature, and the dismal Consequences
 " of it, and also might have apprehended that by it he
 " would become his own Murderer, a Crime that scarce
 " admits

“ admits of Hope for Pardon ; and upon that he should
 “ have pray’d for Grace, to the end he might have such
 “ wicked Cogitations remov’d from his Heart. To all
 “ this he reply’d, *That he did pray* ; and, *That by how*
 “ *much he pray’d, by so much the more he was encourag’d*
 “ *and confirm’d in the Lawfulness of his Design.* Then
 “ said I to him, Your Prayers, I suppose, were not,
 “ that God would be pleas’d to inform your Judgment
 “ better ; but probably you pray’d for Success in your
 “ design’d bloody Enterprize : But now, that you see
 “ yourself disappointed in it, and not only so, but must
 “ shamefully lose your Life for it, I hope you may be
 “ satisfied, that God did not approve of it, and had not
 “ sent you upon such an Errand ; for if he had, he
 “ would have prosper’d it, and you should not have
 “ perish’d in the Attempt ; the Thing should not, as it
 “ has, miscarried in your Hand : Which ill Success that
 “ you have had therein, one would think, should be a
 “ mighty convincing Argument to you, that such an
 “ unheard of Contrivance was wicked and abominable
 “ to the highest degree : And so I would have you take
 “ it to heart, and duly consider it ; and let Reason and
 “ Religion here be admitted, that by the true Use
 “ of them you may perceive, and be convinc’d, and
 “ repent of your unparallell’d Error and loud-crying Sin,
 “ have your Heart melted and purify’d, and cry out
 “ with those Penitents mention’d in the Scripture,
 “ *I have sinned ; And what shall I do to thee, O thou*
 “ *Preserver of Men, and Judge of the whole World ?*
 “ *What shall I do to be sav’d ? Have Mercy upon me, O*
 “ *Lord, after thy great Goodness, &c.*

The Place where I was sometimes discoursing with
 him (*viz.* at the Hatch-door that leads to the Dungeon
 or Condemn’d Hold in the Lodge) being very noisy and
 incommodious, by reason of People’s crowding to hear
 what I said to him, and he to me, I found then I could
 not work much Good on him there, and therefore wish-
 ed he would give me an Opportunity of speaking with
 him in private ; but he would not consent to it, saying.

He

He durst not trust himself with me. “ Why said I, am
 “ I such a Monster, or a Man so dreadful ? No, reply'd
 “ he, *but I am afraid of your Arguments : I am not a*
 “ *Scholar good enough to answer you.* Very well, said I,
 “ if you have not so much Understanding as I, why
 “ will you not take my Advice, and that too in a Mat-
 “ ter of so great Moment, and in which it infinitely
 “ concerns you to be rightly inform'd ? I will not puz-
 “ zle you with such Arguments as may be beyond your
 “ Capacity to understand ; there is no need of that ;
 “ but only I would endeavour to make you sensible, that
 “ the Thing you were contriving being most base and
 “ abominable, it could by no means proceed from God,
 “ *who hates Wickedness,* but from the great Seducer and
 “ Enemy of Mankind, who (as the Apostle tells us)
 “ *works mightily in the Children of Disobedience,* decei-
 “ ving their Hearts, and raising in them all manner of
 “ *inordinate Affections, and evil Concupiscence, &c. for*
 “ *which things sake cometh the Wrath of God upon them ;*
 “ and, that (as I had observ'd to him before) he should
 “ not have met with such a Disappointment in his Pur-
 “ pose, if God (as he asserted) had given him a Com-
 “ mission, and commanded him to go about such a
 “ thing.” To this he answer'd, *That his being thus dis-*
 “ *appointed did not proceed from the Illegality of the Fact, but*
 “ *from some Sins (he would not tell) he had otherwise com-*
 “ *mitted.* But I told him, this was the Sin chiefly that
 “ had brought him under God's Wrath and Indignation,
 “ and to this shameful and untimely Death in this World ;
 “ which he ought to take Care might not be follow'd by
 “ an Eternal Punishment in the next. And here going on,
 “ I ask'd him these plain Questions : “ Did you never
 “ reflect upon the Heinousness of that Fact you would
 “ have committed ? Had you no Dread, no Horror
 “ upon you ? Did you feel no Remorse, no Throws of
 “ Conscience at the Thoughts of it, at any time ? No,
 “ *said he,* but on the contrary, I was very well pleas'd
 “ all along, and very easy in my Mind.” Then (re-
 “ ply'd I to him) you must be stupify'd and harden'd in
 “ Sin to the extremest degree : The Lord have Mercy on
 you,

you, and give you a Sight of your dangerous State, and take you out of it. Then I advis'd him to examine himself, as upon the Whole, so in this Particular (especially) *viz.* Whether *Pride* (which is the Sin of the Devil) had not a great Share in that his diabolical Device; and, whether he did not mightily please himself in this Thought, That hereafter he should be admir'd by some, who would praise him, and extol his Courage to the Sky, for having done *That* which no other durst attempt to him; for doubtless that must be his Ambition and Self-Conceit, mixt with an evil Disposition and other bad Qualities in him? To which he answer'd, "It was not so; but only the Sense of his Duty to *His King* prompted him to it; and, that tho' himself had not, yet he knew another who would have done it, if he had liv'd; but he dy' a few days since;" which he seem'd to be very sorry for. Who that execrable Person was, and whether he knew any other of this *Devilish Temper*, he would not, and said he should never tell: But of such, if such Monsters there be in the World, I must and will say this, and heartily wish it, *Except they repent, let them all likewise perish.* Some time after this I had another Discourse with that unhappy Assassine and obdurate Sinner, who may be said to be another * *James Clement*, a second *John Chastel*, a *Ravillac*, a blind devoted Agent in the Devil's Cause, most tenacious to his pernicious Principles, which were so fix'd upon him, that I (and I believe some others that saw him) found it next to impossible, by what Man could do, to remove them from him; who had a Prejudice against all Orthodox Divines, and 'tis pity any other were suffer'd to come to him and confirm him in his evil Disposition.

Things being so, and he in that desperate Case, all I could do, was to pray, as I did, That God would vouchsafe to take pity of him; to enlighten his dark Mind, and purify his Affections by his holy Spirit; to deliver

* See the Account of those Regicides in Mezeray's History of France.

him from this miserable State of Error and Sin; to rescue him out of the Snares, and from under the Tyranny and Slavery of Satan, and admit him into the glorious Liberty of his blessed Children. Thus I went on with him, using all possible Endeavours to mollify his stony Heart, and bring it into a better Frame. And to shew him that this strange Opinion he had rashly and inconsiderately espous'd, was not the Opinion of *all* the *Non-jurors*, I instanc'd in the worthy Person to whom he apply'd himself for his Furtherance in this Bloody Act, who was so far from complying with it, that he look'd upon it as an horrible and detestable thing; and so thought himself oblig'd in Conscience to put a Stop to it, by discovering it, and bringing him (the wretched Author of it) to Justice. And now, said I, why should you, a young Man as you are, who have not that Experience in Things (especially those relating to publick Government) which they of a longer standing in the World, and larger Capacities than your self, may reasonably be suppos'd to have? Why should such a one as you think himself more Knowing and more Religious than other Men; to excel in Goodness and Wisdom even those you have reason to think well of? Why should you be so self-conceited and so presumptuous, as to fancy that what you thought to be wrong might and must be rectified by you, and you must put your own Life upon it? How could you be satisfied in the Rectitude of those Thoughts of yours that were so strange, and so monstrous? To these Questions he gave me this short Answer: "I am satisfied I was in the right; *adding*, That he had not alter'd his Mind in the Matter, nor ever would alter it; *and*, that if it were in his Power, he would still kill him whom we own for our King, or any Friends of his." Wou'd you, said I; but, God be prais'd, your Hands are ty'd; the Lord convert your Heart. And, continued I, would you have kill'd the late Queen? To this he reply'd, "I had not these Thoughts when she was alive; but if she were so now, I would kill her." Which Expression he repeated two or three times, to the Amazement
of

of all that heard him : But when he saw how People about him (among whom I believe were some of his Friends) were strangely——surprized and seiz'd with Horror at such an Expression, he said, “ Perhaps I would not have done it, because she was a Woman, who govern'd not herself, but others did it for her.” Then, said I to him, look you to it ; there is another Life after this, in which you must account for all your Faults : There is “ a Lake of Brimstone, a worm that dies not, and a Fire which shall never be quench'd” : There are intolerable Torments for all Regicides, and all Murderers and other Sinners, that carry the Guilt of their Sins unrepented of into another World : And therefore I must plainly tell you, *That* will be your dismal Portion there for ever, unless you truly repent here in time.

I found somebody had been tampering with, and hardening him in his wicked Principles, which I thought before were peculiar to himself, and that none was so blind and so inhumane, as to be altogether of his Sentiments ; for one Morning hearing he was in a private Room, and a Clergyman with him, I desir'd to go and see him ; which at first was deny'd me, but afterwards granted, tho' not without some Difficulty ; and seeing two Men then with the Prisoner, I first address'd myself to one of them, who was in the Habit of a Divine of the Church of *England*. Of whom I ask'd, *How he found this poor unhappy young Man ?* and, *Whether he repented ?* He answer'd, That he found him in a very good State : To which I said, *I rejoice at it, and bless God for it.* And then turning to the young Man himself, I said to him, Now you must give Glory to God, and acknowledge your Faults ; that especially for which you now lie under this sad Condemnation. *Hold there* (cry'd out that Priest, or Jesuit, or Wolf in Sheep's-cloathing) *I am his Father-Confessor, and he and I are of the same Communion, and You are not.* What ! reply'd I to him, Are you of that Communion which holds it lawful for Men to murder Princes for Equity in a most treacherous

cherous and execrable manner? I wonder you are not ashamed on't. Then he went on, saying, " I am in Communion with him, and what is fit to be said to him, he shall receive from me, and none but me, who am his proper Confessor; and he shall give you no Account of himself; nor no Answer to any Question you shall ask him." Strange! said I, May not I, the Minister and Ordinary of this Place, have as much Liberty to ask Questions of a Prisoner here, as you pretend to have? Methinks you are very rude and unmannerly. But I will ask him, and so I did ask him again, Whether or no he still persisted in this Opinion, That it was lawful for him to murder the King, or any body else? Pray speak your Mind freely, said I: But he answer'd nothing. Then I turning to that pretended Confessor or Director of his Soul, said to him, This Silence is the Effect of your bidding him not to answer me in any thing. But I will take the Liberty to ask you your self a Question or two, Do you think him in a good State to entertain such a wicked traiterous Imagination as that of killing King *George I.* is? Do you not think he ought to repent of it? These were Questions I successively put to him; who instead of giving me a distinct Answer to each of them, as he should have done, was pleas'd only to afford me these few Words; *I have nothing to say to you.* But, reply'd I, I have something more to say to you my self, I will ask you this other Question; answer me. Do you not think in your Conscience, that he ought publickly to confess this horrid Crime, and beg Pardon for it? *No,* said he; and with that went away as fast as he could, (the Door being open) and after him the Prisoner, whom I was not at Liberty then to discourse by himself so much as one Moment longer. But the next Day having Leave given me (which one would think I should always have had) to speak with him, I accordingly went to the Room appointed for my seeing him. There I found him, and his fore-mention'd Father-Confessor with his Assistant. After some previous Words of Civility, I said,

faid, I was come to ſpeak to this poor young Man; and ſo I did: But as that Prieſt then told me, ſo I found, That he would not give me any Anſwer to the Queſtions I put to him, which were: Whether he had impartially conſider'd the heinous Faſt he would have committed; and, Whether he now abhor'd it, and repented of it? As he would not, nor did give me any Anſwer to theſe Queſties; ſo I pray'd that Confeſſor of his to exhort him, and give him his Opinion in the Matter, before me: But he ſaid, " He would not do " it, and what he had to ſay to him, he would not ſay " it in my Preſence; neither was the Priſoner (as he " told me before) oblig'd to ſatisfy me in thoſe Things " I demanded of him; for I was not his proper Prieſt; " I was not of his Communion," which he often repeated. Have you ſaid all, reply'd I to him: Pray hear what the Apoſtle ſays, He tells us, " That we are " always to be ready to give an Anſwer to every Man " that asketh a Reaſon of the Hope that is in us, with " Meekneſs and Fear?" And why may not I, to whom this poor deluded Youth has (before now) declar'd, more than once, " That the killing of the King was a lawful " and commendable Action; and, That it was to be " done, and done by him too." Why may not I ask him (as I here do) Whether he be ſtill of the ſame Opinion? And what Reaſon he can alledge for it? To this he ſaid, *You have nothing to do with him, nor he with you.* Well then, ſaid I, Pray ask him the Queſtion your ſelf. " I (reply'd he) will ask him no Queſtion, nor give him any Admonition while you are " here." If ſo, ſaid I, pray Sir withdraw: Seeing you will not adviſe him before me to purge his Conſcience, nor let me ſpeak to him without your interrupting me, I deſire both you and your Aſſiſtant to give me leave to try what Good I can work upon him, when he and I are alone: Whereupon they (tho' very unwillingly) withdrew a little out of the Door, which was left open all the while. And then having the Priſoner to my ſelf, I ask'd him theſe Queſtions again: Whether he

now

now persisted in his former Opinion, as he had declar'd it to me. " That it was lawful for him, and he had a " Commission from God, to assassinate the King ? " Whether (yea or no) he had been here instructed by his Confessor, that this was a great and dangerous Mistake ? and, Whether he now retracted and repented of it ? To this he would give me no manner of Answer : Yet I still endeavour'd to inform and rectify his Judgment ; and I asked him also, Whether I might pray then with him ; but he said, *I should not*. And upon my further asking him, Whether he desir'd my private or publick Prayers, and the Prayers of the Church, as People under Condemnation generally do ? He answer'd, *He desir'd their Prayers only who were of his Communion*. So I left him, telling him at parting, I was sorry to see him in that evil and obstinate Disposition ; and, That notwithstanding his rejecting my Advice and Prayers, I heartily recommended him to the Guidance of God's Holy Spirit and Mercy, and would pray for his Soul (whether he desir'd it or no) so long as he liv'd. Then I withdrew from him ; and as I was going out of the Room his Confessor (who was ready at the Door) presently and eagerly came in again, and shew'd himself very rude and impudent to me ; but I look'd upon it as an Effect of his blind misguided Zeal, who hated and oppos'd me, only because I was for King *George*, and the Protestant Religion : But let him and all his Party know, that I will venture the Loss of all things (yea, Life it self) for *His Majesty* and the *Royal Family's* Service and Interest, and for the Truth of the Gospel : And I care not for what Slanderous Tongues can say, who are given to Lies, and neither *Fear God*, nor *Honour the King*.

To this Account (tho' pretty long already) I shall add, That as I was last *Saturday* at Prayer in the Chapel of *Newgate*, observing abundance of People went through, when I had done my Office there (and that not without great Disturbance) I enquir'd what the Matter was ; and one telling me that they were going to see *James Sheppard*, who was in a Room beyond the Chapel, I went

went along with them, and spoke to that poor unhappy Creature, but he would not hear my Arguments, nor receive my Admonitions then; neither would he promise to come to hear me preach the next Day in the Chapel, to which his Room was near. He said, "He was still of the same Mind as he had declar'd before, and would ever continue so.

And here I must not omit to observe, That two of the Under-Turnkeys that were in the Room when I went to speak to *Sheppard*, did both of them use me very impudently, swore great Oaths at me, and said, "that they had an Order to keep me from him." Who gave them that unreasonable Order they best knew.

The Morning he was to be carry'd to *Tyburn* I was call'd to see him in his Room: There I again exhorted and interrogated him, as I had done before, but he would not hear me, nor give me any Answer, turning his Back to me all the while. And this he did at the Place of Execution, where his Priest (who had sufficiently shewn his Opposition to the Government, and also insulted me in *Newgate*) both interrupted me in my Office, and confirm'd him in his Error: So that when he was withdrawn, even then this poor deluded Creature would not so much as let me pray for him. Nevertheless I used my best Endeavours (as late as that was) to undeceive him, and bring him to a due Consideration of his lamentable Condition; but he remain'd obstinate, being so far fixed in his erroneous Principles, that nothing, I found, could make him depart from them. And all this Calamity, I may say, was owing to the free Admittance that Person had to him, who even at the Gallows had the Presumption to give him publick Abfolution, tho' he visibly dy'd without Repentance.

N. B. Those that have already reflected, or may hereafter reflect upon the Justice of this Malefactor's Sentence; saying, *He was lunatick, and therefore ought not to have been condemn'd to die*; let them ask his Father-Confessor, (who daily visited him,
and

and gave him the Sacrament) whether, as they pretend, and endeavour to persuade the World, he was a Lunatick or not.

During the Time he lay in the condemn'd Hold, where he was put in at first, he shew'd me one or two of his last Speeches to his Fellow-Prisoners there, and told them, " That he had another (made by one of his " Bishops) which was *that* he intended should be printed : " But whether it be the same he deliver'd at the Tree, I think it not worth the Enquiry.

He was executed at *Tyburn* on *Monday* the 17th of *March*, 1717-18.

An Answer to a Narrative of the Ordinary's Account, of what pass'd between him and James Sheppard, &c.

Written by a NON JUROR.

Paul, Paul, *why persecutest thou me ?*

Acts ix. 4.

Reverend SIR,

THOUGH the Text in the Frontispiece of this short Letter, consists of Words spoken by our Blessed Saviour after his Ascension, to the most learned of all the Apostles, in the very Height of his Persecutions of those that had embraced the Doctrines of Christ, and had that Effect upon him as to bring about his Conversion ; yet they are neither applicable to you as a Man of Letters, nor a Person who has Humility enough

enough to be made a Convert, since Ignorance, Self-willfulness and Pride, seem'd to have lull'd asleep all the Faculties of yours, and you think it beneath the Dignity of your Station to give Ear to the Voice of Reason.

Much better had it been for the poor Souls under Sentence of Death, that have been tortur'd before they came to the Gallows with your Impertinences, and with greater Peace of Mind had they made Satisfaction for their Breaches of the Law, had you continued Clerk to a Secretary of the *Admiralty*, or a Solicitor at *Newgate*, and not been made its *Ordinary*; the Discharge of which Holy Function requires a Man of Temper and Humanity, not of Wrath and railing Accusations. For tho' you think fit to make your young condemn'd Prisoner afraid of your Arguments, and agree with him, that he is not Scholar good enough to answer you, it is not only my Opinion, but that of Thousand's besides, that on all your long get Penny Scribble, concerning that poor unfortunate Boy, you have not made Use of so much as one to the Purpose, and are so far to seek in the Art of *Ratiocination* (there's in Return to your *Cogitation*) that you know not whence the Word *Argument* derives itself, unless it be from *Arguere*, to rebuke, reprove, call Names, and vomit out Slander.

You do well indeed, call your Account an Narrative, in Imitation of *Oates*, *Bedlow*, and others, that have gone before you in the Art of *Falseness* and *Prevarication*; and by your Leave, your little Examinant makes it appear, that you will no Way fall short of your Predecessor *Sam. Smith* of Psalm-singing Memory, to get out of the Criminals what you can, and to be the very *Index Expurgatorious* of the whole Art and Mystery of extorting Confessions. That very worthy Person once upon a Time, had a Lad about *James Sheppard's* Age, that was under Sentence of Death for being too busy with People's Pockets, under Lock and Key in his Closet near the Chapel? "Come, said he, "speak thy Mind chearfully Boy, in Discharge of thy

“ Conscience, it will be the better for thee another
 “ Day. Thou hast been a great *Sabbath-breaker*, hast
 “ thou not? Answer me quickly, what dost cry for?
 “ *Not I truly*, was his Reply, *I seldom missed going to*
 “ *Church on Sundays, in the Mornings and Afternoons;*
 “ for I told you his Trade before, for some Years since.
 “ How! prythee consider, recollect yourself, all that
 “ have hitherto fallen under my Hands have been
 “ guilty of that Crime. No *Sabbath-breaker*? cry’d
 “ *Sam*, then thou hast most undoubtedly been a very
 “ great *Drunkard*? Hold up thy Head, speak the
 “ Truth and shame the Devil. *Nor that neither*, said
 “ the Boy, *Good Mr. Ordinary excuse me, no one ever*
 “ *liv’d a more temperate Life, I scarce ever went to an*
 “ *Ale-house but upon a Pursuit, there to take Shelter.*
 “ Alas, Alas, were the next Words of the Confessor,
 “ the Devil has most assuredly got Possession of this
 “ Boy! This Rogue will own himself guilty of nothing
 “ but the Crime he is to die for, what shall I do to
 “ etch out my Paper of the Dying Speeches? Sirrah,
 “ thou must needs have lost thy Memory. No *Drun-*
 “ *kard!* it’s impossible, thou art gone to all Intents and
 “ Purposes, if thou deny’st so apparent a Fact, but I
 “ have thee now, Thou hast been a great *Whore-Master*,
 “ Woman, Woman have brought thee to this untime-
 “ ly End? I see it by thy Blushes, I have hit the right
 “ Nail upon the Head at last. *I never knew what a*
 “ *Woman was*, quoth the Boy, *Whoredom is a Vice that*
 “ *in all my born Days I never had the least Appetite to,*
 “ with that, the Question Starter lost all manner of
 “ Patience, and having storm’d and rav’d to no Pur-
 “ pose, and bid him be gone for an impudent Rascal,
 “ to make Room for another. For he had nothing to
 “ say of him after he was Dead, but must write him
 “ down *Obstinate.*”

Here you may expect to have me upon the Trip,
 and to get me into Lob’s Pound by Way of Informa-
 tion; but seed not yourself with such imaginary Views.
King-killing is an Act, had in the utmost Detestation by
 the

the *Non-jurors*, as may be seen by Mr. *Leak's* Discovery of the poor infatuated Boy's very Proposal, and is only put in Practice by such as are Favourers of the Religion of the *French Refuges*. Witness the Clan of *Regicides* that murder'd King *Charles I.* and the pernicious Tenets, that are still held and avowedly maintain'd by their barbarous and Blood sucking Posterity, which may with an Emphasis be said to copy after the Example of *James Clement, John Chastel, and Ravillacs*, whom you have mention'd without giving us to understand that they were your own Country-men.

What rests upon me is only to prove, that your Usage of the poor Boy, your impertinent Visits to him, when your Absence was desired, and your Treatment of Mr. *Orme*, a Gentleman of the same Cloth with you, of much more Learning and Integrity, than you will ever be Master of, while those Grey Hairs of yours, that should put you in Mind of other Manners, than calling a Priest of the Church of *England, Father Confessor, Jesuit, and Wolf in Sheep's Clothing*, and all the Rogues in the Rainbow are put into Curl every Night under your Night-cap, and the Justice that was on young *Shepherd's* Side, to chuse whomsoever he pleas'd to assist him in his last Moments.

As to the first, your Usage of the poor Boy, &c. I appeal to yourself, if under the same unhappy Circumstances, if you would have been willing to have your precious Moments disturbed and rendered of no Use, so you by Interrogatories drawn from common Place-Books, and put to you by a Person, with whom you thought it sinful to hold any Communion. Would you I say, have possess'd your Soul in Peace and perfect Tranquillity, under the utmost Resignation, had a Clergyman of the *Romish* Persuasion, whose Articles and superstitious Faith, you had solemnly abjur'd at your Entrance into Holy Orders, even when you were on the Verge of this Mortal Life, and the Brink of Eternity broke in upon your Preparations for another World, by telling you, that you must suffer everlasting

Death, if you did not believe as he did, and acknowledge yourself a *Schismatick*, and a *Separatist* from Mother Church ?

As to the second Particular, it is not to be found, that Mr. *Orme* upon any Account gave you indecent Language ; if he had, the Town could have rung with it, as with your's to him, which you take Pride in repeating. You only say, he was very rude and unmannerly, but for what Reason ? Because he had nothing to say to you ; when you put ensnaring Questions to him, whether if not answer'd agreeably to your own Sentiments, might have brought even his Life also into the greatest Danger, since it is known by a very recent Instance, that you are not very expert in keeping Secrets ; and you that divulge the Confessions of dying Criminals, that ought to be lock'd up, and kept in Silence, according to the Usage of the Primitive Church, and the brightest Ornaments of it, in latter Ages, would no more have made a Scruple of ingratiating yourself with your Superiors, by an Information, than you have done very lately. This puts me in Mind of the latter Part of your Paper, wherein you say, Mr. *Orme* had the Presumption to give the condemn'd young Man publick Absolution, tho' he visibly dyed without Repentance. Wherefore, you must give me Leave, to take your Method upon me once more, and ask you, whether you assert this to your certain Knowledge ? If not, you are guilty of a manifest Untruth, and what you assert only upon Belief, must appear to be a downright Falsehood. For this I will affirm, and this I will abide by, that tho' the Lad did not think it necessary to give any Tokens of Contrition for the Rashness of a bad Fact, which Mr. *Ormes* had not only made him sensible of in your Presence, yet he did own himself guilty of a very great Crime in his Intention to commit it ; and that, if it shall be thought proper by the Government, to confide the Person here, said publickly to absolve him, that you will be at a very great Loss to make out that Particular, since if you
heard

heard one Word that was then and there said between them at their last parting, I heard the whole Conference from *Tyburn* to *Aldersgate-street*.

The last Article, The Right of chusing whomsoever the Lad pleased to assist him in his Preparations for Eternity, will appear to be on his Side, not only from the Practice of all Ages and Times, but even from your own Concessions on that very Day whereon he was executed. Did not the Marquiss deny the Murder of his Servant, tho' pressed by you to acknowledge it, as appears in your Account of his Behaviour, saying, "He was a Man of Honour, who never did a base Thing, nor injured any Man, and that he never did any such Thing, never was guilty of Murder." Yet had not he a Priest, tho' a *Roman Catholick* to attend him in Prison, and at the Place of Execution, and shall a poor dying Boy, and a Clergyman of the Church of *England*, be inveigh'd against for joining together in Prayers and sacred Offices, because your Impertinence was not allowed to interrupt them in their Devotions. If the Lad was guilty of intended Murder, was not the Marquiss of one actually done and committed, and shall you with a Forehead of Brass seem inclinable to give that Christian Liberty to a Papist, which you declare not fit to be tolerated in a Protestant. Fie on you, fie on you, all your pretended Zeal for King *George*, and the Royal Families Service and Interest, will never excuse you for this Inhumanity and Impartiality, and the very under Turnkeys themselves, whom you are irritating their Superiors against for not admitting you, whether the Prisoners would or no into the Prisoner's Room, are more than a Bar's length beyond you in Acts of Charity. Money, Money was the Thing you wanted for his Passport into another World. Then he might have taken what Guide he pleased with him for his Conductor, as well as the Marquiss before him. But I am tired, and shall quit this unwelcome Task by another Story of your Predecessor. It seems *Sam* had been down at the *Sessions-House* in the *Old-Bailey*,

and came thence into the *Press-yard* in *Newgate*, to take a cheerupping Cup, where he found one Captain *Chevely* and another Prisoner, setting in one of the Boxes. After a Salute, says the old Fellow, Captain, is this Gentleman one of us, (meaning a Prisoner) and being answer'd in the *Affirmative*, went on thus. Well Gentlemen, here's to your Enlargement, and took a Bumper, you'll come to Chapel next *Sunday*, what Subject will best please you ; I think of Peace, for Peace is a very good Thing, and a Sermon upon that will go down with our Audience well enough. Yes Doctor, very well, quoth the Captain, *Frank* and I will be your Auditors. Why faith, says the *Ordinary* again, and takes t'other Pull, I am against the Effusion of Christian Blood, I am just now come from doing an Act of Humanity, and saving a Fellow from the Gallows, by crying *Legit* my Lord, when he could read no more than the Cow that he stole. The Rogue was poor, and I had no more than half a Price for my Pains. With that, after repeating his Draught, he tumbled, and fumbled for a Piece of Paper from within his Caslock, which with much Difficulty he at last found, and opening was struck dumb with the Sight of four of the White Half-pennies that went by the Name of the Prince of *Wales's* at that Juncture. At length, "Oh ! says he, that I had hang'd this Villain, I'll do it yet, but now I think of it I cannot, was ever such a Trick put upon a Man of my Cloth. When he put them into my Hands, he told me they were four Half-Crowns. I'll instantly to the Rascal that I will." And so he went, but when he came back acquainted the Company, that all the Satisfaction he could get from the Person was, that he might kiss his Back-side, for he would stick close to his Skirts at another Season, since he was certain of having him for a Customer again very shortly, and then he should swing for it. The Application is left with you, as is also your Assurances, that I shall ever be on such Occasions as this,

Reverend SIR,

Yours, &c. *Philalethes.*

The

*The Copy of a most impudent lying LETTER
sent to me by the Penny-Post, Directed
thus :*

To Mr. Loreign, at his House in Town-Ditch.

March 25, 1718.

Ordinary PAUL,

“ **T**HOU hast exercised thy railing Faculty so
 “ long, that if these should hold their Peace the
 “ Stones would immediately cry out. Your Behaviour
 “ to those Gentlemen lately executed (on the *Usurper’s*
 “ Account) and that to the late *James Sheppard* (of im-
 “ mortal Memory) and the Reverend Mr. *Orme*, as also
 “ your Narrative, makes you loathed and abhorred by
 “ Heaven and Man. Society will shun you, and hunt
 “ you even from the Herd of Mankind, and Heaven
 “ will blush to look upon you; the groaning Earth
 “ will tremble but to bear you, and the whole Face of
 “ Nature stands aghast at the meer Sight of such a
 “ *Weather-cock, a Jesuit, a Wolf in Sheep’s Cloathing,*
 “ saying, *Beware of false Prophets, which shall come to*
 “ *you in Sheeps Cloathing, but inwardly they are ravening*
 “ *Wolves*; and I am afraid you are one of the Mul-
 “ titude that follow’d our Saviour for the Loaves. My
 “ Pen trembles to dictate thy Villainies: To call a
 “ Priest of the Church of *England* (not the *Revolution*
 “ *Church*) Father Confessor in a publick Paper, and to
 “ blacken a Gentleman’s Character, which is as spot-
 “ less as the Dove, is a horrid Infolence. You say,
 “ That the above-named Gentleman gave Absolution
 “ to the said *Sheppard*: ’Tis as false as Hell; but had
 “ it been in your Power (which God forbid) you would
 “ have

“ have given him Damnation, when taking him into
 “ the little Room by the Chapel, you said, he was
 “ damn’d if he did not make his Confession to you ;
 “ calling that a Crime which would have been worthy
 “ the great *Shepherd*, had it been put in Execution,
 “ and not only freed this Nation from the Ufurper’s
 “ Tyranny, but restored the King, our Liberty, and
 “ Law : Which God of his infinite Mercy grant, are
 “ the Prayers of me, who have a Sword and Pistol to
 “ present you with, when Opportunity offers.”

Tuesday Morning,
 8 o’Clock.

Your mortal Enemy,

TRUTH and JUSTICE.

N. B. When the wretched Author of this Letter, which is all made up of Lies, Treason, and Blasphe-my, is pleas’d to let his Name, and the Place of his Abode be known to me, as mine is to him, he may surely depend upon receiving from me a full and distinct Answer to every Part of it, such as I once gave to a former scurrilous Letter of the same Stamp with this, which was sent me on the 29th of *Nov.* 1715. In the mean Time I leave it with all judicious Persons, who may see the above Copy, to consider what a wicked Wretch he must needs be, who can write such abominable Lincs : What Spirit he, and those of his Party may reasonably be thought of, who so highly and blasphemously commend an horrible Assassine, that would have imbrud his *Parricidal* Hands in Sacred Royal Blood. What can be expected from Men of such a Diabolical Temper, that will stick at nothing (so never, so enormous and odious) to bring their pernicious Designs about ? And how unsafe would all good and loyal Subjects be, did not Almighty God, who continually eyes from above those treacherous Wretches, restrain their Power, and confound their Devices ? What Opinion can we have of their pretended Religion and honest Intents, who make no Conscience to support an unjust

unjust Cause by impudent Lies, open Rebellion, and base Murder? Can any one suppose them to be true and just, that do thus evidently act in direct Opposition to Truth and Justice? Certainly all impartial Men must conclude such wicked Persons to be no other than the most execrable Agents of that foul Fiend, who in the Scripture has by special Property, the Character given him of a *Liar and Murderer from the Beginning*. A Character which he most justly deserves, who has the Assurance to call me a *Weather-cock*, a *Jesuit*, a *Wolf in Sheeps Cloathing*. Those Appellations are very ill plac'd, and well known not to belong in the least to me, who ever was (and that's the Thing they hate me for) a zealous Professor of the Protestant Religion; the Truth whereof my Father seal'd with his own Blood, and I hope his Son should (if call'd to it) have Grace so to do, and never depart from that Truth; nor from his Loyalty to our most Gracious Sovereign Lord King GEORGE, whom God ever preserve and prosper.

Again, Another Letter since that above, has been sent me by the *Penny Post*, not sign'd by any, but I suppose writ by a Creature of the same Party, who concludes it with this Threat, *That what is in the former Letter was only spoken, but now would be put in Practice*.

To all these audacious Menaces and ill Designs, I shall say nothing here, but shelter myself under the Protection of Almighty God, who, as he has hitherto, so I hope will still defend me from the Malice and Rage of the Wicked. And, that he (that has the Hearts of all Men, and all Power in his Hand) may be pleas'd to convert them, and deliver his Sacred Majesty, the whole Royal Family, and all that love them, from such base villainous People, is the constant and hearty Prayer of me,

PAUL LORRAIN, *Ordinary*.

Friday, April
25, 1718.

K 5

The

*The Confession, Behaviour, and Last Speech, of
John Price, alias Jack Catch, for the Mur-
der of Elizabeth White in Bunhill-fields,
on Saturday the 31st of May, 1718.*

HE said he was 41 Years of Age, born of good Parents in *Old Sobo*, then within the Parish of *St. Martin's in the Fields*, now in that of *St. Ann Westminster*: That his Father, some time a Soldier in *Tangier*, being unfortunately blown up in the Demolition of that Place, about the Year 1683, and his Mother left in poor Circumstances, not able to give him much Education, nor indeed himself very willing to take it, I found him so ignorant that he could neither read, nor give any Account of his Faith, and of the Hope that was in him: And that which render'd his sad Condition so much the more deplorable, was his taking no Care to improve his Time as it became him; instead of attending on the *Word of God and Prayer*, he often gave up himself to drinking Geneva and other strong Liquors, to such an excessive degree as render'd him unfit for the Exercise of any part of Religion.

When he was fitter to be spoke to, *i. e.* when sober, as he sometimes (tho' very rarely) appear'd to be, I endeavour'd, by the Divine Grace, to work on him a true Sense and just Abhorrence of his Sins; and the Instructions and Admonitions which I gave him, both in publick and private, did seemingly make him a little more considerate and serious; so that I observ'd, from his shedding of Tears, that his Heart was full either of Grief or Fear, or both; but what it was, or which of those Passions had the Prevalence, I could not well discern in him; he lamented indeed his wicked Life and woful Condition in general Terms, but did not in the least

least discover any Sorrow for his having offended God, and injur'd his Neighbour; neither did he give any Intimation of what he expected in another State: But all he said was, " That he knew he must die." Upon which I told him, " That as he was convinc'd of this Truth, and would very soon know it better by Experience, so I hoped he would make due Preparation for that Death which he look'd for, that he might not be lost for ever, &c." With such Admonitions I try'd how to awaken his dull and drowsy Soul, and mollify his stupid and obdurate Heart; but he seem'd to be unmov'd, sayi g, " That if he had many Sins, they were such as were common to other Men as well as himself; and, " That he suppos'd, whatever his Condition might then be, it would be no worse than theirs." Thus I found him to support himself with this vain Opinion, that " to have Companions in Misery should be some Ease to him" Of which I did what I could to undeceive him, but to little or no purpose, so far as I could perceive, at least at that time when I first open'd the Matter to him.

And what made him so harden'd, as not to shew any degree of Repentance, I may attribute to his being resolv'd (as it appear'd) upon an obstinate Denial of this Murder.

When I enquir'd of him, what Life he had led, and how he had employ'd his Time formerly, he told me; That soon after his Father's death (which is before mention'd) he was put Apprentice to a Rag-Merchant: That his Master dying when he had been about two Years with him, he presently went away from his Mistress (who, he said, was very severe to him, and upon that Account left her) and got into another Service, which had some relation to that his Master employ'd him in before, which was the loading Waggons with Rags: That afterwards he took a Fancy to go to Sea, and accordingly serv'd on board the *Old Russel, Grafton, Devonshire*, and other Men of War, for the best Part of eighteen Years off and on: That likewise he was, some Years since

Since, *Finisher of the Law* (as he term'd it) for about a Twelve-month, and might have continued such to this Day, if he had taken better Care than he did of his Concerns, and liv'd within compass; but spending his Money too fast, and beyond his Comings-in, and thereby growing in Debt, he was one Day arrested in *Holborn* at his Return from an Execution; and tho' the Action was but for Three Half-Crowns, which he then clear'd, and also paid the Charges, partly with what little Money he had then about him, and partly with three Suits of Cloaths, the Remains of them that were executed that Day; yet having two other Actions at the same time clap'd upon him, and no Money, nor Credit, nor Bail to give in, he was carried to the *Marshalsea*, where he continued a Prisoner some time; so that when the next Sessions call'd for his Service, he not being then in the way to give it, another Person (*viz.* *William Marvell*) was put into his Place of Execution.

And this he further said, That while he was under Confinement in the *Marshalsea*, he now and then obtain'd the Liberty of going abroad to work as a Labouring Man, which he did for some time, serving Bricklayers, Masons, Paviours, &c. But afterwards being barr'd from that Liberty, he with another Fellow-Prisoner of his, contriv'd and found out a Way to escape thence, thro' a Hole made in the Wall. An unhappy thing, which (as it seems) prov'd the sad Occasion of a poor Woman's losing her Life, in that most barbarous Manner as is set forth at large in the printed Account of his Trial. This Fact he positively deny'd: But that he was guilty of it, considering all Circumstances, to which he could say little or nothing, is most apparent; and himself would in all Probability have own'd it, could he have been kept always sober; but his being for the most part (more or less) in Drink, it was a hard Matter to find him in a proper Disposition to receive and improve the good Advice given him.

At the Place of Execution, *viz.* *Bunhill-fields*, to which he was carry'd in a Cart from *Newgate*, I assist-
ed

ed him for the last Time ; and after a pressing Exhortation to Repentance, such as his sad Case requir'd, and the Inconvenience of the Place and Shortness of the Time would then allow, I pray'd for him ; who, tho' he had long persisted in a positive Denial of this bloody Fact, yet now he publickly confess'd he was guilty of it, saying, *He did it when he was in Liquor.* Upon which I endeavour'd to make him sensible and penitent, shewing him the need he had to implore God's Mercy, That he would please to pardon all his Offences, particularly this (and his former Denial of it, by which he had contracted further Guilt) and that he might be deliver'd from *Blood-guiltiness.* I sung with him that part of the fifty-first *Psalms*, wherein Holy *David* pray'd for himself to that Effect. Then I made him rehearse the Apostles Creed, wishing him that *Forgiveness of Sins, Resurrection of the Body, and Life everlasting* which he had now made an outward Profession to believe. After this I advis'd him to desire (which he accordingly did) the Spectators to take Warning by this his untimely end, and to pray that God would be pleas'd to receive his Soul. When he had done speaking, I commended him to the Divine Goodness, and then withdrew from him ; who being presently ty'd to the Gibbet erected for him there, was (after the Allowance of some short time for his private Devotion) soon turn'd off.

He was executed in *Bunhill-fields* on *Saturday* the 31st of *May*, 1718.



The Confession and Behaviour of Edward Bird, Gent. for the Murder of Samuel Loxton, a Servant in Mr. Seedwell's Bag-nio in Silver-Street, in the Parish of St. James Westminster, on the 25th of September, 1718.

THIS Mr. *Bird*, aged about 27 Years, said to be born of wealthy Parents at *Old Windsor*, was well brought up by them, who gave him a Christian and Gentleman-like Education. They put him early to the Care and Instruction of the late Reverend Dr. *Busby*, Master of *Westminster-School*; and thence, when pretty well advanc'd in his Learning, remov'd him to *Eaton-College*. After some Stay there, they finding his Inclination was to see the World abroad, fitted him out for his Travels; and then he made a Tour in *France*, and went also in *Italy*, &c. When he had spent some time abroad in foreign Countries, he returned into *England*, and not long after had a Lieutenant's Commission in the Regiment of Horse commanded by the Lord Marquess of *Winchester*. Before this, he had in a great measure, given himself up to a vicious Course of Life; and his evil Inclinations growing stronger in him, he at last abandon'd himself to all manner of Lewdness and Debauchery; the Consideration whereof I put close to him, endeavouring to bring him to a due Sense and true Repentance of his past Follies. And here I put him in mind likewise of his ill Usage to a virtuous Gentlewoman he formerly married, defiling the Marriage-bed, &c.

While I was laying these Things, and many more of a heinous Nature, before him, and telling him, that
the

the World abroad rung of them, he deny'd them not; but said, he was not guilty of *Murder*, the Crime he stood condemn'd for; and that, as to other Sins, he had begg'd Pardon of God for them, and did not doubt of his Mercy. Many private Admonitions and Directions I gave him, and offer'd to pray by him in his Chamber, which I did when he gave me Leave; but very often he desir'd me to spare that Part of my Service, because he was very busy, was to write Letters, expected Company and such like frivolous Excuses.

All the Time he was under Confinement in *Newgate*, I could not persuade him to come to Prayers, and hear the Word of God in the Chapel, which he might have had an Opportunity to do twice every Day for the most part of that time; which was between the 26th of *September* 1718, and the Day of his Execution. And the Reason of his so long Confinement before he was brought to his Trial, is this.

When he should have been try'd at the Sessions held in the *Old Bailey* in *October* 1718, he pleaded he was not ready for his Defence, and so his Trial was put off to the next Sessions, to be held in the Month of *December* then following: But before that time came, he falling sick, and the Physicians, who visited him, making Affidavit, that he was not in a fit Condition to be remov'd out of his Chamber, the Court did again defer his Trial to the Sessions beginning on *Thursday* the 15th, and ending on *Monday* the 19th of *January*, 1719-20. Then he was arraign'd, try'd, and convicted of Murder, and accordingly receiv'd Sentence of Death.

After this I repeated my Visits to him, and desir'd to have been more frequent than before in them; but I found him always so busy, sometimes in Writing, and at other times with Company, that I could hardly have any Opportunity to speak to him of his future State. Nevertheless, I endeavour'd to prepare him for his great Change, and for a better Life, &c. To this he seem'd to give a little Attention, but something coming into his Mind which he said he must do presently, he desir'd me

to leave him ; saying, he would send for me another Time, when he was at leisure. Accordingly he did, but when I came to him, I found he had not sent for me to pray by him, or discourse him about divine Matters, but only to shew me the Draught of a Paper which he said he had prepar'd by the help of a Friend, and which he intended to publish. Upon this, after I had (as he desir'd I should) read it, I told him plainly, that the Drift of that Paper, being to insinuate he had not Justice done him at his Trial, he must not think that the World would believe him to be (as he endeavour'd to appear) innocent of the Murder he was condemn'd for.

Having freely declar'd my Mind to him in this Matter, and that according to my Judgment (who was at his Trial, from the beginning to the end) I thought him justly convicted of that Murder ; and that I would advise him to reflect upon none but himself, telling him, he would certainly (if he did impartially consider the thing) acknowledge his Guilt, and repent of it. At this he seem'd to be uneasy ; but I told him, 'That tho' I was very unwilling to offer any thing to a Gentleman that might grate upon his Spirit, or be unacceptable to him ; yet it was my Duty to make his Sins as odious to him as I could, in order to bring him to a just Abhorrence and Detestation of them ; adding, That if he would please to consider the vicious Steps that had led him to this barbarous Crime, he would find abundance of Sins, besides this, to repent of ; which he must do before he dy'd, or else be eternally undone. To this he said but little, and so I left him for that time.

When I came to him afterwards, if it was in the Morning, he desir'd me to come in the Afternoon : And if in the Afternoon, to come the next Morning ; so he did industriously endeavour to trifle away his Time, and set aside all Thoughts of his approaching Dissolution.

On *Saturday* I exhorted him to come the next Day to the Chapel, and apply himself entirely to holy Meditation, Prayer, and hearing the Word of God with due

due Attention and sincere Devotion ; but I could not persuade him to come, nor indeed at this time to let me pray by him ; he alledging, his Head was so full of *other Matters*, that he could not mind any thing else, and these *other Matters* (which related to his Trial) were contain'd in a printed Proof of a Paper (not that before-mention'd) which he shew'd me, and which he said he was now correcting, in order to be put to the Press.

Yesterday being the Lord's Day, I visited him in his Chamber, and did the like this Morning ; when understanding that he had the Night before took a Dose of Poison, and after that stabb'd himself in several Places, I told him, that I was sorry to hear he had added Sin to Sin, by attempting to commit a fresh *Murder*, and that too upon himself : To which he reply'd, ' That he did not think it was a Sin because he was to die.' Whereupon I endeavour'd to make him sensible he had no Power over his own Life ; and, that by this he put himself in danger of carrying his Guilt unrepented of into another World.

As there was all along great Endeavours us'd to save his Life, so I observ'd to him, that neither the Sollicitations of his Friends, nor his own Attempts upon himself, were able to prevent God's just Judgments against *Murder, &c.*

At the Place of Execution, whither he was carry'd in a Mourning Coach, I attended him for the last Time ; and when he was remov'd out of that Coach, (wherein he had staid about an Hour with his Mother after his Arrival there) I pray'd with him in the Cart, gave him some Exhortations, sung a Penitential Psalm, made him rehearse the Apostle's Creed ; and then wishing him *that Life* he had made Profession to believe, I retir'd from him.

One of the three Clergymen that went with me to see the Execution did step into the Cart when I was come away, but could work no Good on him ; who, instead of applying himself to his Devotion, and desiring the Spectators

Spectators to pray for him, and take Warning by him, turn'd himself first one way, then another, and call'd for a Glass of Wine ; but being told *it could not be got there for him*, he desir'd a *Pinch of Snuff*; and taking it, he bow'd to the Gentlemen near the Cart, and said, *Gentlemen, I wish your Health*. After this he was ty'd up, turn'd off, and bled very much at the Mouth or Nose, or both.

He was executed at *Tyburn* on *Monday, February 23, 1718-19*.

Mr. BIRD'S Case.

THE Nature and Circumstances of this Prosecution, will appear from the Malice, as well as Character, of my Prosecutors ; so as clearly to shew the World, the Necessity of defending my Life, in Danger, when attacked in the Night by a desperate Assailant, and a Madman, as his Actions and all Men accounted him. And I humbly beg your favourable Attention in my Case.

Which the more it is enquired into, the more the World will be convinced of the Hardship *Mr. Bird* lies under. For it appears, the Fore-man of the Jury was Landlord and intimate Friend of the Master of the Bag-nio, which I was not acquainted with at my Trial.

And he flatters himself, it will be judg'd very improbable, that three Persons should force into his Chamber, in a violent Manner, the Door being double-locked, and bring no Sticks, or other Weapons with them, either to assault or defend themselves ; especially since *Venerfel* swears, that when he was in the Room, the said *Mr. Bird* was angry with him, and threw him down Stairs, so that he broke three or four of his Ribs with the Fall.

Venerfel's

Venerfel's Evidence being notoriously false, it's presum'd can be no Weight. He swears, That his Ribs were broke by the Fall down Stairs; yet deposeth, That he return'd with his Master and the Deceased into his Chamber, and did attend the same Day, for some hours, before the Justices of Peace; and every Day since has done all the Business he used to do, without one Day's Intermision; which are very strong Proofs, that his Evidence was false in that Part, and he humbly conceives must invalidate his whole Evidence.

Besides, Mr. *Walker* swore, he had own'd to him (who was a Waiter in the Bagnio) that he had none of his Ribs broke; and that seeing him naked he had no Bruises. *Sworn in Court.*

In his Evidence before the Coroner, *Venerfel* swore, that he did double-lock the Door. Upon the Trial, he deny'd the Door was lock'd at all.

Another swore, That the Deceased had a Pinch of Snuff betwixt his Thumb and his Right Hand Finger, an Hour after he lay dead.

It seems scarce credible, that he should be taking Snuff when he went into Mr. *Bird's* Chamber: But if he had, Physicians and Surgeons all agree, that his Fingers could not have kept in that Position, but of course must have relaxed, as they and all other Parts do in a dying Person.

Anne Smith, another Witness examined against him, appears, since, not to have been in the House till near an Hour after the Accident happened. See *Anne Towne's affidavit.*

The Evidence given by the Farrier, on which much has been rely'd, in order to arraign and blacken Mr. *Bird's* Character; 'tis to be hop'd the same appears to be entirely malicious; it being of a Fact by him said to be committed two Years before the Trial: And besides, Mr. *Bird* not suspecting any such Evidence to be offer'd against him, was not prepared to defend himself against it; which otherwise he could have done, and proved it false and malicious in all Respects: Moreover,
Mr.

Mr. *Bird* gave his Wife half a Guinea ; she bringing the said Mr. *Bird*, the next Day, a Basket of Grapes, and excusing and asking Pardon for her Husband's Insult to him, and said he was drunk.

No Notice was taken of the ill Character of the Houfe, nor of the Waiter, nor of the Deceased, who had many times by his unmannerly Behaviour provoked several Gentlemen to beat him, in order to get Smart-money out of them, and had many Wounds upon his Body he got by Quarrels with Gentlemen, none of which, or any of Mr. *Bird*'s most material Witnesses, and even they in Court, were called, particularly Mr. *Charles Brome*, and *Mary* his Wife, and Mr. *John Johnson* : *Whose Affidavits are hereunto affixed.*

As to their assaulting Mr. *Bird*, there is Mrs. *Webster*, the yet only unconcern'd Person in the Room (tho' they threatned that they would commit her to *Newgate* with Mr. *Bird*, and that she should certainly be hang'd) swore, That he was assaulted by three Men in his Bed, and struck several Blows with a Cane (for Mr. *Bird* calls God to witness, that he did not offer the least Violence to the Deceased, till after he was abused and struck by him.) She further deposing, That they forced into the Room, the *Door being double-lock'd*, surrounded the Bed, and fell to beating, tearing and abusing Mr. *Bird*, before he had his Sword drawn, he never stirring off the Bed as confess'd by his Prosecutors.

Another Person deposed, That being in the Houfe, saw the Deceased, and a Cane then lying on the Floor near him, as he lay dead.

Many Gentlemen of Worth and Reputation appeared in Mr. *Bird*'s Behalf ; and particularly Mr. *Cole*, the late Resident at *Venice*, and his Lady, deposed, They saw Mr. *Bird* was bruised very much on his Arm and Knuckles. The Constable and Watchmen swore, at the Time they apprehended him, they saw the same Bruises, and his Shirt very much torn ; a Surgeon, who dress'd the Bruises, swore the same ; as also, that Mr. *Bird* had other Bruises on his Body, which he dress'd.

As to the *Money* offered ; I declare that to be as base an Assertion as their manifest Perjuries, and the Character of their infamous House can publish, &c. Mr. *Johnson's* Affidavit.

For a further Character of the Deceased, here follows the Affidavits of his first and lawful Wife, the *Minister's* Wife, and some other Witnesses of that first *Marriage*.

In Banco Regis.

SUSANNAH LOXTON, the Widow of *Samuel Loxton*, deceas'd, who was the late Servant at the Bagnio in *Silver-street* maketh Oath, That in *July*, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Thirteen, and as near as this Deponent remembers, on the Twenty Ninth Day of the said Month, this Deponent was legally married to the said *Samuel Loxton*, according to the Rights and Ceremonies of the Church of *England*, in *College-Court, Westminster*, by Mr. *Shawe*, a Clergyman, at his House there, in the Presence of *John Cornish*, and *Anna Maria Dorton* ; and this Deponent has had two Children by the said *Samuel Loxton*, one whereof is now living ; and further saith, that since this Deponent's Marriage with the said *Samuel Loxton*, he the said *Samuel Loxton*, married one *Diana Seedwell*, the Daughter of the Master of the said Bagnio, which as soon as this Deponent discover'd, she caused the said *Samuel Loxton* to be apprehended and carried before Justice *Saintsb*, who on full Examination of the Matter, committed the said *Samuel Loxton* to *Newgate*, for marrying two Wives ; where he laid until he was acquitted by the late Act of Grace or General Pardon. And this Deponent farther saith, that the said *Samuel Loxton*, this Deponent's late Husband, was the said *Samuel Loxton*, that was kill'd at the Bagnio in *Silver-street* by Lieutenant *Bird*.

*Jur. in Cur. 11 die Februarii,
Anno quinto Georgii Regis.*

Susannah Loxton.

Mary,

MARY, the Wife of *James Shaw*, Clergyman, maketh Oath as follows, that the Deponent was by and present, when *Samuel Loxton*, late Servant at the Bagnio in *Silver-street*, was married to *Diana Seedwell* by this Deponent's Husband, at his House in *College-Court, Westminster*, which was, as near as this Deponent can remember, about the beginning of *September, 1714*, and not before; and this Deponent can the better depose, for that the said *Diana* at that very time had a Pair of green laced Shoes on, which she put off before she was married, saying, green was an unlucky Colour, and she would not be married in green Shoes. And this Deponent further saith, That as soon as the Ceremony was over, one *Mrs. Dorton*, a Neighbour of this Deponent's Husband, came to this Deponent's Husband's Door, and met this Deponent in the Entry, and told her, that she hoped this Deponent's Husband had not married the said *Samuel Loxton* to the said *Diana Seedwell*, for that this Deponent's Husband had above a Year before married the said *Loxton* to one *Susannah Cowper*, and that his said Wife *Susannah* was then living; whereupon this Deponent, in a very great Surprize, acquainted her Husband with what he had done, and asked him how he could marry the said *Loxton* to the said *Diana Seedwell*, when his former Wife was living? and this Deponent, upon Search of this Deponent's Husband's Book, wherein he enter'd his Marriages, found the said *Loxton's* Marriage with his first Wife *Susannah* enter'd, and shew'd it this Deponent's Husband, upon which he seem'd much concern'd, and said, he did not remember that he had before married the said *Loxton*, and seem'd very sorry for what he had done.

Mary Shaw.

*Jur. in Cur. 11 die Februar.
coram J. Ayres.*

In Banco Regis.

JOHN Cornish, of *Pakers-Lane, Holborn, Malster,* and *Anna Maria Dorton,* Widow, living in the *Hay-market,* jointly and severally make Oath, That in *July 1713,* and as near as these Deponents remember, the 29th Day of that Month, *Samuel Loxton,* late Servant at the Bagnio in *Silver-street,* deceased, was married to his now Wife *Susannah Loxton,* (whose Name before Marriage was *Susannah Coroper*) by one Mr. *Shaw,* a Clergyman of the Church of England, at his House in *College-Court, Westminster,* in the Presence of these Deponents. And these Deponents can the better depose, for that this Deponent, *John Cornish,* gave the said *Susannah Loxton* away to the said *Samuel Loxton,* as her Father.

John Cornish.

Anna Maria Dorton.

*Jur. in Cur. 11 die Februar. Anno
quint. Georgii Regis.*

In Banco Regis.

ANN Harrison, of the Parish of *St. James's,* Widow, maketh Oath, That she very well knoweth *Susannah Loxton,* the Widow of *Samuel Loxton,* late Servant at the Bagnio in *Silver-street,* deceased, and this Deponent did lodge in the same House with her, at *Mrs. Dorton's* when she, the said *Susannah Loxton,* laid in of her first Child, and that whilst she laid in of her first Child, the said *Samuel Loxton* came frequently to see her. And this Deponent further saith, that when he was with her, he owned her as his Wife, and the Child as his own Child, and called her his Wife over and over again in this Deponent's hearing, and in the hearing of a great many other Persons.

*Jur. in Cur. 11 die Febr. Anno
quinto Georgii Regis.* *Ann Harrison.*

In

In Banco Regis.

M*ARY de Costa*, the Wife of *John de Costa*, maketh Oath, that *Samuel Loxton*, late Servant at the *Bagnio in Silver-street*, deceased, in *May 1714*. sent for this Deponent, and told her he had a Child by *Susannab Loxton* his Wife, to put to Nurse, and agreed with this Deponent for 2 s. 6 d. a Week to nurse the said Child; and accordingly this Deponent nursed the said Child 14 Weeks, for which this Deponent was paid by the said *Samuel Loxton*; and afterwards the said *Loxton* took away his said Child from this Deponent, and dropt the same in the Street, for which he was taken up by the Officers of *St. Bride's Parish, London*, and thereupon the said *Samuel Loxton*, compounded the Matter with the said Officers. And farther this Deponent saith, the said *Samuel Loxton*, during the Time this Deponent nursed his said Child, owned and confessed to this Deponent, that he was lawfully married to the said *Susannab Loxton*, and that she was his Wife, but declar'd, he had made a Resolution never to cohabit with her.

Mary de Costa.

*Jur. in Cur. 11 Feb. An.
5 to Georg. Reg.*



A Copy of the Commitment of Samuel Loxton, for living in Adultery with Diana Seedwell, his first and lawful Wife Susannah Loxton, being then living : For which he was committed to Newgate, and came out by his Majesty's Act of Grace.

To the Keeper of Newgate.

Middlesex.

R Eceive into your Custody the Body of *Samuel Loxton*; charged before me, by his own Confession, for feloniously marrying of *Diana Seedwell*, his first Wife *Susannah Cowper* being still alive : Keep him till discharg'd by due Course of Law. Given under my Hand and Seal the 13th Day of *July*, 1717.

L. Saintlo.

Vera Copia examen per Bodenham Rouse, Turnkey.

A *NNE Towne*, Servant to *Mr. Seedwell*, at the *Bagnio in Silver-street*, Depose, That on the 25th Day of *September* last, she this Deponent, was ordered to wait upon *Lieutenant Bird*, with a Gentlewoman in his Company, who behaved himself like a very quiet and civil Gentleman, who after being in Bed to repose himself sometime, *Mr. Venerfell* said, the said *Lieutenant* desired a Bath, which she this Deponent understood was deny'd him; and that *Venerfell* was push'd out of the Room, and fell down Stairs, but that *Venerfell* return'd back, and double lock'd the said *Lieutenant's* Door on the outside, as *Venerfell* told her. This Deponent farther saith, That there was no Person in any Bath at that Time. And this Deponent

VOL. I. L further

further saith, That some time after she lighted Mr. *Seedwell*, *Venerfell* and *Loxton* the Deceased up Stairs, *Loxton* having a Cane in his Hand, and *Venerfell* a Faggot-stick, but the Candle falling, she returned down Stairs to light it. This Deponent further saith, That *Ann Smith*, (a Witness against the said Lieutenant) was not in the House till she was called by this Deponent, which was after *Loxton* (the deceased) was dead, being then about Four o'Clock in the Morning. And this Deponent further saith, That she this Deponent, together with another Woman, Wife to *William Backer*, were the only Persons in the said Lieutenant's Room, to examine and search Mrs. *Webster* (the Gentlewoman who came with the Lieutenant) whether she had any Penknife or other Weapon, whereby to do any Mischief; the said Mrs. *Webster* then telling this Deponent, that the said Lieutenant was very much abused. And this Deponent further saith, That she this Deponent having afterwards some Discourse with the aforesaid *Venerfell* about the Cane and Faggot-stick before-mentioned, he the said *Venerfell* told this Deponent, that she must not speak any thing about the said Cane and Faggot-stick, lest the same should prove a means to save the said Lieutenant *Bird's* Life. And this Deponent further saith, That she this Deponent was prevailed with by a Stranger, under fair Pretences, to go to drink some Liquor, whereby she this Deponent became intoxicated, and thereby hindered from appearing at the Trial of the said Lieutenant *Bird*, to give Testimony hereof, which she this Deponent designed otherwise to have done.

P O W I S.

Charles Brome, late of *Spring-Garden*, in the Parish of *St. Martin in the Fields*, upon Oath declares, That about this Time Twelvemonth, *Samuel Loxton*, deceased, came into his House in *Spring-Garden* about the Hours of Nine or Ten, in a white Linnen Waistcoat, Drawers and Night-cap, and call'd for a quartern of Brandy, and drank to some Company in the Shop, and
imme-

Immediately after forced himself into the Company of some Gentlemen belonging to the Guards, and a Dispute arising about the State Prisoners, he vindicating their Cause, and justifying their hard Usage, the Gentlemen forbid him their Company; but he refused to go, and was for fighting with any of them, showing the Wounds he had received from some Gentlemen, and swore he had had thirty Guineas Damage, and swore he would have a hundred more before he had done with him. And I finding him bent for quarreling, I persuaded the Gentlemen to quit my Shop, lest any Mischief should ensue, which they did; and the Company being gone, I persuaded him to go home, and demanded my Reckoning, which he told me he could not pay, swearing he had not above Three-pence in his Pocket, and would not pay.

Charles Brome.

Jur. coram me 7 Feb. 1718.

Paul Margaret.

MARY Brome, Wife of Charles Brome, of the Parish of St. Andrew Holborn, in the County of Middlesex, Gent. maketh Oath, That one Samuel Loxton came into this Deponent's Husband's House in Spring Garden, about a Twelve-month since, in a white Linnen Waistcoat and Drawers, and by his Dress and Appearance shew'd himself in every respect to be mad, and that he intended Mischief, by his quarrelsome Behaviour, with all the People in the House, and opening his Cloaths shew'd several Wounds, and said he had received thirty Guineas for one of the said Wounds, and swore that his Father-in-Law would sue the Gentleman for a hundred Guineas more, and that he did not value his Wounds which he had, for he got Money by it; and swore he cared not for them, for he believed he should die by the Sword, and went away, and refused to pay his Reckoning.

Mary Brome.

Jur. 7 die Feb. 1718. coram me

Littleton Powis.

JOHN Johnson, of the Parish of St. James's within the Liberty of Westminster, Gent. maketh Oath, That he is a Neighbour to Mr. Seedwell, who keeps a Bagnio in Silver-street by Golden-Square; and hearing that one Loxton was kill'd there, he this Deponent went to the Rummer-Tavern the next Day after the said Loxton was dead, to enquire how that Matter happened; and did find there one Venersel, a Waiter to the said Bagnio; who told this Deponent, that Capt. Bird had the Night before thrown him down Stairs and broke four of his Ribs; upon which this Deponent asked Venersel, who was his Surgeon? He the said Venersel reply'd, He had no Surgeon, but was a Surgeon himself, and had set his own Ribs, which this Deponent believes to be impossible, and that the said Venersel only said so to aggravate Matters against the said Capt. Bird. And this Deponent further saith, That he knew the deceased Loxton, who was a drunken troublesome Man, and frequently abused the present Government, and was, some time before his Decease, like to have been kill'd by a Gentleman in the said Bagnio (as it is in the Neighbourhood generally reported) for his insolent Behaviour: That the said Loxton has own'd to this Deponent, That he had two Wives living at the same time; and Mr. Seedwell, who keeps the said Bagnio, would permit any Man with a Woman to lodge there, without asking any Questions who they were. And lastly, this Deponent further saith, That Mr. Boswel, who was Foreman of the Jury upon the Trial of the said Captain Bird, was Landlord to Mr. Seedwell. And that he this Deponent is a perfect Stranger to the said Captain.

John Johnson.

Jur. 7 die Feb. 1718.
coram R. Eyre.

*The Confession, Behaviour, and Last Speech of
Jane Griffin, condemn'd for the murder of
her Servant-maid.*

SHE desired that the Reverend Mr. *Nicholson*, of *St. Sepulchre's*, which Parish she belong'd to, (and at that Time she committed the Murder she kept the *Three-Pidgeons*, a Publick-House on the Pavement in *West-smithfield*) might attend her jointly with me, which he accordingly did. As I visited her constantly twice a-day, I had an Opportunity of nearly observing her Behaviour. She appear'd to be very well acquainted with the Holy Scriptures. From the first she did not deny the Fact; but I was tender of putting it to her too soon, least I should teach her to deny it, and make her Confession more difficult afterwards; but she told me, that she knew her present Misfortunes were occasion'd by her former Sins. On *Monday* Night I was discoursing to her of the Nature of Hell: On *Tuesday* Morning as soon as she saw me, she show'd me in the Prayer-Book, the Picture of our Saviour hanging on the Cross, and asked me, "if that was not her Saviour?" which Words she often repeated to me; "It was the Saviour of *Mary Magdalen*, who kneel'd at the Cross, and "why not hers?"

She could sometimes not be persuaded to sit on a Chair, but would sit on the Floor, saying, "That she ought to humble herself in Dust and Ashes; and "that had she ten thousand Hearts, she would willingly they all should bleed, to atone for her Crime." She was in hopes of a Pardon till *Wednesday*; she then heard the Dead Warrant was come down for her Execution on *Friday*: She then asked me, "if it was pro-

“ per for her Husband to come to her any more ?” I told her it was proper she should again see him to give him her best Advice, and to settle the Affairs relating to their Family. She also asked me, “ if she might go to Bed any more ?” I answer’d, That as she had always been accusom’d to a certain Proportion of Rest, the want of it might render her unfit for the Duty of the following Day ; and as for too much Sleep her Concern would prevent it.

On *Thursday*, she kneel’d down on the Ground, and made the following Confession ; “ I did kill my Maid in the following Manner ; after I had cut my Children some cold Fowl for Supper, I mis’d the Key of the Cellar ; it not being soon found, I was very angry ; going then into the Room where the Maid was, the Maid began to say, I was always blaming her for every thing lost ; I using then perhaps a sharp Word, the Maid began very foul and abusive Language to me : On this, as I stood by her, being fretted before, I stuck the Case Knife, that cut the Childrens Supper, into her Bosom ; but I verily believe her Stays were open, or it could not else have kill’d her.” When she took her last Farewell of her Husband and Daughter, it was not possible to view without Tears the Reluctance with which they left each other for ever. She advis’d her Husband to be particularly regardful of the Sabbath ; not to continue any in his House who swore or appear’d to be Passionate : Then turning to her Daughter, who hung upon her with Tears, she conjur’d her not to neglect to learn her Duty, to go constantly to Church on a *Sunday*, and to be afraid of Passion. After a very hard and difficult Task in parting, her Husband and Daughter left her, and I prepar’d for the administering to her the Sacrament ; but before I did so, I desir’d all present to withdraw, and being alone I ask’d her if she knew of the Murder of *Squire Hanson* in the *Farthing-Pye-House-Fields*, “ she protested she did not, nor did she ever five nigh that
“ Place.”

Place." I then told her of the Common Fame as to the cohabiting with Mr. *Griffin* unmarried, " she protested it was false, and she was innocent of it.

On *Friday*, the Reverend Mr. *Nicholson*, belonging to St. *Sepulchre's* Parish, attended her to the Tree in her Coach, and I in that appointed for me. After I had there pray'd with her, she desir'd me to pray again for the Pardon of her Murder of *Elizabeth Osborn*. She then declared to me the following Words, which she requested me to deliver aloud to the People.

" I confess (said she) the MURDER, but it was not in Malice, nor did I think of doing it a Moment before; it was Passion; Passion I heartily advise and request all present to beware of, especially the first beginnings of it, lest it grow upon ye, and bring ye to these Miseries I justly undergo."

The Reverend Mr. *Nicholson* then pray'd with her: She soon after desir'd me again to assist her in Words to implore Pardon for the particular Murder of her Maid. When I had done this, and afterwards had pronounc'd the Absolution and the Blessing, and was now departing, she, holding me fast by the Hands, asked me earnestly; " if I hop'd there was Mercy for her Soul? If " I thought Christ would be entreated? " I answer'd her, and recommended her Soul to God; desiring her not to dismiss me with Reluctance, for we should meet again (I hop'd) in the Kingdom of Heaven.

She was executed at *Tyburn*, *Jan. 29, 1719-20.*



*The Behaviour, Confession, and Last Speech of
John Kein, for the Murder of his Wife.*

IN the Account he gave me of his Life ; he said, he was of his Father's Trade a *Weaver*. But though he had the tenderest of Fathers, and was the only Child, yet he left his Father when very young, and went into the Army, where he was a *Serjeant* ; All ways of Living were insipid to him but that ; he said, he was at the taking of *Dorway* in *Flanders* ; but her late Majesty ending the War, (among other Regiments) his was broke : Imagining he should be Heir to his Father's Effects, he left the Queen's Service, and at his Father's Death was worth 500 l. a very great Sum to him, as nothing is little but by Comparison. But being a great Company-keeper, and no great Oeconomist, he soon diminished his Fortune, was arrested, and made a Prisoner in *Wood-street* Compter.

He said, he had always kept Company with lewd Women, but of all, he never was downright in Love with any, but her he had married, and unhappily murdered. He said he should not have married her, (having a Wife living) but that he thought there was not, nor could be in the World, another Person like her, with all Excellencies and Perfections ; for which Reason he openly wedded her at *St. Andrew's Church, Holborn*, after the Banns had been there thrice publish'd ; and he said, very willingly took his Trial for it afterwards at the *Old-Bailey* ; thinking nothing too much to undergo, or sustain for her Sake.

He also told me, he was very well satisfied and contented to Die ; and Life he never expected, well knowing *His Majesty* would not pardon a Crime of the Nature of his : Therefore (he said) he had, to the utmost of his

his Power, endeavour'd to fit himself for another Life, and had great Hopes and ever Assurances he said, that he had made his Peace with God. He added, that a little Book which he shew'd me, called *Lama Sabachthani*, or the *Cries of the Son of God*, had been of most singular Use and Benefit to him, together with a little Book I lent him, and which he desir'd he might give to his Child; for that, he said, to his greatest Sorrow, was the only Legacy he should be able to leave her.

*The Behaviour and Confession of William Spiggot, who was indicted for several Robberies on the Highway, and found guilty with Thomas Cross otherwise Phillips, and William Burrows; the former whereof was executed, but the latter receiv'd his Majesty's most gracious Reprieve, being Lunatick, and having been some Weeks in Bedlam before his Trial.**

HE was 29 Years of Age, born in *Hereford*, where his Father was Ostler, at the Chief Inn in the Place; he had been married about ten Years, had three Children living, his eldest Daughter being (he said) seven or eight Years old, but his Son about six; he was himself put Apprentice to a *Cabinet-maker* or *Joyner* in *Hereford*.

If we were to believe the Accounts that are given of his Behaviour even when a Boy, and the many Prisons he was said at his Trial to have been confined in

L 5

for

* See SELECT TRIALS, p. 13. Vol. I. of the above-said Malefactor's Trial.

for Robberies, he must have been (was all that true) this ten or twelve Years on the Highway ; but he affirm'd that could not be true ; because he said he was not so soon out of his 'Prenticeship, but that he serv'd seven Years faithfully with his Master, nor could have any Opportunity of going on the Highway during that Time ; and added, that his Apprenticeship ended about seven or eight Years ago.

Upon his Trial he refused to Plead, and was order'd to be pressed, but before he was put into it, I went to him, and endeavour'd to dissuade him from being the Author and Occasion of his own Death, and from cutting himself off from that Space and Time which the Law allow'd him to repent in for his vicious Course of Life : He then told me, that if I came to take Care of his Soul he would regard me, but if I came about his Body he desir'd to be excused, he could not hear one Word. After a while I left him, and when I saw him again it was in the Vault, upon the bare Ground, with the Weights (*viz.* 350 *lb.*) upon his Breast. I there pray'd by him, and at Times ask'd him, why he would destroy his Soul as well as Body, by such an obstinate kind of Self-Murder ? All his Answer was, *Pray for me, Pray for me !* In the midst of his Groans he sometimes lay silent, as if insensible of Pain, then would fetch his Breath very quick and fast. Two or three Times he complain'd that they had laid a cruel Weight on his Face ; tho' nothing was upon his Face but a thin Cloth, that was however remov'd and laid more light and hollow ; but he still complain'd of the prodigious Weight they had laid upon his Face, which might be occasion'd by the Blood being flush'd and forc'd up into his Face, and pressing as violently against the Veins and small Tendrills there, as if the Pressure upon them had been externally on his Face.

When he had continu'd about half an Hour in the Torture, and 50 *lb.* more Weight had been laid on his Breast, he told the Justice of Peace who committed him, and myself, *That he would Plead ;* accordingly the

the Weights were at once taken off, the Cords that stretch'd out his Hands and Legs were cut, and he lifted up, and held by two Men, while some Brandy was put into his Mouth to revive him. He was very faint and almost speechless for two Days, but then began to recover Strength, for sometime; afterwards he again grew worse, and desired to receive the Sacrament, for he believ'd he should live but little longer; but before his Execution he again recover'd Strength, and constantly attended the Prayers in the Chapel twice a Day.

The Reasons, as far as I could learn from him, of his enduring the Press were, That he might preserve his Effects for the Use of his Family, that it might not be urged to his Children that their Father was hang'd, and that—*Lindsey* the Evidence who was a Clergyman, and had his Education at *Cambridge*, should not triumph over him, by saying he had sent him to *Tyburn*.

He said he thought himself truly penitent, and as sincerely so, as he who show'd his Sorrow by his Tears; but that it was not easily in his Power to weep, nor had he ever remember'd himself to have shed a Tear, except once since he was in the *Condemn'd-Hold*, at the final parting with his little Son.

Sometimes he would say, that he wish'd he had dyed in the Pressing; for all that Sense of Pain was soon taken from him, and he was fallen into a kind of Slumber. At other Times he express'd himself, that he was glad he did not cut himself off by his Obstinacy, from that Space the Law had allow'd him for his Repentance for the Sins of his whole Life.

On *Monday Feb. 9.* before his Execution, he receiv'd the Sacrament, and said that he desir'd not to live, for he could be only a weak and unhealthy Man; and added, that he could raise his Breath only in the lower part of his Stomach: He said he had been guilty of the greatest Sins he could commit except Murder, that it was in vain to mention his numerous Robberies on the Highway, being perhaps about a Hundred. He said also, that he robb'd chiefly toward *Hounslow-beath*,

likewise towards *Kingston*, and sometimes on the Road to *Ware*; that there was besides one *Tyson*, and one *William Colthouse* of their Gang, but was not then taken.

He was enraged at *Joseph Lindsey* in particular, because *Spiggot* had once rescued him when he was nigh being taken, and in the defending him was wounded, and in danger of his Life.

The Night before his Execution, he especially complain'd that *Thomas Cross* was so harden'd and reprobate, that he not only refused to join with them in Prayer, but would put out the Candles, and rattle his Irons, so that he could not perform his Duty. On the *Wednesday* Morning he again receiv'd the Sacrament in the Chapel, from whence he was immediately after carry'd to the Place of Execution, *Feb. 8, 1720-21.*

The Confession and Behaviour of William Barton, condemn'd for assaulting on the Highway John Lord Viscount Lisbon, [Brother to George Vaughan, who was condemn'd for a Robbery, and was transported with Wreathock, the Attorney, Baby Bird, and Counsellor Justice, about a Year and half ago] near Pancrafs-Church, and taking from his Lordship and a Lady in the Chariot with him, a Silver hilted Sword, a Snuff-box, and about 12 s. in Money.

HE said he was 31 Years of Age, born in *Thames-street* near the *Custom-house*; that he was at 10 Years old sent for by his Grand-father, who kept an Eating-

Eating-House by *Covent-Garden*, from his Father, and bound Apprentice to that Business; he said his Grand-father taking a liking to him, gave him all Encouragement, but he being of an uneasy and unsettled Disposition, grew uneasy in the Service of his Grand-father, and long'd to go to Sea, which he did at 12 Years of Age: He said his Father was not unlike him in the unsettledness of his Temper; for he had left his Wife and him, and other young Children, and was gone to *Jamaica*, taking with him another Woman, whom he had kept Company with a considerable Time.

As his Father had taken over to *Jamaica*, Goods, &c. to a considerable Value, he said he thought it best for him to go to *Jamaica*, when he forsook *England*; and when he got thither, he found his Father had been a substantial Planter in that Country, but was lately Dead; and the Woman he had cohabited with being very young, and himself at that Time very young, he did not look after his Father's Effects, but liking the Sea enter'd himself in a Sloop, and got his Livelihood on the Coasts of *Jamaica*. After this he said, their Vessel was taken by the *Spaniards*, and himself with several *Englishmen*, carry'd Prisoners into *Spain*: He said the Treatment they met with there was at first very barbarous and inhuman, and their Allowance were Bread and Water; but after a while they were somewhat more at Ease; but one Day several of them being employ'd by their Keepers to repair an old Wall belonging to the Prison, they made their Escape into a *Cloyster* or *Convent*, where the *Fryars* refused to deliver them up, insisting on the Privilege of their Holy Place, which was a Sanctuary for the Distressed: He said they had not been long there (where they was employ'd as menial Servants in the *Cloyster*) before they made their Escape from thence, and return'd to *England* in a small Ship, but added, that they were inform'd, that the *Religious Order* intended voluntarily to have given them their Liberties.

After this he said, he list'd himself for a Soldier, and serv'd her late Majesty Queen ANNE in the War in
Flanders,

Flanders, where he was in several Engagements, and also at the Siege of *Doway*, and other Towns on the Borders of *France*: After a considerable Time, being disbanded, and returning again into *England*, he married a Woman, without having he said, any visible Way of maintaining himself, much less her and a Family of Children; so that having cohabited a very short Time with her, he was oblig'd to go again to Sea, after he had committed some vile Actions, being concern'd with a wicked Gang, which would he well knew bring him to Ruin and Destruction: He said, that during his Continuance at Sea, having a Wife in his Native Country, he was restless and uneasy, and distracted in his Thoughts; and tho' he was certain he could not live in *England*, he could not bear the Thoughts of continuing away from it; for he daily fancy'd that his Wife and Child being reduc'd to extream Necessity were starving, and calling for Bread, and blaming his Absence and Neglect; so that he was forced to return again to *England*, tho' he knew it would be his Ruin. When he had found out his Wife, he said he could not forbear endeavouring to support her even at any Rate; and for that Purpose committed Robberies, and particularly one in *Covent-Garden*, for which he was tried, convicted, and transported to *America* for the Space of seven Years; being there sold for 18 *l.* but was not used as a Slave, but set to overlook the *Negroes* in their Work, and to lash them when they neglected it: This he said, was the happiest Part of his Life, that he endur'd no Wretchedness, had no Care, but found whatever was requisite for the sustaining Life provided for him; yet he was again so restless and uneasy at the Consideration of his Wife's being so far distant, that to quiet his Mind he said, he was oblig'd to steal privately away at the End of six Years, and return'd a fourth Time into *England*, which was about *July*.

When the Dead Warrant came down to *Newgate* for his Execution, he was in some Violence of Grief, occasion'd as he said, by the earnest Desire he had before

fore he dy'd to see his Mother, or at least to know whether she was alive or dead ; for he said when his Father was gone to *America*, where he ended his Days, his Mother let Lodgings in *St. James's-street*, and having in her House the Earl of *Glasgow*, she marry'd with one of his Dependants, whom the Earl afterwards preferr'd to a Place in *Scotland*, of 200 *l.* a Year, and his Mother accompanying his Father-in-law, he had not heard of her a long Time ; but as for his Father-in-Law he had been inform'd, that he had been sometime since dead.

The *Wednesday* preceeding his Execution, he said he hop'd he had made his Peace with God, that he spent every Moment in Prayer, and in reading either the Bible or other good Books that was lent him in the Place of Condemnation, thanking God that his Child was to be provided for by a Relation, and his Wife he said, who never knew of one of his ill Actions, would go into the Country, where if she was honest, God would bless and prosper her.

The Evening before he dyed he said he was very easy in his Mind, and had his Thoughts taken off from this World, and was ready to suffer as the Law appointed. Being asked if he was prepared for the Reception of the Sacrament ? and what the Sacrament was ? he answer'd, that he trusted in God he was fit and prepar'd to eat the Flesh of Christ, and to drink his Blood spiritually, in Remembrance of his Death ; and added, that he threw himself altogether on the Mercies of God for the Pardon of all the many Sins of his Life.

He was executed at *Tyburn* on *Friday* the 12th of *May*, 1720.

The Confession of Walter Kennedy, who was condemn'd at the Sessions of Admiralty, for that he with other Pirates, had robb'd and plunder'd the Ship called the Loyal Rover, &c.

HE said he was not 26 Years of Age, born at *Pelican-Stairs* in *Wapping*, where he had an Opportunity of learning his Father's Business of an *Anchor-Smith*, but did not trouble himself with that Trade after his Decease, chusing rather to go to Sea, and leave his Father's Effects to be possessed by his Mother and his Brothers: He said he serv'd her Majesty Queen ANNE in the Wars against *France*, but being told what Lords the Pirates in *America* were, and that they had gotten several whole Islands under their own Command, he coveted to be one of those petty Princes: That he harbour'd these aspiring and unsettled Thoughts some Time, nor could meet those whose Business it was to seduce stout and strong Men, with the Prospect and the Promises of infinite Wealth; but soon after he said, he was one of the Sailors sent with Captain *Rogers*, to recover if possible the Island of *Providence* from the Possession of the *Pirates*; that as soon as they landed on the Shore, the Captain read the Act of Grace or general Pardon, to every Pirate that would enter into her Majesty's Service, whereupon most of the Islanders submitted, and the rest dispersed and fled, refusing an honest Life. That this Capt. *Rogers* being confirm'd Governor fitted out two Sloops, and directed them where to Trade; that *Kennedy* was in one of them, and also many of the reform'd Pirates. He added, that they had not gone many Leagues before they held Consultations together to turn their Vessel into a Pirate

rate

rate Sloop, and all who refused were to be kill'd as Cowards and unhearted Wretches; after which they empty'd the other Vessel of every Thing of Value, than turn'd it a-float, being less swift, and less fit for sailing, flying, or attacking; after which they made themselves Masters of two large Ships and grew strong for an Engagement.

When I ask'd about the Nature of Pirate Ships, he said they chose their Captain, and sometimes one was pitch'd upon, sometimes another; but that they were much on an Equality, except in an Engagement, but then the Captain had the sole and absolute Command: He added, that they often displac'd Captains (having a sort of Common-wealth among them) but very rarely suffer'd any Violence to be offer'd them, but held a Respect for any one who had been their Commander, tho' he had appear'd irresolute and idle: He also said, that they were all sworn not to fight on Board, and for the least Quarrel must undergo the Sea Punishment; and they had certain Persons to determine and judge in any particular Cases in Dispute; adding also, that they had certain Islands, where they knew they could meet with Impunity and Encouragement, as *Providence*, *Trinidad*, &c. But that they were sometimes obliged to lay down a Sum of Money before they could get from those Places; but at *Jamaica* or *Barbadoes*, they seldom dare touch even for Necessaries; because there is a Suspicion always at those Places if they see a swift Sloop alone, and that it was still more dangerous for them to go ashore on the chief of the *Bernudas* Islands: He also said, it was a most unhappy, as well as wicked Life, that they were always in dread, and forced to fly from, or fight with every Ship they met with; that they were twice obliged to fight in the Night Time, besides their frequent Skirmishes in the Day Time; but they were never taken, it being their Maxim to overcome, or to escape, or to die.

But once he said, they were in most especial Danger; for having resolv'd to make their Fortunes at once,

once, or to be all kill'd, they fell in with the whole *Portuguese* Fleet of twenty and odd Sail; and finding one Ship separated from the rest, they took her without firing a Gun, by bidding a *Portuguese* among them call the Captain aboard their Ship, and by then sending some Men to take Possession of his Ship: After which, he said, they compell'd the Captain to discover which Ship carry'd the Gold, and attacking it at a Time when separated from the rest, they had almost overcome it, when they were well nigh surrounded by the whole *Portuguese* Fleet; and that 'twas owing to their own Swiftness, and to the Cowardice of the *Portuguese*, that they at all disengag'd themselves.

He also said, that one *Davis* was chosen their Captain, but on the Coast of *Brazil*, several of them going on Shore, the Governour of the next Port discover'd they were Pirates, but being unable to cope with such a Number as was then on Land, he invited the Captain, this *Kennedy*, and ten others, on Shore the next Day, to partake of a Collation at his Seat or Castle; they went accordingly, but were attack'd by several Negroes who lay in wait for them by the Sea-side, *Davis* and all were kill'd, but this *Kennedy* and another, who escap'd up a Mountain, and leap'd thence into the Sea, and were accidentally taken out of the Water alive, by the Boat that carried them to the Shore.

He would have recounted to me several other Passages of his Life, but I told him I had not Leisure to regard or put down any more: In the whole, he appear'd altogether sensible, that Men are widely mistaken who enter into such a vicious Course of Life for wordly Benefit and Advantage: He said a Curse did certainly attend their Actions; for tho' they hoarded all their Money, nor needed to spend, their Plunder being sufficient to keep them, yet he never knew any one that could come to enjoy it, partly being afraid to venture on Shore when they had enough to live well there, and partly being so accusom'd to that tumultuous Way of Life, that the Life of a private Gentleman was dull and melancholy

eholy to them ; so that when their Ships were grown old in Spoil, and had laid up a good deal of Gold, they were either taken, or else were sunk and lost, which he imputed to the over-ruling Providence of God, whose Eye is over all his Works.

He said, as for himself, tho' he had receiv'd very great Shares of Booty, it had so ill prosper'd, that he believ'd he should want a Coffin to put his Carcass in ; that he lost most of his Gold in the *Highlands of Scotland*, whether their Ships were driven by a Storm, while the Captain an *Irishman* intended for *Ireland* ; but they leaying their Vessel there, and seperating, and the Captain also dying there, he himself went for *Ireland*, but meeting with no Encouragement, nor finding a Maintenance came for *England*, and after some Time was observ'd, apprehended, try'd and convicted.

He also said that he knew Captain *Roberts*, so known for his Piracies, that he was once First-Mate of his Ship ; but seperated from them on the Coast of *Africa*, in a stolen Vessel, of which he was chosen Captain ; but afterwards got two Ships of above 30 Guns each ; that he used to say, nothing from the King of *England* should content him, but the Government of the *Leeward Islands*, and if he could not peaceably obtain them, he wou'd e're long hold them by Force : He added, that their Captains were always chosen, and *Roberts* was chose not so much for his Strength and Courage (tho' he was large and stout, and most desperate) as for his Cunning, and Knowledge of the Seas, and quick guess at the Bulk and Force of any Ship they came nigh.

He said also, that he would not be in the high Condition of this *Roberts* for all his Wealth and Ships, being assur'd he cou'd have no Peace of Mind, if 'twas only for having murder'd the *French* Governor of an *American* Island, and hang'd the First-Mate for some Minutes, because the said Governor executed one of his best Men, whom he catch'd on Shore, for robbing him on the Sea with *Roberts*.

The Day before he died, he said he was even glad he was not in the Place of *Bradshaw* repriev'd, for not being allow'd to return to *England* from his Slavery in *America*, he believ'd he should be tempted to betake himself again to his former wicked Course of Life. He was very easy he said to die, and hoped he had fully made his Peace with God, and knew not when he could be better prepar'd to leave this World; adding, that as he had only a Wife, and no Children to provide for, his Thoughts were not at all on this Life.

He desir'd before he died that he might receive the Holy Sacrament in a private Place, and not in the Chapel, as he could there be more retir'd, and better lift up his Heart to God.

The Behaviour of the aforesaid Pirate at Execution-Dock.

THE Morning of his Execution he receiv'd the Sacrament, with much Attention and Devotion, but appear'd extremly terrify'd and concern'd at the near Approach of Death. When he was on the Scaffold erected for him, he apprehended he should faint, and call'd for some Water to drink, and then after the Prayers were concluded, he requested that the People present might be caus'd to attend to some few Words he had to say, which chiefly were to the following Effect :

“ I AM brought to this Place of Shame and Dis-
 “ grace, for Crimes which fully deserve so vile a
 “ Death, and I freely confess myself guilty of the
 “ Crimes I was convicted of, as well as many other
 “ Faults of the like Nature, for which I beg the Par-
 “ don of God, and of you my Country-men; and I
 “ hope all here will be warn'd by my dismal Example,
 “ and not fancy Happiness can arise from Robbery and
 “ Cruelty; and I believe all my former Companions
 “ are, or will be, as wretched as I am. I declare that
 “ I

“ I think my Wife a pious and virtuous Woman, and
 “ she was always against my Vices. I die in Charity
 “ towards all the World, and hope all will pray for my
 “ poor Soul. I pray God preserve my Country.
 He was executed at *Execution-Dock*, July 21, 1721.

*The Behaviour and Confession of Matthew
 Clark, for the Murder of Sarah Golding-
 ton, at a Place call'd Wilden-Green.*

HE was about twenty-four Years of Age, born at
 St. *Albans*, near to which Place he was bred up,
 and serv'd a Gentleman, in whose Family he might
 have learn'd a much better Disposition and Temper of
 Mind, had not his Nature been corruptly bent from the
 Cradle, and the Disposition of his Soul forceably lead-
 ing to Vice. He said he was taught very well to read;
 but what tended still to the depraving his Mind, was the
 neglect of Reading, or hearing the Scripture; but sit-
 ting in the Church-yard with other idle Fellows, during
 the Time of Divine Service.

But he added, that he perceiv'd his Mind and Inclina-
 tions more sensibly inclined to Wickedness for a Year
 or two last past; which he now imputed to God's Spirit
 having left him to himself: For he could not be con-
 tented with his old Way of Life, *viz.* going to Plough,
 and driving Carts; but used to skulk about *Busby-beath*,
 near *Watford*, intending oftentimes to set upon some
 Passengers there; that he said he did rob on that Heath
 a Person of about forty-five Shillings, using him cruelly
 at the same time.

What Money he got by ill Means he own'd never
 did him any Service; but as he was liked well enough
 he said, by most of the young Women thereabout, he
 consumed much Money in trifling ways upon them.

While

While he liv'd at *Watford*, he used to go frequently to that Town and be merry ; till by his Persuasions he had induced a young Woman to consent to Marriage ; and bringing her up to *London*, they went to a *Goldsmith's* to purchase a Ring ; but he not having Money enough to pay for it, left her, and pretended he had a Legacy in the Country bequeath'd him of 15 *l.* which he would receive, and at the same time defray all Expences. Leaving *London*, he went toward *Neesden*, and *Wilsden-Green*, where he had sometime liv'd ; he said, he lay about for two or three Days, intending to rob till he had acquired 15 *l.* But being alone, though he often made a Resolution to attack the next Person that pass'd, his Heart fail'd, he durst not attempt it : That he here met the Master of the *Alehouse* where he did the Murder, who asking him how he came to loiter there in Hay-time, offer'd him Work, and hired him for a Servant : But he upon considering it was Hay-time, and all Folks from Home, and in particular the Master of the said *Alehouse*, went thither, and calling for Liquor, sat an Hour, renewing the former Friendship that had been between him and the Maid, and talking over the many Merriments and Frolicks ; he having before pretended a Love and Kindness for her. After this, he said, when he was now assured that no one was in the House but they two alone, the Devil put it into his Mind, that he could not possibly rob the House unless the said Servant Maid was dispatch'd. Upon which he added, that he privately got a Knife under his Coat, and getting up to kiss her, design'd to cut her Throat ; but his Heart misgiving him, he sat down again : A while after he went and kiss'd her again, and then, he said, (for which God pardon his Soul) he snatch'd the Knife from his Coat, and cut her Wind-pipe, and went away ; but the Knife being very dull, she made a Noise in the Throat as if she call'd to him, and scabbled to the Door ; he seeing she was not dead, return'd, and most barbarously cut her Neck round to the Bone, and then robb'd the House of a little Silver, but was too surpris'd

surpriz'd and shock'd to carry off much. At mentioning this, this most abandon'd Creature very much cry'd, and asked, " If for him there could be any Mercy from God!

When I enquired farther of the Particulars of this barbarous Murder, he said, " That was the whole, and " the true Matter of Fact." As for what follow'd afterwards, he told me he went for *London* again with the little *Money* he had got ; but being to pass by *Tyburn*, a Sort of Horror and Trembling seiz'd him, nor could he possibly go by it : Returning back he met a Waggon, and the better to prevent Suspicion, undertook to drive it to *London*. Soon after the Pursuers came up to him, and asked him, if any one had pass'd his Waggon who might be suspected of Murder ? Whereupon he shewing some Confusion, they examin'd him farther, and perceiv'd the Sleeve of his Shirt to be bloody ; but he affirm'd that he had met a Soldier, who abusing him, he had fought with him : But the Consciousness of his Guilt pressing hard upon him he soon confess'd the Truth.

He show'd a Concern (though without Cause) that his Father, an honest and industrious Man, going once to see him in *Newgate*, said, Had he been to die for any other Sin he would have aim'd at saving his Life ; but nothing but Blood could atone for Blood.

On the *Tuesday* before his Death, when I urg'd him to prepare for his latter End ; he said, he could scarcely be well compos'd, the hanging in Chains was so apt to intrude upon his Thoughts ; but that he well deserv'd it he own'd ; adding, that he had often remember'd what he us'd to read in the Scripture, *viz. That the Bodies of the Wicked should be expos'd to the Beasts of the Field, and to the Fowls of the Air for Meat.*

Before he dy'd I ask'd him, if he had not had very terrifying and frightful Thoughts, in the Night-time especially ? He answer'd, that it was not easy to express the Horror of his Soul ; that he had frightful Dreams, and dreadful Apprehensions : And
how

how he should meet the murdered Creature at the *Last Day*, if he had destroyed her Soul as well as her Body, God only knew! After I had advised him in these Matters, I directed him to prepare for the Reception of the *Holy Sacrament*, &c.

At the Place of Execution he desired the People might be told, that he had no Ill-will to the young Woman he kill'd, but had a Respect for her. That no body was with him when he robb'd the Man on *Bussy-Heath*: That he intended to have left the young Woman he was to marry, but not to have sold her to *America*, as was said. He hoped all would take Warning by him, and would pray for his departing Soul.



The Confession and Behaviour of John Hawkins, (in April Sessions 1722) for assaulting Thomas Green a Post-Boy, on this side Colebrook; this Prisoner waiting (by reason of his remarkable Bigness) at the End of Harmonsworth-Lane, while Richard Wilfon, and George Simpson, putting their Handkerchiefs in their Mouths, and turning their Wigs upside down, clapt a Pistol to the Post Boy's Face, led his Horse down the Lane, there making him dismount, where George Simpson bound the Boy and a Countryman with him to a Tree together, while Richard Wilfon carry'd the Mail to the End of the Lane, where this Prisoner Hawkins was waiting, in order to ruffle the fifty Bags, and pick out from them the Bath and Bristol.

THIS Malefactor was twenty-eight Years of Age; born at *Stanes* in *Middlesex*; where his Father a sober Man, (but of no great Substance) intended he should have been of the Business of a *Plasterer*; but he not relishing so mean a mechanick Occupation, could not industriously settle to that, or any thing else of such a Nature; telling me, that he believed not many Men had more greatness of Spirit than himself, but that was so far from being a Benefit to him, that it had occasioned his Destruction. After he found that he could not subsist by flying from one Project to another, he settled himself in the Family of *Sir Dennis Dutry*, where as

Butler he liv'd without any Exceptions taken as to his Demeanour in the Family ; but that he there gratify'd his natural Inclinations as to Eating and Drinking, and made that habitual which was before in his Constitution. But an Uneasiness happening in the Family, which they fancied the *Butler* was in part the Occasion of, he left that Place with a good Character, as to his Integrity. Having been instructed in the Nature of Trading (he said) to *France* and *Flanders*, in *Wines*, *Brandies*, &c. he joined with his Brother, a Captain of a Vessel, or Sloop, in fetching those Commodities from those Places, and commonly paid the King's Custom for them : That this way of Life was very agreeable to him, but his Gains were not superior to his Losses, he having a strong and violent Inclination to arrive at great Riches and Splendour ; on a sudden he left the uncertain Way of dealing at Sea, to deal (he said) in the *South-Sea* and the Bubbles, from which he had Recourse to Bubbling in another Way, as some others besides have done ; in which vicious Course he had Success for a considerable Time.

When I went to him before his Trial, he showed me certain Books, which he said were sent him he believed out of a good Design, and not to cajole him and extort a Confession from him ; and much accus'd those who had villainously asserted in the News-Papers, that he and *Simpson* had acknowledged the Fact before the *Justice of Peace*, together with above twenty other Robberies. At the same time he showed me an Advertisement, which described the Mail to be robb'd by two Men, whereas *Richard Wilson's* Information made them three in Number. And as for their making a strict and previous Preparation, that he said became every Man under Calamities, because God was the properest Being to apply to in Misfortunes.

At his Trial, during the six Hours it lasted, he behaved himself in a decent and becoming Manner ; but when he found himself condemn'd, and well knew the Consequence was certain Death, he put on a Depart-
ment

ment surprizingly odd and bold, arraigning the *Court* and the *Jury* alternately, and discovering (as he fancy'd) several irregular Proceedings at his Trial; which Discourse, as it was deliver'd with a good Grace might have an Impression on some People, had it not been fully answer'd by the *Court*.

At first after his Condemnation, he was greatly disturb'd at the filthy Place appointed for him; but being forc'd to sustain the Consequence of his Vices, he and *Simpson* found it not impossible to remove in some measure the Objections they had against it, preventing by their Authority that lewd and profane Discourse which is commonly the most heard in that Place, where it should the least be found, preventing those, whose Inclinations have been to be serious.

But though he could not at first be induc'd to allow that the Sentence pass'd upon him was agreeable to Equity; declaring, that had a certain Person been faithful to him, the *Jury* could never have found him guilty, and that the Mildness of the *Judge* was not very remarkable in this Case; yet after I had talk'd with him twice in private, I found those Prejudices were of themselves fled from him; for he told me then, ' That he was perfectly easy, and satisfi'd to die, and had no Ill-will towards any body, and that he had expected to die some considerable Time before the Calamity came upon him, and when he was first apprehended, but that some who understood the Law, had thought him a very Babe to let his Life slip away, and that if he'd but exert himself, Life was as near to him as Death, &c.' which Discourses had at first wholly turn'd his Mind to Life and the World. Being told by a Gentleman, that he ought to bear no Malice to *Richard Wilson*, his Friend and Accuser, because he acted not out of Ill-will to him, but to preserve his Life; he answer'd, ' that Life was sweet, especially to those in their Course of Life; yet he himself would have died more Deaths than one, rather than have betray'd his Friend, and embrau'd his Hands in the Blood of his Companion;

‘ however, he freely forgave him from the very Bottom
 ‘ of his Heart, and wish’d that the Creator would so
 ‘ forgive him.’ Desiring at the same time, that I
 would give him the Holy Sacrament the *Friday* before
 they dy’d, as well as at the usual Time, to wit, the
 Execution-Morning, which was complied with.

As to his Deportment, there could be no Objection
 against it; ’twas serious with Sorrow, and observant
 with Fear; but as his Death drew near, he appear’d to
 be greatly shock’d: At the Sacrament on *Friday*, he
 changed Countenance, when I told him we were to con-
 clude the Sacrament, Prayers, and all, by Nine of the
 Clock on *Monday* Morning, being the Day of Execu-
 tion: During his Devotions he shed a great many Tears,
 which none else did; which he also did at the Sermon
 preach’d last before his Death.

At the Prayers, the Morning that he suffer’d, tho’
 he always aim’d at a settled and compos’d Countenance,
 he yet appear’d ruffled and somewhat terrified; which
 shewed he had a true Sense of his Condition, that Death
 is not only the Pain of Dying, but the appearing before
 God, with the eternal Seal set upon our Actions, for
 Happiness or Reprobation.



The Confession and Behaviour of George Simpson, who was also condemn'd for the same Assault on the Post-Poy, on the 6th of April 1722, about One o'Clock in the Morning, and taking a Black Gelding value 10 l. two Mails value 4 l. and fifty Leather Bags value 5 l. the Goods of our Sovereign Lord the King.

THIS Malefactor was about thirty-four Years of Age, born at *Putney in Surrey*: He said that his Father was a *Wine-Merchant*, and had a considerable Estate; and that though he was sometimes mean, yet he was born a Gentleman; he added, that his Father removing from *Surrey* into *Lincolnshire*, did not so well bear up his Head; yet he gave him a good Education, and he understood something of the Law: He also said, that some thought a *Sheriff's Bailiff* (which he was at *Lincoln*) an ungentle Employment, but he thought a Man might behave himself in it as became a Gentleman, and sometimes where the Business would not set off the Man, the Man has set off the Business; and that he was ignorant of the Art of racking Men too severely for Civility Money. He told me besides, that when he kept a Publick-house in *Lincoln*, he permitted no Irregularity to be committed there, but he believed was at that time of Day as well look'd upon as those who were higher in Quality and Fortune, frequently turning away leud Men and Women, who would willingly have transacted their Leudness under his Roof. But delighting, he said, too much in Pleasure, though the Diversions were innocent, yet his Business decayed insensibly, and he was obliged to abscond, and soon fly

M 3

the Country. Afterwards, he said, when he was Servant to the Lord *Castlemain*, he could defy the World to alledge any thing to his Prejudice. He adds, that when he left the Lord *Castlemain's* Place, he needed not have again submitted to the meanest Station, but that the lowest Life was to him more eligible than the highest vicious one, at that happy time. But to prevent Temptations, he afterwards served Mr. *Green* as a Footman; yet was not easy in such a Post; but aim'd at some Writing Business, as to keep Accompts, or the like. That he was Assisstant to Mr. *Grubshaw* a Fruiterer in collecting his Debts, and to his Sister *Ellet*, of *Bawtry*, in managing her Affairs after the Decease of her Husband, she being left with some small Children.

He was perfectly compos'd and easy under his Troubles, never shed a Tear, never seem'd terrify'd at the Approach of Death; but was constant and regular in his Devotions, serious at the Sacrament, and maintain'd the very same Deportment to the last of his Life. He said, that *Richard Wilson* was compell'd to end his own Days, or to shorten theirs, he had nothing to say against him; yet did believe, that there was such a Tye and Obligation in Oaths, especially taken at a sacred Time, that he might question, whether even the Good of the Publick could excuse the breaking thro' them.

He said, that it was his Unhappiness never to have liv'd with the Person who was his Wife; but on the other hand, 'twas his good Fortune not to have any Children to bequeath to Disgrace, and to the Bryars of a wretched World; he added, that yet, as her Relations were Persons of Estate and Account, he might have entertain'd good Expectations after their Decease, had he not ruin'd his own Prospects, and their Intentions.

Three Days before his Execution, he told me he felt an uncommon inward Composure of his Mind, was entirely easy at the Prospect of Death, as he had deserv'd it, and had expected a Turn of Fortune a good while (he said) before it came upon him; desiring to receive the Holy Communion twice before he suffer'd, which I agreed

agreed to, and gave it him, the *Friday* before he died, in the Chapel, and the same Day he died in another more silent and quiet Place.

He repeated it, that nothing came by Chance, but was under the Direction of a superior Being. He said also, that he was most concern'd, that some under Condemnation with him, were so ignorant, that though he read and pray'd with them continually, he thought it next to impossible to make them understand.

John Hawkins being told by a Gentleman, that *Richard Wilson* had own'd that he and *Hawkins, &c.* were concern'd in cutting out the ancient Woman's Tongue, and throwing it over a Hedge into the Road, because she told the People in the robb'd Coach that she knew one of the Robbers? This Prisoner's Answer was, that he never dealt in barbarous Actions. I told him I had receiv'd a Letter from the Widow of *Butler Fox*, who desired he would acquaint Mrs. *Fox*, whether he and *Simpson* were alone concern'd in that Robbery for which *Fox* dy'd; he seem'd to incline to it, but said the benefiting that Woman would be harming another Person, if he made any publick Declaration to the People. But as for the robbing any Nobleman's Coach near *Richmond*, and taking a Ring much valu'd as being a Present from another Person of Quality, he absolutely deny'd it.

George Simpson said, that as a certain *Nonjuror* had assur'd him, that 'twas not necessary to confess any thing, he was resolv'd to confess Nothing, but said their Robberies about *London* had been so numerous, that they were too tedious then to recount, nor werc they of any Significance to the World.

All the Malefactors took Leave of all their Relations and Friends the Day before they died, that they might not be disturb'd on the Day of their Deaths. Having concluded their Petitions to God in the Chapel, and the Reception of the Sacrament in a [then] more quiet Place, they were convey'd between Nine and Ten o'Clock to Execution. No one being allow'd the Privilege of a Coach, they appear'd in the Carts with uncommon To-

kens of Repentance, scarce ever raising their Eyes from their Books to regard the great Crowds about them, nor tarrying to drink Quantities of Liquor as was usually done.

John Hawkins desiring the Spectators to be silent, said: *Christians, I am brought to this Place of Shame for my Sins; I hope and earnestly hope all Christians will join with me in Prayer for the Pardon of my Crimes; I forgive all, and hope to be forgiven of all my self. I beg all here present will take Warning by my wretched Death, and avoid what led me to it. Pray for me blessed People! Pray for my departing Soul! Christ receive me! Lord Jesus come quickly.* Being in some Confusion, he was turn'd off, and died not without prodigious Difficulty and Struggling, contrary to his Friend, who was more compos'd before he died, and more easily lost his Breath.

Executed at Tyburn May 21, 1722.

They were both carried in a Cart to *Hounslow-beath*, and there hung in Chains.

An Account of the Behaviour, Confession, and Last Dying-Speech, of Matthias Brinsden, for the Murder of his Wife Hannah Brinsden, on the 16th Day of July, 1722, in the Parish of St. Anne, Black-Fryars.

AT the Sessions which began at the *Old-Bailey*, on Friday the 7th of *September*, 1722, was condemned *Matthias Brinsden*, of the Parish of *St. Anne, Black-Fryars*; for that he, on the 16th Day of *July*, 1722, did mortally wound, and murder, *Hannah Brinsden*, his Wife, by giving her (with a Knife of seven Inches in Length) a Wound under the left Pap, of the Length of one Inch, and about the Depth of six Inches; under which mortal Stroke she lay in Agony for one Hour,

Hour, without Power to speak, or accuse any one of bringing her to an untimely End, and then expired.

This Malefactor being a considerable Time under Confinement before his Trial, and the Exclamations of the Town being strong and violent against him ; I was desir'd by a great Number of People to take a peculiar Regard of his Soul, his Death being as certain as his Imprisonment : Accordingly, I sent for him to the Chapel, observing he absented himself, but he made an Excuse not to be there ; upon my repeating and sending to him, the Messenger told me, and said he was brought up according to the Way of the *Roman Catholicks*, and had nothing to do with our Chapels, Parsons, or Prayers : But this, I believe, was only to prevent his being forced to the Chapel, that he might indulge himself in Sloath and Idleness : Tho' afterwards, he deny'd that ever he declar'd himself a *Roman Catholick*, or so much as ever spoke to the Messengers I sent.

However, during the whole Time that he lay before Condemnation, he never once appear'd at Prayers ; when he was upon his Trial, it was thought remarkable, and a Token of a Savageness and Barbarity of Nature, that, instead of throwing himself upon the Mercy of the Court ; instead of desiring Death rather than Life, with Remorse of Conscience ; instead of bursting out into Tears, for the Loss of the Partner of his Bed, his Joys and Griefs ; he insisted on trifling Allegations ; said his Wife lov'd *Brandy* and *Geneva*, disobey'd his Commands, and would not be easy to live as he liv'd ; making a Remark, that the Surgeon must swear falsely, in asserting that the Wound was six Inches deep, when the Knife produced in Court was not six Inches long.

After his Condemnation, he being at Chapel, I examin'd him, and tax'd him with having so little Regard for his Soul, which must so assuredly make its Appearance in another World, in so short a Time : He answered, *That he trembled at the Thoughts of an avenging God, but not the more for having ended his Wife's Days, which was accidental* : At the same time, he took hold of my

two Shoulders, turn'd me round, twisting his own Body in a very strange Manner, in order to explain fully to me the Way in which he perform'd the Murder, his Wife (he said) being pushing violently by him, that she might force her Way to the Brandy-Shop, near her House, where he said she continually went.

I ask'd him, *How he could bathe his Hands in the Blood of his Wife, who was his own Flesh, and we are told, no Man ever yet hated his own Flesh? What induced him to pierce that Breast, that had once thought so kindly of him as to wed him? How he could wish to see that Face pale in Death, in which he had once delighted in?* To this he answer'd, that he was as innocent of Guilt as the Child unborn; that his Wife was jovial and gay, with 4 or five Women at his House that Evening when he went home, was free and merry with them for a considerable Time: They going away, he took a narrow sharp Knife, (which he used in his Business) in order to cut some Bread and Cheese; his Wife enquiring if she must feed on Cheese and Bread at Noon, and also at Night; he asked her if she was so nice, that she could not digest what he and his Children did? Whereupon, she answer'd in Anger, *She would not.* That he intended then to give his eldest Daughter a Pye; as he sometimes befriended her a little in her Dyet, because she was (he said) a good Girl, took Care of his Children when his Wife was at the Geneva Shop, and did a great deal of Business, and he thought well deserv'd much more than was in his Power to bestow upon her.

He added, that these Things exciting his Wife, in some measure to Anger, she thrust him by to get thro' the Door, he resolving she should not go abroad, but stay at home at Nights, as became a good Wife. In preventing her going out, (having the Knife and Bread in his Hand) the Knife unhappily she thrust into her own Side. We asked, How then the Wound could be so deep? He answered, That she resolv'd to go to the Geneva-Shop, and that nothing but Death should stop her; denying that he did it thro' Passion, or was so
 much

much as angry with her. Being asked then, how he came to burn her Arms with a red-hot Poker some Years ago? He said, she was of such an odd Temper, that nothing but Beating would do with her, and she was commonly good for a Week after; but if he let her alone for a Fortnight, she would consume all, and turn the House almost upside down; which was the Reason, that it was just a Week between this Scuffle that prov'd her Death, and the Fray the *Monday* before, when the Shears were run into her Skull, and she was cover'd with Blood, upon which he run away, till he heard she was not dead.

He said farther, That tho' his Daughter swore, he threw his Wife down on the Bed with one Hand, and stabb'd her with the other, he laid her gently on the Bed, to preserve her from Death, and to save the Infant that was sucking at her Breast. He added, that he would that Moment have given a thousand Worlds for her Life; and sent for Basilicon and Sugar, to retain that Life a while which he could not recall; in order to have her to declare, *That there was no Malice between them, and she could not believe he design'd her Death.*

He also said, That when he was escap'd to Mr. Key's at *Shadwell-Dock*, he felt that Uneasiness in his Mind, that he wish'd he might be taken up; and tho' he was then in Bed, the Apprehensions of his Mind, would not let him sleep, but he fancy'd he heard the Constable approaching to seize him every Moment, even while he was safe on his Pillow.

After this, he kept constantly to Prayers, except a Day or two, that he was sick of three Maladies (he said) at once: But when his Daughter who was Evidence against him, appear'd in the Chapel, to beg he'd forgive her, he turn'd away and would not see her; when the Girl kneel'd down before him, with Hands lift up, and in Tears begg'd him to forgive her; and there were near twenty other Persons (some of them kneeling to him) begg'd with Tears, he would pardon his Daughter,

ter, &c. He was about half an Hour before he could be persuaded to say he forgave her ; and it was next Day before he could be induc'd to kiss her, as she begg'd most earnestly he would ; tho' two Clergymen, and others, represented to him, that she was but a Child of sixteen ; could mean him no Harm, and had only done what Justice and the Law oblig'd her to perform : At last, when he seem'd really to be in Charity with her, he said, (crying very lamentably) *For Christs sake my Child, God forgive me, I have robb'd you of your own Mother ; be a good Child ; rather die than steal ; never be in Passion, but curb your Anger ; and honour your Mistress, for she'll be both a Father and a Mother to you : Farewel my Dear, Pray for your Father, and think of him as well as you can !*

During this, the sad Sorrow of the Daughter was increased, by the Sight of her Father who wasted away to a Skeleton, from a sanguine florid Complexion ; which was not occasion'd, he said, so much by any Sicknefs he sustain'd, as by the inward Vexation of his Mind, which prevented his receiving any Nourishment from his Food.

The Morning before he dy'd, he said, Death was very acceptable to him, but he hoped he should not be refused the Sacrament, but allowed to receive it in some Place more free from Noise and Tumult, than the Chapel us'd to be ; which was administred to him on *Monday* Morning, agreeable to his Request. Before he went to the Sacrament, he took his last Farewel of all his Children, with an incredible Number of Tears from him and them. As the Sacrament was giving, he passionately called on Christ, cry'd vehemently, wrung his Hands, &c. After he had receiv'd it he grew calm, and so continu'd till his Death.

At the Place of Execution, being taken out of the Cart, and plac'd under *Tyburn*, he regarded none, but stood as wholly wrapt in Thought, without any Surprise or Consternation. But afterwards the Prayers being begun, he was earnest and attentive. Then desiring Silence among the People, he desired I would speak aloud
what

what was dictated to me by him, his Voice being too weak to reach the People around : It was as follows.

‘ I was born of kind Parents, who gave me Learning ;
 ‘ went Apprentice to a *Fine-Drawer* : I had often
 ‘ Jars, which might encrease a natural Waspsifness in
 ‘ my Temper. I fell in Love with *Hannab* my late
 ‘ Wife, and after much Difficulty won her, she having
 ‘ five Suiters at the same Time. We had ten Children
 ‘ (half of them dead) and I believe we lov’d each other
 ‘ dearly ; but often quarrelled and fought. Pray good
 ‘ People mind, I had no Malice against her, nor thought
 ‘ to kill her two Minutes before the Deed ; but I de-
 ‘ sign’d only to make her obey me thoroughly, which
 ‘ the Scription says, *all Wives should do*. This I
 ‘ thought I had done, when I cut her Skull on *Monday*,
 ‘ but she was the same again by *Tuesday*.

‘ Good People, I request you to observe, That tho’
 ‘ the World has spitefully given out, that I carnally
 ‘ and incestuously lay with my eldest Daughter, I here
 ‘ solemnly declare, as I am entering into the Presence of
 ‘ God, I never knew whether she was Man or Woman,
 ‘ since she was a Babe ; I have often taken her in my
 ‘ Arms, often kiss’d her, sometimes given her a Cake
 ‘ or Pye, when she did any particular Service, beyond
 ‘ what came to her Share ; but never lay with her, or
 ‘ carnally knew her, much less had a Child by her :
 ‘ But when a Man is in Calamities, and is hated like
 ‘ me, the Women will make Surmises be Certainties.
 ‘ Good Christians pray for me ; I deserve Death ; I
 ‘ am willing to die ; for tho’ my Sins are great, God’s
 ‘ Mercies are greater.

He was executed at *Tyburn* Sept. 24, 1722.

The Behaviour and Confession of Charles Weaver, who was indicted for the Murder of Eleanor Clark, Widow, by giving her a Wound of the Depth of 7 Inches with a Sword, near the Left Shoulder, on the 6th of December 1722, of which Wound she instantly expir'd. It appearing by the Evidence of two Watermen, and of Edward Morris in the Boat with them, that Weaver was angry with Eleanor Clark, for bidding him pay Morris the Money he owed him, upon which he endeavour'd to overturn the Boat, but being prevented by Thomas Watkins the Waterman, he drew his Sword, and vowed he would kill them all, but making Passes at them, did destroy only Eleanor Clark; this appearing to the Jury, he was found guilty of the Indictment.

HE said he was 30 Years of Age, born in the City of Gloucester, where he was put Apprentice to a Goldsmith, and serv'd near four Years, but spending beyond his Circumstances, he went into the Service of the late Queen: He said, that the Captain he was under, going over with Soldiers out of the Savoy to America to quell the Indians, who had taken up Arms against the English Plantations, he went with him; being arriv'd in the West-Indies, they mounted all their Cannon, and what the Governor also had belonging to his Residence, and wanted only Numbers of Men to have subdu'd the
Indians

Indians at once ; but they collecting vast Numbers, laid Ambuscades in the thick Woods which were to be pass'd thro', and destroy'd several of the *English* ; some of the *Indians* being arm'd with Guns, tho' most of them were naked ; but after a great many of them were slaughtered, they durst not appear any more, but kept close in thick Woods, where they could run much faster than any *Englishman* could follow, after which they went up into *America* ; but as the *Indians* are unaccountably malicious where they have a Quarrel, they slew several belonging to the Plantations, sometime after, in a very treacherous and cruel manner, sending their Lips, Ears, and Noses, &c. for Presents.

After he had continu'd here near two Years, he return'd into *England*, and from thence went into *Spain*, where he was in some Fights, and receiv'd Wounds, when the Honourable the Earl of *Peterborough* was General : He added, that he receiv'd such Kindness from the *Spaniards*, as he never receiv'd from any *Englishman*, and intended to have spent his Days in that Country, if he might have been allow'd to do so ; but being with the late Duke of *ORMOND* when *Vigo* was taken, he had for himself several hundred Pounds, and brought it into *England* as soon as possible, intending to set up at *Gloucester*, but the Money insensibly wasting, he betook himself to the Wars, and was a second Time at the taking of *Vigo*.

He also said, that belonging to the second Regiment of Guards, he was so much in Favour with his Officer, that he took him into his House, where he liv'd for several Years, and was twice review'd in order to his being of the Life-Guard, had he not been imprison'd and convicted of this Murder : He added, that he thank'd God, that during the whole Course of his Life he never wrong'd or defrauded any one of a Half-penny, but had behav'd himself like a Gentleman, and a Soldier, having a Soul above such vile Ways of getting Money, but was sorry to say, that others had not dealt so honestly by him, but had defrauded him of five Guineas,

neas, which was sent him from a Friend in the Country; also of a good Coffin which a Gentleman in *London* had employ'd a Person to buy for him.

His Wife with Child being kill'd about a Fortnight before, by a Dray or Cart that ran over her, as she was going to her Husband in *Newgate*, added very much to his Misfortunes; but he hop'd somebody wou'd take Care of his late Wife's Son, about seven Years old, should have a small Estate that was left him by his Grand-mother, for he had no one else to bequeath it to. He much lamented his having always liv'd in such a Way, that he had wholly forgot to Write and Read, which incapacitated him from performing his Duty, adding, that he had greatly neglected the Church of God, and had scarce heard one Word of the Scripture for several Years, before he was confin'd to *Newgate*, but he hop'd his Misfortunes, like those of the Prodigal Son, had reclaim'd him; and that he should attain to the Portion of the Righteous, by dying the Death of the Wicked.

This Prisoner also said, that *John Funks*, otherwise *Lewee*, having unexpectedly a Present made him of a Coffin, he began to fit it to his Feet at first, passing several Jest's upon it; but that he being offended at *Funk's* Behaviour, said to him, *That he need not be so witty upon, or ridicule that Wood, for 'twould be able to hold him fast while he was torn to bits by Worms.* And added, that he endeavour'd to settle his Thoughts every Hour and Minute upon Heaven, rising by Three each Morning to begin his Devotion with any one that was stirring.



The Behaviour and Confession of John Levee, otherwise Junks, who was indicted for assaulting William Young, Esq; and Colonel Cope, in a Chariot on this Side Hampstead, about Six at Night, on the 10th of December, 1722. It appearing that John Junks and Matthew Flood, and J. Blake (the Evidence) being together robbing on Hampstead Road, Blake went before to give Notice, and crying out lay hold, Flood laid hold of the Horses, while Junks enter'd the Chariot, and took from Mr. Young a Gold Watch and Chain, two Seals, and a Ring; and from Colonel Cope, a Gold Watch, and a Ring, and 22 s. in Money: The Evidence appearing plain, the Prisoner was by the Jury found Guilty. He was at the same Time convicted in all of four Robberies.

THIS unfortunate Person (whose Name was *Levee*) was about 30 Years of Age, being born he said in *St. Clement's* Parish. His Father (a *French Gentleman*) was one of those who came over with King *Charles II.* and had the Honour to instruct three Dukes, Sons to the said King, in the *French Tongue*, having a House at that Time in *Pall-Mall*. Some Years afterwards he was a Wine Merchant, and dealt for many Thousands *per Annum* to *France*, at which Time he said, (tho' since reduc'd) the Children walk'd the Streets with a Footman or two after them; but his Father afterwards, thro' Misfortunes and Losses failing in the
World,

World, was oblig'd to leave his Family and go into *Holland*: Upon which, this unhappy Son *John* was taken by the *French Society*, in order to his being put Apprentice, but instead thereof, was put to a Captain of a Man of War, being then very young; tho' he was several Years at Sea, he had the Fortune he said, never to be in any, even the slightest Engagement, nor to have any one with him damag'd; adding, that he was in the *Essex* when the *Spanish Ships* were taken in the *Mediterranean*, but that Victory was so easily obtain'd, and there was so little need of the Ship he was in, that he could not properly say he was then in any Fight. Afterwards, returning into the *British Channel*, he was turn'd over into the *Elizabeth* Man of War, in which he went under Sir *John Norris* into the *Baltick*; but the *Muscovite Ships* not daring to face the *English* at Sea, and it being judg'd by the Admiral impracticable to attack them in their good Harbour of *Revel*, he also return'd from thence without having the Happiness, he said, of being in an Engagement.

After he return'd Home, he said, he was to have been a Book-keeper to a Merchant in *Tower-street*, but not having Patience to perfect himself in Arithmetick, and being of too busy a Nature to be still and quiet even one Day, as there was not Employment ready cut out to his Hands, he easily fell in with some who at a Publick-House in *Holborn* talk'd to him, at first in a jesting Way, of going like *Gentlemen on the Highway*; but he added, that he believ'd a Quarrel he then had with his Companion, would have diverted him from those vicious Pursuits, if a Destiny had not over-rul'd his Actions.

He and *Blueskin*, he said, robb'd often on the other Side of the *Thames*, in *Kent* or *Sussex* Road, in particular, about the beginning of *October 1722*, they stop'd (I think) the *Camberwell Stage-Coach*, near *Stoke-Newington*, going from *London*, about Six o'Clock in the Evening, there being one Lady, and four or five Gentlemen, they desir'd them not to frighten the Lady, for she was with Child; upon which they did not search
any

any one, but holding a Hat, took what was put into it, which he thought by the Quantity had been a great Sum of Moncy, but found afterwards 'twas mostly Farthings, unless his Companion had cheated him of Part, which Trick he had before play'd him; but they heard afterwards, that there were several hundred Pounds about the Coach.

He added, that in the same Road they stop'd a Gentlewoman alone in a Coach, who had a large Basket of Cakes or Buns, three or four of which he took, *Blue-skin* search'd her, but had nothing from her: He said farther, that had it been a Man he would far'd badly; for she struck them, he said, on the Face, and used them very roughly, but that she was a Woman they let her go, and got nothing of her. He also said, they went on *Black-Heath* three or four Times to rob, but meeting with no Adventures there, they quitted that Road, and went where there was more Danger, and more Prospect of Profit.

One *Sunday* Night in *October* they met a Coach coming from *Kensington Gravel-Pits*, with two young Ladies and a little Miss; bidding the Coachman and the Footman go on the other Side of the Ditch, they robb'd the young Ladies of about 10 s. in Money, two Necklaces, a Girdle-Buckle, which they broke off, and of the Effigie of a Man, which they thought had been of solid Silver, but selling it afterwards in *Newtners-Lane*, he could make but very little of it: He said, he had Reason for fancy, that the Footman, whom they order'd to go over the Ditch or they'd shoot him, had two Watches about him.

He here acquainted me with more Robberies than I had Leisure then to recount, but some I shall mention, as it may perhaps be some Satisfaction to the Persons robb'd, tho' it can be no Advantage to them.

About the 1st or 2d of *December* 1722, they robb'd a single Gentleman in a Coach, on the *Hampstead* Road, he having no Watch, they took his Money, which was not quite 30 s. but scorn'd he said, at any Time to take any Apparel, tho' never so good.

About

About seven Days after they robb'd a *Butcher* on Horseback on the same Road, who told them he had sold two Lambs, and they took the Money for them, being about 28 s. but he added, that the *Butcher* being faucy, they took from him his great Coat, not for the value of it, and he believ'd that they should have been rougher with him, but that *John Levee* knew a *Jews* Coach which was coming with People in it who knew him and his Father.

As to the Night they robb'd Mr. *Young* and Colonel *Cope*, he said, that before they attempted those Gentlemen, this *John Levee* stop'd a Man on Horseback, but his Foot slipping just as he laid hold of the Bridle, the Man rode away, he fired a Pistol after him, intending to have kill'd his Horse, but the Pistol missed Fire. Then three Men came riding along on full Speed, being inform'd of what had passed, by the Man who escap'd; but they seeing a Chariot approaching, they let the Horsemen pass unmolested, that Chariot being Mr. *Young's*, they robb'd it, as appear'd upon their Trials: But this *John Levee* took Notice, that those two Gentlemen he believ'd might then have taken him, for he was in the Chariot without any Arms, having given away his Pistol to his Companion; and *Blueskin* being on the other Side the Ditch, but that he offer'd nothing rough or uncivil to them; adding, that he would have sent the Cornelian Ring to the Corner House in *Bloomsbury-Square* the next Day, as one of the Gentlemen desir'd, but his Companion would not agree to it.

The same Night they met a poor Man, and took his Horse out of the Road where there was two Haycocks, because the Moon was so bright they could not stand in the Highway; that behind the Haycocks they rifled him, but found but 2 s. and some Farthings: That they were going to bind him for having so little, but he complaining that he was very sick, they help'd him again on Horseback, because he was unable to get up himself, and return'd him his Money, and led his Horse safe into the Road again.

These

These are most of the Robberies which he could remember, except those four for which he was indicted: He said, he never used any Man cruelly but *Simon Betts*, whose Eye he beat quite out with his Pistol, because the said *Betts*, as he affirm'd, rashly struck him several Blows with an Oaken Stick.

As to the Behaviour of this unhappy Man, it was at first undaunted and bold; but afterwards as calm, a serious, and as earnest in his Devotions, as any one I ever saw in that Condition. He said before he dy'd, that he hop'd he *had fought the good Fight*, as formerly against innocent Men, so now against *Satan* and evil Spirits. The Sacrament he receiv'd with a great deal of Devotion, and excited his Companions to do the same.

The Behaviour and Confession of Richard Oakey, who was indicted and convicted of the same Robbery committed on the Persons of William Young, Esq; and Colonel Cope, as likewise of another Robbery.

HE was born in *London*, about 25 Years of Age, put Apprentice to a *Taylor*, but his Master failing, at the End of two Years he betook himself, he said, to Street-Robberies for several Years, and robbed he believ'd above a hundred Women of their Pockets; for if they had two or three Men with them, he fear'd not to take up their upper Petticoat, and to cut off their Pocket, tripping them down at the same Time, and being very well dressed, he only step'd on the other Side of the Way and walk'd on, not being suspected: He took to this Way when he was but a Boy, and at length had a Woman, who used to stand close to, or run against the Person he robb'd, while he robb'd her; or sometimes to catch the Woman fast round the two Arms behind, crying out, that a Coach would run over her,

her, while this *Oakey* cut off her Pocket; but that Woman was kill'd in a bad Houfe he believ'd by one of her Bullies, to whom she had given the foul Dif-eafe; but the People of the Houfe fearing themselves to come into Trouble, (because feveral Neighbours would Witnefs that Murder was frequently cry'd out in the Houfe) fmother'd up the Matter, and none of her Relations to this Day, knew what became of her.

After he had long prosper'd in this Way, he thought to undertake a higher Way of robbing; but the fecond Houfe that he broke open with two others, was in *Southwark*, near the *Mint*, from whence they took *Ca-lamanco* to the Value of 22 *l.* and being apprehended, he was made an Evidence, and his two Companions were convicted at *Kingston* Affizes; but one receiving a Pardon, the other only was executed, whose Name was *Harvey*.

This unfuccefsful Beginning made him at once for-sake his intended Courfe of Houfe-breaking, and re-tur to Street-Robberies, in which one they call'd *Will* the Sailor, was affiftant to him, and fometime wore a very long Sword, and pick'd Quarrels with fingle Gen-tlemen without Swords, that engaging with them, *Oakey* might run away with their Hats, Wigs, or Swords, during the Skirmish: But that Fellow for-fak-ing him, he fell into Acquaintance with *Reading*, *Harves*, *Milkfop*, *Lincoln*, *Wilkinfon*, and others, all ex-ecuted for Robberies on the *Hampstead* Road, he men-tion'd about 20 Robberies he was in, and added, that there was fcarce a Robbery committed by them, but he was either concern'd in it, or was employ'd the mean Time by them in felling Goods, getting, and cleaning Pi-ftols, or the like in *London*, and had fome Part of their Booty; for one *Nathaniel Harves* ufed to tell him, he was too little of Body for a Hero. Being ask'd if *Wil-kinfon* was not a cruel Fellow in his Robberies, he wou'd not own that he ever, except once, bound or abus'd thofe he robb'd, and that he struck a Man whom he robb'd near *Highbate*, a-crofs the Shoulder with the Handle

Handle of the Man's own Whip, &c. He added, that he robb'd a Person who liv'd at the farther End of *Grays-Inn-Lane*, whose Name he thought was *Seats*, along with *Robert Wilkinson*, for which the said *Wilkinson* was try'd, but the Person robb'd could not give Witness against him.

Before he dyed, being perfectly destitute of all Expectations of Life, he set himself seriously to prepare to a future State, never missed the Prayers in the Chapel, and (as I was told) delighted to get up three or four Times in the Night with the rest, as their Custom was, to go to Prayers together, and to sing Psalms, they being so often called upon to their Duty by a Person who went into the Place with them for that Purpose.

At the Place of Execution.

Charles Weaver spoke to the People, denying his Offence, and *Richard Oakey* said, what most concern'd him was, that about eight Months before, in *Cornhill*, when he robb'd a Woman of her Pocket, in which was 16 or 17 Guineas, two Guineas loose, and a Coral, and two Gold Rings, he burnt a Will which he found among other Papers, and he believ'd would be greatly detrimental to her.

John Levee said, he robb'd a Gentleman in a Hackney Coach of about 28 s. between the Turnpike and *Tyburn*. After I had pray'd by them, he spoke to the People, affirming, that *T. James* declar'd to him, that he did not sell two Gold Watches to one *Gretrix*, but to another Person. After he had shew'd his Anger and Passion, that his Hands must be ty'd like the others, and that his Cap must be pull'd over his Face, he was forc'd to submit to the same Fate with the rest of them.

They were executed at *Tyburn* on *Friday* the 8th of *February*, 1722.

The Confession and Behaviour of William Duce, a Highway-Robber, who was convicted in July Sessions 1723.

HE was born in the Parish of *Woolverhampton*, and was in the 25th Year of his Age; he had but a small Share of Education in the Principles of his Religion, but before his Death was extremely desirous of Instructions for the Salvation of his Soul, expressing an utter Abhorrence and Detestation of the Crimes he had committed, which then were the Occasion of his leaving the World in the most ignominious and scandalous Manner. It was his Misfortune, he said, to be committed to the Prison of *Newgate* for Debt, (by one—*Allum*) which he was not in a Condition to pay, and lay in that lamentable Place for about fifteen Months, and eleven Days, reduc'd to the utmost Extremity, and there it was that he contracted a vicious Conversation, and was no sooner at Liberty, than with his Associates, seeking for Prey. The Robberies he committed with others, he very frankly declar'd, upon my Demonstrations of the Necessity of such a Confession; and what I shall relate I never committed to my Memory, but penn'd down from his own Mouth, together with the Days of the Month (as far as he could remember) and in the Order I shall now present the Reader with, *viz.*

The first was in *December 1722*, in *Chelsea-Fields*; upon a Gentleman, from whom he (with another) took three or four Guineas, whose Name, as I shall tell you hereafter, he desir'd to conceal.

The second was committed in *St. James's Park*, with two more, whose Names, Persons, and Places of Abode, he again desir'd might not be publish'd.

The

The third was upon *Tower-Hill*, and managed solely by *Dyer*, the Evidence against him, who was the Occasion of the Prisoner's Ruin and untimely Death.

The fourth was in *Tottenham-Court Road*, where they accosted a Gentleman, he believ'd intoxicated with the Fumes of Wine (his Horse throwing him) and from him *Dyer* and *Rice* took a Gold Watch only.

The fifth was upon Mr. *Holmes* at *Chelsea*, (for which he and *Butler* died for) from whom they had a Guinea and 2 d. but *Dyer* kept all the Money, cheated them of it, as he term'd it, and afterwards took away their Lives.

The sixth he with two others, robb'd in the Road to *Chelsea* three Persons in Company, but he neither knew any of them, nor remember'd the Sum.

The seventh, In the same Road, *April 29*, he with *Dyer* robb'd a Coach with two Men and a Woman in it, and he (with some Warmth and Indignation) said, that his Fellow Robber abused one Man extremely, and took from the Woman her Head-cloths.

The eighth and last, he declar'd as a dying Man was in *Hampstead Road*, with *Butler* and *Dyer* upon a Coachman: He also said, that neither *Butler* nor he did consent to rob the Man; yet notwithstanding *Dyer* demanded and receiv'd half a Crown from him, and told him he would make him Amends another Time; but neither the Prisoner nor *Butler* had one Farthing of the Money.

P. S. The Reason *Duce* desir'd to have Names, &c. as I observ'd before, conceal'd was, that those Persons never had been engag'd with him in any Robbery or evil Action; that he verily believ'd by their leaving off that Practice (according to what they had long ago declar'd) they would never return to such a miserable Way of living; and that should he make them publick, in all Probability, it would tend to the Ruin of them, and their innocent Families.

He also desir'd Forgiveness of the World, and that his Mother might not be reflected upon. He further added, that when *Joseph Rice* was kill'd, his Wife was a Stranger to their Design upon the *Lady Chudleigh*, and that *Dyer* was the only Contriver of that Attempt.

Thinking it dangerous for them to stay longer in those Parts, they agreed to cross the Countries into *Hampshire*, where they committed several barbarous Robberies; Murder being grown so habitual to them, that the Life of a Man was no more than that of a Dog, or any other Animal; but he added, that he should not have been so cruel towards his Fellow Creatures, but was excited frequently by *Wade*, *Darker* and *Mead*, his Accomplices, who never thought themselves secure, if the Life of the injur'd Person remain'd.

After they had robb'd in different Parts of *Hampshire*, they took to the *Portsmouth* Road, where their last barbarous Action was well known. They there assaulted one Mr. *Bunch*, near a Wood, into which they dragg'd him and stripp'd him naked, but not contented with all he had, *Duce* we are now mentioning, shot at his Head, and the Bullet passing thro' his Jaw, lodg'd in his Mouth; they were then leaving him, but the wounded Man turning his Face downwards, that the Bullet might fall out of his Mouth, they perceiv'd he was yet alive; *Butler* upon that turn'd back, and was charging his Pistol again; and tho' the wounded Man begg'd on his Knees for his Life, and their Mercy, yet it was not granted him, whereupon he resum'd his Strength, ran from them, and escaped. The next Village being raised, and soon after the whole Country, they were apprehended, and put into *Winchester* Goal, and *Mead*, *Wade*, and *Darker* were found Guilty; but *James Butler* was remov'd to *Newgate* for another Offence, and convicted at the *Old-Bailey*.

wherein were two Men, a Woman, and a Child, taking from them 10 s. but *John Dyer* broke the Woman's Head with his Pistol for her Tongue, and carried away her Head-cloths; we then robb'd a Man in a Coach on *Hamstead Road*, and took from him 10 s. 6 d.

After this I went to a Place call'd *Wandsworth*, and working with one *Cladins*, a poor honest Man, till my Wife was taken up in order to make her discover where I was, and hereupon sent to *Clerkenwell-Bridewell*, and I was forc'd to leave my Place and return to robbing. *Edward Wade*, *John Mead*, *Alexander Garnes*, *Christopher Spiggot*, and myself, attack'd four Gentlemen on the *Gravesend Road*, and *John Meads* shot their Servant in the Breast: The same Night we robb'd a Man, and the said *John Mead*, shot him too in the Breast, and ordering to go to *Gravesend*, after mounted his Horse, he turn'd his Horse the other Way from whence he came, and shot the Man a second Time in the Face, the Bullet lodging in his Neck; so that I heard he was dead.

We then went to *Chiswick*, and staid one Night with *John Mead's* Friends, and then went to get some Support, I having some Money due to me from one *Smith*, but not having wherewith (through our extravagant living to reach to him) we about *Furnham* attack'd the Man whom I shot very foolishly through the Cheek, but who has since recover'd.

For these Cruelties, I beg of all Men not to reflect upon any of my Relations, who are not guilty with me, in particular my Wife, who after I was marry'd to her, hearing I had before been guilty of certain Facts, begg'd daily of me to lead a sober Life; and also *Mrs. Raddiffon* I return my last Thanks to, who trusted me many Pounds, and never would make any Demands, lest they should drive me to any Inconveniencies. I desire that Mercy of God which I refused to Man, I make Attonement with my Blood: I die a Roman Catholic. Sign'd by me in the Presence of Witnesses.

JAMES BUTLER.
N.

N. B. William Duce left a Letter with the Printer of the *Dying-Speeches*, directed to the Evidence *Dyer*, wherein he forgave him, as he hop'd for Forgiveness, exhorting him earnestly to Repentance, and made Use of the best Persuasions he was Master of, to reflect upon what was past, and to bid a final Adieu to such impious Proceedings, as they had been notoriously engag'd in.

And almost to the same Effect he left another Letter directed to one *R. W.* whose Name he desir'd might be conceal'd, being (as he said) fully convinc'd he would not be guilty any more of such enormous Practices, and that this his shameful Death would effectually work a compleat Conviction and Reformation in him.

The Behaviour, Confession, and dying Words of Capt. John Masséy, who was Executed at Execution-Dock, on Friday the 26th of July 1723, for Piracy on the High-Seas, near St. James's Island on the Coast of North Africa.

AT the *Admiralty-Sessions*, which was holden at *Justice-Hall* in the *Old-Bailey*, on *Friday* the 5th of *July 1723*, two Persons receiv'd Sentence of Death, viz. *John Masséy*, for Piracies committed on the *High-Seas*; and *Philip Roche* for the same Offence, but the Death of the latter of these being respited for some Time, the former was at that Time order'd for Execution.

John Masséy was very careful to provide himself with such Books as were necessary; but *Philip Roche* inform'd me, that he was a *Roman Catholick*, but nevertheless he frequented the Chapel for some Time, for the Benefit of the Air, and as he said, because he was assur'd, he

could there hear nothing that was bad ; but at length one of his Relations acquainted me, that I need not trouble myself to argue with him (as I had promised) concerning his Opinion, for he was resolv'd to die in the Faith he had liv'd in, and had a Person of his own Church who attended him : After this he left off coming to Prayers. *John Maffey* appear'd more serious and devout ; and tho' he was said to be in some Measure disturb'd in his Head, no one ever observ'd the least indecent or unbecoming Action in his Behaviour : When he first heard that he was on the *Friday* to suffer, he made no Account of it, but only ask'd me, as soon as he had an Opportunity, when he was to receive the Sacrament ? Being answer'd, that 'twas usual to give it a little before the Execution, he said it would be much to his Sorrow if he might not receive it then, and before his Execution too : Accordingly he receiv'd it with much seriousness and Devotion a Week before his Death, having first given a very compos'd Account of the Nature of it, and the Benefits proceeding from it.

Some Account of this Malefactor.

Captain *Maffey* being sent over from *Jamaica* into *England* several Months before, in order to his being tried for Piracies committed between the Coasts of *Africa* and the *West-Indies*, continued a Prisoner in *Newgate* for a considerable Time, in Expectation of a Session of *Admiralty*, which not being quickly obtain'd, he was bailed out, but continued not long at large, his Bail surrendering him up, himself with Readiness and Alacrity returning to his former Restraint ; and on the 5th of *July* 1722, he appear'd upon his Trial, which continu'd some Hours, and the Jury considering the fulness of the Evidence, and also his own Acknowledgments, brought him in Guilty. Tho' this was what he by no Means look'd for, yet Sentence being pronounc'd upon him, he was no Ways concern'd, nor appear'd

appear'd to be at all uneasy at it. He expressed a Satisfaction, that it was not his Fate to be in the Condemn'd Hole at a Time when it was crowded with a great Number of Malefactors; for he could not see how 'twas possible to read or pray, when eight or ten Men were all Day swearing and cursing, and drinking, in a Place so very small and straight; for being about 28 Years of Age, he was thoughtful and serious enough to weigh the Importance of a future State.

And we shall now add some Account of his Life, and if any other Person shall be warn'd thereby, it will not then be added in vain.

Tho' his Relations were sober regular People, yet such a natural Wildness was observ'd in the Genius of the Person we are now speaking of, (which was sometimes esteem'd a Degree of Lunacy, at other Times only a Heat and Vivacity of Temper) that they resolv'd to let him push his Fortune, either by going to Sea, or as a Soldier: He appearing at the Siege of *Lisle* in *Flanders*, and was there made a Lieutenant under the late Duke of *Marlborough*; after which he assisted at the Sieges of *Mons*, *Doway*, *Bouchain*, and three or four others, which he said, were conquer'd with so much Ease, that it appear'd to him to be like beating down Men at Nine-pins; and tho' he pressed as forward in every Place as possibly might be, he did not receive one honourable Scar.

Returning into *England*, he resolv'd to lead a Life entirely sober and regular, and accordingly went every Day to the Prayers, and every *Sunday* to hear Sermons, but a lewd Woman of the Town whom he lov'd, made him in a short Time take but little Pleasure in a sober Life, tho' it pleas'd Providence happily to prevent his being married to her; for the Regiment having Orders to remove, he on a sudden went over into *Ireland*, where he declar'd, that to his great Sorrow, he renew'd a Life of Debauchery; but as to Murder, Robbery, or the like, he stood wholly clear of such Offences.

The Royal *African* Company making Choice of him for their chief Engineer, in order to their erecting a new Fort in *Africa*, the old one being either demolish'd or impair'd, he fet out from *England* in Quality of Engineer and Lieutenant-Colonel, in a very good Ship belonging to the Company; and there he said, began the Date of his Misfortunes, here it was, that a wild Life was chang'd into a wretched one of Hardships: The chief Commander of the Ship, and the other Officers behaved themselves odly towards the Soldiers whom they were carrying over to Man the Fort or Garrison, denied them the Portion of Victuals and of Wine that had been promised them; so that almost the whole Number of Men fell sick, nor was there any one to pray by them, the Chaplain having left them, and staying behind at the *Madera* Islands. The Curses and Complaints of the dying Men was very lamentable to hear, nor could the Officers relieve them, being themselves in the same Condition; infomuch, that out of all the Officers none (he said) remain'd alive but he himself.

But after a sad Voyage, they arriv'd in (I think) the River *Gambia* in *Africa*, where being forc'd to drink the Water of the Place, it threw them into strange Fevers and Fluxes; so that instead of building a Fort, he used to see twenty Men at a Time rolling on their Backs in the Pains of Death: For tho' the Country afforded Fowls and Venison of several sorts, and other Provisions, which the Natives would have been ready to have sold them, yet they never tasted of them, being incapable of travelling through the parched Desarts to the Cottages belonging to the *Africans*, and especially in the bad State of Health they were in.

He added, that he had then a very dismal Prospect before him, his Countrymen lying all Dead about him, his Victuals all wasted, no Water that he dare taste of, in a strange Part of the World, surrounded with Savages, whose Language he was a Stranger to, and no Possibility of his ever getting the Ship back to *England* again. But Capt. ——— happening upon that Coast with

with his Ship, (being lighter than that which Mr. *Massey* was then left sole Commander of) he was importun'd by the Captain to go on Board his Ship and turn Pirate, which he was oblig'd at that Juncture to comply with ; but yet he acknowledged that he ought to have address'd himself to God for Directions how to act in Affairs so difficult, and to have sought the Assistance of Heaven, rather than that of Men.

He farther added, That they had not been long at Sea before they descry'd a Merchant's Vessel, which appear'd for their Purpose, and taking it without much Opposition, they secured the Sailors, and took such Provisions, Brandy, Rum, &c. as they had Occasion for upon the Seas, but did not abuse any Person in the Ship, nor damage the Ship itself. Two or three other Ships they also took, and solaced themselves in them, scuffling upon what they found, and looking in the Trunks and Coffers belonging to the Officers, Passengers, and others, and taking such Things as appear'd best for their Purpose ; adding, that the Captain of the Pirate Ship always ask'd him, What they should take ? But he as constantly turn'd about and reply'd, He might do as he pleas'd ; for he understood no more how to be a Pirate (he said) than to be a Mountebank ; and tho' here he liv'd very well, yet his Heart was uneasy, and he frequently dreamt he was in a Ship sailing to *Tyburn*, with Vessels about him. Tho' he carry'd a smiling Countenance, as well knowing that if the Pirates perceived in him the least Diffidence or Dislike, he was to be immediately thrown over Board, or have his Tongue cut out. But as the Ship touch'd at *Jamaica*, to buy some little Matters they wanted, he took Occasion to leave her, and going directly to the Governor, he inform'd him of his having been a Pirate, and taking such Ships, telling Sir *Nicholas Lawes*, how he might apprehend several Pirate Vessels, who immediately sent out Ships and took them.

Being unfortunately desirous of returning into *England* (tho' perhaps he might there have liv'd) the Governor

wrote Letters of Recommendation, which he carried with him. Arriving at his own Country, he submitted himself to the Magistrates, was committed Prisoner to *Newgate*, bailed out, given up by his Bail, and again return'd Prisoner to *Newgate*; remain'd there a great while, was tried, convicted, and receiv'd Sentence of Death: He never denying what he had done, but reminding the Evidence against him of several Facts and Circumstances they had forgot; tho' many Persons expressed a great Sorrow for him, he appear'd no Way troubled himself, affirming some Time afterwards, that he was ready and well satisfied to leave so careful, so tumultuous a World as this had prov'd to him, in Expectation that God would accept his poor Endeavours, and he should be translated to entire Joy and Satisfaction.

When he receiv'd the Sacrament, he did it in such a manner as shew'd he had made good Use of those Books which were sent him for that Purpose; and declar'd that he found himself more and more to grow out of Love with this World, and that he began to take a very uncommon Delight in reading and praying. As for the *African* Company (tho' he thought they had dealt severely with him) he would bless them as he pass'd by to his Death, and wish'd them more Prosperity in their Affairs. He ask'd Pardon of all those whom he had injur'd, and hop'd his Blood would make Attonement for all his Offences; in order thereto, he readily laid down his Life. As to the Rigour of Justice (he said) was us'd towards him, he wish'd the *British* Nation would use equal Severity to all Pirates, for the Honour of the *English* Ships, and the Benefit of particular Traders, that Sailors might pass without Fear, and united Companies traffick without Loss. Desiring all Persons who saw his Calamities, to prefer the soberest Life; but whatever Station or Condition they were in, to be easy and settled, and to endeavour to live as honestly in it as possible, without admitting of wand'ring roving Thoughts, lest by aiming to rise unjustly, they should miserably fall as he had done.

He was carry'd from *Newgate* to the Place of Execution in a Mourning-Coach, attended by the Reverend Mr. *Nicholson* of *St. Sepulchres*, and another Clergyman. When he came to *Execution-Dock*, he behav'd himself very decent, grave, and penitent; Courage attending him to the last Moment: His Desire after Execution was, that his Coffin be nail'd immediately after his Death, and that his dearest Wife might not see his Body, nor any of his Relations; and likewise begg'd that he might be buried as near his dear Mother as possible. When he came to the Place of Execution he made the following Speech, *viz.*

‘ Good People,
 “ I Beg of you to pray for my departing Soul; I like-
 “ wise pray God to forgive all the Evidences that
 “ I swore against me, as I do from my Heart: I
 “ challenge all the World to say, I ever did a disho-
 “ nourable Act, or any Thing unlike a Gentleman, but
 “ what might be common to all young Fellows in this
 “ Age; but this was surely a rash Action, for I never
 “ design'd or intended to turn Pirate, and I am very
 “ sorry for it, and I wish it was in my Power to make
 “ Amends to the Honourable *African* Company for
 “ what they have lost by my Means. I likewise de-
 “ clare upon the Words of a dying Man, that I never
 “ once thought of molesting his Grace the Duke of
 “ *Chandos*, altho' it has been maliciously reported, that
 “ I always went with two loaded Pistols to dispatch his
 “ Grace. As for the Duke, I was always while li-
 “ ving devoted to his Services, for his good Offices done
 “ unto me; and I humbly beg Almighty God, that he
 “ would be pleased to shower down his Blessings upon
 “ his good Family. Good People, once more I beg
 “ of you to pray for my departing Soul. I desire my
 “ dying Words may be printed, as for the Truth and
 “ Sincerity of them, I Sign them, as a Man departing
 “ this World.

The Behaviour, Confession, and Last Dying-Words of Philip Roche, who was executed at Execution-Dock at Wapping, on Wednesday the 14th Day of August, 1723, for Piracy on the High-Seas.

AT the Sessions of Admiralty, held at *Justice-Hall* in the *Old-Bailey*, on *Friday* the 5th of *July*, 1723, *Philip Roche* was indicted, for that he, together with *Neal Wise*, *Pierce Cullen*, and *Andrew Cullen*, (the last not yet taken) a considerable Time ago, did cruelly and barbarously assault and murder *Pierre Tartouè*, Master of a *French* Vessel, and his whole Ship's Crew, and afterwards made himself Master and Owner of the said Vessel, &c. Of the Piracy he was convicted, but there being no Evidence as to the most inhuman Murder, (all the Sailors having been destroyed) the Jury was obliged to acquit him of that.

This Malefactor (who shews us human Nature in its most deprav'd Appearance) was about thirty Years of Age, tho' it may seem he should be much older to have learn'd so much Cruelty. His Parents being in no great Affluence of Fortune, sent him young out of *Ireland*, (the Place of his Birth) and bred him to the Seas; having first taught him to read and write, which he afterwards very much improved himself in, as the Tumults, Business, and Clamours of a Ship would give him leave. Besides Coasting about the East of *Ireland*, and the West of *England*, he went some Voyages, he said, to the *Indies*, especially to *Barbadoes* for Sugars; and he labour'd to get there to be Clerk, or Factor to some Merchant; for the Life of a Sailor was what he liked not; yet he resolv'd never to settle on Shore, till
he

he could appear like a Gentleman. After using the Seas some time, he was in a Condition to obtain a first Mate's Place, in a Vessel that traded to *Nantz* in the West of *France*, and having Liberty of buying Goods for himself, he made several advantageous Voyages from *Cork*, *Waterford*, *Dublin*, and other Places in *Ireland*.

But yet thinking this a slow way of obtaining Wealth, he plotted some ill Things, which he put in Execution; but he did not mention what they were. Soon after, he became acquainted with *Neal*, a Fisherman, who was ignorantly bold, and audaciouſly ready to attempt any thing. That Person, he told me, first consulted him, in bringing about such a Piece of Villainy as was afterwards acted. Adding, that *Neal* told him *Pierce Cullen* was a proper Man also to be made use of as an Assistant, for that *Pierce Cullen* and himself had play'd many a Trick together; in particular had insured a Vessel in *England*, and insured it again in *Holland* (*Pierce Cullen* Master) and then had sunk it in order to get the Money; which they had gain'd, had not *Cullen* been known to have committed Facts of such a Nature before, for which Reason he was sent for to *London*, examined, and had a Trial, which demolish'd their Insurance-Game: Of that Vessel one *J. Cynnet* was formerly the Owner. There being now *Roche* and *Neal* and the two *Cullens*, they added *Wife* to their direful Confederacy, who by all their Acknowledgments was most unwilling to enter into the Design, and had the least Hand in the Perpetration of it.

They pitch'd on the Vessel belonging to *Peter Tartouè*, to execute their cruel Intentions upon, because it was a small one, and had not a great Number of Hands on Board; and 'twas easy afterwards to exchange it for one more fit for a Pirate Ship. The Particulars of this inhuman Action are as follows, as the whole Matter was told me by *Philip Roche*, when he was first apprehended, and afterwards confirm'd by the dying Words of *Richard Neal* and *Pierce Cullen*, in their last Confessions
taken

taken by a Gentleman who attended them in their last Moments in the *Marshalsea-Prison*.

Philip Roche, being an experienc'd Sailor, the Master of the Vessel readily entrusted the Ship to his Care and Command at any time; and now in particular, he and the chief Mate, &c. went all to rest, relying on *Roche*, *Cullen*, *Neal*, &c. it being about the middle of the Night the Massacre was to begin; but *Francis Wise* relented, and appear'd desirous to divert them from their bloody Purposes; Captain *Roche* reply'd, *As he and Cullen had sustain'd great Losses at Sea, unless every Irishman present would assist in repairing their Losses, by murdering all the French Rogues, and running away with the Ship, he should suffer the same Fate with the Frenchmen; but if all would assist, all should have a Share in the Booty.* After these Words they all resolv'd alike, and Capt. *Roche* order'd two *Frenchmen* on one Side to go up and furl the Sails, and another *Frenchman* and a Boy to do the same on the other Side; then the Massacre began; the two Men, upon their coming down, had their Brains beaten out, and were thrown over-board; the Man and Boy at the other Side of the Yard, seeing that, ran up to the Top-mast Head, but *Cullen* follow'd them, and taking the Boy by the Arm, tost him into the Sea; then driving down after the Man, those below knock'd him on the Head, and threw him over-board; that all the *Frenchmen* who were not at rest were murder'd in an Instant.

They who were asleep, being awaken'd by the sad Out-cries of dying Men, ran upon Deck in Confusion, to enquire the Cause of such Shrieks and Noises; but the same Cruelty was immediately acted towards all of them; for (some in their Beds, some just started up from Rest) they were all slaughter'd to a Man, and as they were recovering from Sleep, were drove into another World before they were sensible they were in this.

The Person we are here particularly speaking of, said, *That after the first two or three were massacred, Blood was as Water, and their being covered all over with it,*

was as if they had been wetted with Rain and Showers, for they regarded it no more. But those who appeared first from their Beds, were the Master and the Mate, whom *Roche*, *Cullen*, and *Neal*, tied Back to Back, and threw them in that Posture into the Sea. He said that Capt. *Tartouè* used many Words for Mercy, and asked if he had not used them with Civility and Kindness? If they were not of the same Christian Religion, and own'd the same Blessed *Jesus*? and the like: But they not regarding what he said, but continuing busy in fastening their Bodies together, the Mate, as well as the Captain, earnestly begg'd they would at least allow them a small Space of Time to say their Prayers, and just beg Mercy of God for the various Sins and Offences of their Lives; but this small Boon was not granted them, (although their Men being all dead, there could be no Danger from them two alone:) For *Richard Neal*, thinking *Roche* very slow in the Execution of his Work, hurried up the two bound Persons, and so they were thrown into the Sea, and immediately sunk; but he said, that he heard them call upon God, till the Waves overcame their Voices.

The Massacre being finished, they washed themselves a little from the Blood, and searched the Chests and Coffers, and all Places about the Ship; then sat down in the Captain's Cabbin, and refreshed themselves with some Rum, of which there was a small Barrel, and which they preferr'd to Brandy; he being never merrier in any Part of his Life than at that time. They then more firmly made him their Captain, and put the whole Command of the Ship upon him, calling him Capt. *Roche*, and talking over what Actions they would perform about *Sable Isle*, and *Cape Breton*, to which Places they design'd to go, after they had recruited and enlarged themselves in Men, &c. in order to take what they could from some who were grown rich by trading up the River *Canada* for Bear-Skins, &c. and lived upon the Island call'd *Newfoundland*. But at present they

they were very destitute of Money wherewith to hire Sailors to Man the Ship they were possess'd of.

The next Day turning into the *British* Channel, they put in, I think, at *Portsmouth*, where they got the Ship new painted, that it might not be known. They then went on to *Rotterdam*, where the Ship was again painted. There they endeavour'd to get Freight and Lading, having sold to the *Hollanders* all the Goods of Captain *Pierre Tartouè*. *Philip Roche* also affirm'd, that *Francis Wise* left them at *Rotterdam*, being hired by the Captain of another Vessel to go a Voyage with him : After which they took in Mr. *Annesley* and his Goods at *Rotterdam*, who freighted their Ship.

As soon as they were out, between *Holland* and *England*, it being a stormy Night, and very dark, (as *Roche* told me) they took up Mr. *Annesley*, their Passenger, and threw him into the Sea. At first *Philip Roche* said he was not concern'd in this Murder, but that he was looking out at the Cabbin Window, and saw and heard the Passenger swimming and plunging about by the Ship, and calling out for Life, and telling them they should have all his Goods, if they would receive him again into the Vessel ; and that he over-heard his Comrades plotting to cast him over-board also ; but that he begged them not to shed his Blood, and they should have the Command of the Ship, and all Mr. *Annesley's* Effects : However, he afterwards did not insist upon it, that this latter Relation was exactly true ; nor could he peremptorily deny but that he and *Cullen* were the chief and principal Contrivers of that cruel Acton.

This unparallel'd Inhumanity lay not long conceal'd ; for *Philip Roche* directed a Letter to his Wife, which was discovered to an Acquaintance, which contained what made it appear he was concerned in the Facts above mentioned. He was then apprehended, and examined before his Majesty's Principal Secretary of State, where for a long time he deny'd that he was *Philip Roche*, or that he knew any Man of that Name ; but Letters being read to him, and proved to be his Hand-writing,

Es.c.

Es^c. he was obliged to acknowledge the Matter: He there discover'd his Accomplices, and was told his Life should be sav'd on condition that he gave Evidence against three of his Accomplices worse than himself, so that they should be convicted and executed; which Matters, we may here observe, were not afterwards accomplished; for he made no such Discovery, tho' he lay long in Confinement: And *Cullen* in particular declared, before his Death, that 'twas long Imprisonment and extreme Want that prov'd the Occasion of his Death; whereupon was grounded his Petition, that the Fifty-six Guineas and seven Pistoles, together with the Trunk full of Clothes, taken from him by Order of the Lords-Justices in *Ireland*, might be restor'd to him in *England*.

As soon as he was sent to *Newgate*, I went to him, and found him under no Concern, or Uneasiness, nor in the least apprehensive of suffering for his Offence; telling me he was promis'd a Pardon, on condition he appeared as Evidence against his Accomplices, which he was very willing to do. At first he told me, that a Quarrel arising between a *Frenchman* and an *Irishman*, the Captain *Tartouè* prov'd partial to his own Countryman, and was going unjustly to lash the *Irishman*; whereupon the *Irish* resisted, the Quarrel became general, and the *Irishmen* threw the *Frenchmen* over-board: But afterwards he acknowledg'd, 'twas a Matter concerted some time before in their own Country, and executed in the dead Time of the Night. When he came first to Prison, he constantly frequented the Chapel, and behaved very well in his Place of Confinement, spending his Time mostly in Writing, wherein he serv'd any of his Fellow-Prisoners who request'd his Assistance that Way, and seem'd to take a great Delight in using his Pen. When he was told that one of his Associates had poison'd himself in the *Marshalsea*, he said, *He would let Providence work his Will upon him, for 'twas sad that a wicked Life should have a wicked Death*. When he heard that *Neal* at the Time of his Death voided Blood
at

at the several Parts of his Body, so that before he departed, he seem'd dipp'd in Gore; he made Answer, *That 'twas no Wonder, that one who lived in Blood should die in Blood.*

But his other Companions dying also, and in the same horrid and exemplary Manner, he was yet not apprehensive that he should suffer himself, but appear'd as chearful as if out of Confinement; imagining, that if they all died, by the immediate Hand of God, he should be enlarged directly, for the Confession he had made, and his having been ready to have given Evidence against them. He very much wish'd for the Sessions of Admiralty; which happen'd not (his Confederates not being all apprehended) till about a Year after he was first confined. He did what lay in him to clear those Felons that were in Confinement at *Edenburgh*, having been taken in the Ship of *Pierre Tartouè*, which *Neal* and *Roch*, &c. had turned a-drift.

On his Trial he appeared not very folicitous, knowing that 'twas impossible to convict him of the Murders, and as impossible he could get quit of the Pyracies. Being under Condemnation, he began rigidly to profess himself a Roman Catholick, and said he must conform wholly to the Direction of his *Priest*, who would not allow him any longer to join in our Way of Worship; so that he no longer us'd the Chapel, which till then he had frequented. Sometime after the Execution of Mr. *John Massy*, he sent a Letter to me, signifying among other things, that tho' he could not join in our Form of Worship, having been educated in a different Way, yet he would be glad if I would read and explain some Chapters in the Holy Bible, particularly what related to the *Passion of our Blessed Saviour, and to the blessed Resurrection*. Accordingly, on *Monday* I read to him the 15th of *St. Paul's* First Epistle to the *Corinthians*.

From whence we observ'd among other things, That 'twas for Man's Advantage to believe a Resurrection; even if (as the *Atheists* would persuade themselves) there should prove none; because 'tis a pleasing Expectation,

a delightful Hope of existing hereafter, and not falling into *Nothing*; which is what the Mind of Man naturally shrinks at: It is the only Balm that can appease the Uneasiness of the Soul, under earthly Misfortunes, Dungeons and Fetters: Affords a Hope of going from an ignominious Death to an everlasting Life: And there is something that powerfully convicts the Sinner of a Future State, and lies heavy on his Conscience, when he sees Death approaching. At that Hour something in his Breast proclaims a Deity and a Resurrection; something that weighs upon his Heart, and bids him not know Peace, till he is acquainted with his Creator. So that tho' Malefactors have sometimes long despis'd a Deity, yet at the Time of their Execution, they have trembled at what before they derided.

Before Sentence was pass'd upon him, he was much more willing to hear what was argued to him, than afterwards. Yet he desired that I would give him my Company before he died, to read to him some Places in the Holy Scriptures, and in those Books which were given him by Persons of his own Opinion. He appeared very serious and attentive; and the nearer Death approached, perceiving he should certainly suffer, he was more earnest and devout, assuring me, "That tho' he had not consider'd the Value of other Men's Souls, God had at length afforded him so much Grace as to regard the Importance of his own." *He added the Day before he died,* "That tho' some *Romanists* were of a different Opinion, he was fully satisfy'd that every Man must work out his own Repentance, and that there is no altering the Estate of the Soul after 'tis departed from the Body, but that as a Man dies he will remain to all Eternity.

The Morning he was executed he earnestly desir'd to be excus'd going into the Chapel, and from joining in any of our Prayers, depending on the Church of *Rome* for Pardon for his Crimes: As he appear'd so strict, and his Conscience so tender, no one was for obstructing his Sentiments; but I let him know, that I hop'd he did
not

not throw himself on the Church of *Rome*, because it was easier obtaining a Pardon from Men than from God; but that he would consider Repentance must be the Work of his own Heart.

At the Place of Execution, he said nothing to the People, being faint and confus'd, and in a Conternation. Being allowed some time for his private Devotions, he underwent that Punishment, which he acknowledged was most highly merited by him.

He was executed at *Execution-Dock* on *Wednesday* the 14th of *August*, 1722.

*The Behaviour and Confession of the Seven
Waltham Blacks, who were executed at
Tyburn on Wednesday the 4th of Decem-
ber 1723.*

SEVEN Men, call'd *Waltham Blacks*, having been apprehended (pursuant to a late Act of Parliament relating to Persons going arm'd in Disguise) and committed to *Winchester* Goal, and from thence by *Habeas Corpus* remov'd under a Guard of Soldiers to *Newgate*. On *Wednesday* the 13th of *November*, 1723, came on their Trials, at the Court of *King'-Bench*, before the Honourable Mr. Justice *Eyre*. The Evidence being strong, the Jury found them all guilty of Felony, and three of Murder likewise. On *Tuesday* *November* 19, Sentence of Death was pronounc'd upon them; and on the 27th a Rule of Court was made for their Execution.

They had Prayers in the Chapel twice a Day after Condemnation; but it was their Misfortune, that they could attend to them only when first under Sentence; afterwards losing their Senses, and being many of them light-headed, they were mostly incapacitated from read-
ing

ing and praying ; this they imputed to their miserable Place of Confinement, having been accusom'd to free Air in a Country Life. *Marſhal*, who was the Perſon that ſhot when Death enſued, was moſt viſited by God's Hand with Sickneſs : As ſoon as Judgment was pronounc'd upon him, he was taken ſpeechleſs, and continued ſo till a little before his Death. And this was the greater Miſfortune, as he could not read or write, nor appear'd to have any, even the leaſt Notion of his Duty, or of the Danger or wretched Condition he was in : But there were ſome well diſpoſed Perſons in the Place of Confinement, who aſſiſted theſe unhappy Wretches in preparing for Eternity, by reading to them, at thoſe Times when they were not ſent for to the publick Chapel.

The Account of theſe unhappy Men when under Condemnation.

1. **R**ICHARD *Parvin*, Maſter of a Publick-Houſe in *Portſmouth*, from his firſt Confinement, was moſt ſerious in Deportment, as if ſome Melancholy reſted upon him ; but I fear, the ſtrong Notions he entertain'd of a Reprieve, in ſome Meaſure prevented his placing his Thoughts wholly on Heaven ; and his perſiſting in the Declaration, that he was innocent of the Offence he was to die for, made it queſtionable, whether (when alone) he had any Tears of Contrition, or any hearty Sorrow.

He talked much, that being two Months in *Wincheſter* Goal, the Keeper continually deſired *James Anſel* and *Pink* to be honeſt, and clear *Parvin* : And added, that *Anſel* being examin'd in *Newgate*, did mention to the Gentlemen ſome things to his Advantage ; but it ſeems one of his Comrades ſaid upon the Road, *That whatever happened they would not loſe the Company of their Landlord*. He affirm'd that he was Maſter but of one poor Horſe, which uſed to go upon the Common,
nor

nor was able to carry such Loads of Venifon as they were reported to bring from the Forests ; and therefore pretended he could not furnish them with Horfes. But the Allegations againſt him appear'd on his Trial to be fully proved.

Being asked, if he was ſo very innocent, how he then came to be in the Forest with the Plunderers, on the 28th of *July*, when the Violence was acted ? He answer'd, ' That he was not with them, but was indeed ' on the Forest ; for having a young Maid, who was ' admired by ſeveral Gentlemen, ſhe happen'd in an ill ' Mood to fly from him over the Forest, (call'd, as I ' remember, *Bear-Forest* ;) thinking that her leaving ' him might be prejudicial to his Trade ; he haſted after her, and in the Search, call'd to reſreſh himſelf at ' an Alehouſe upon the Forest, kept by Mr. *Parford*, ' (who was an Evidence againſt theſe Men.) *I think he* ' *added*, That at that Houſe he found his Maid. *He* ' *farther ſaid*, that a Perſon who ſells Viſtuals in *Portſ-* ' *mouth* could have clear'd up his Innocence, and t'would ' have been a Chriſtian part to have done ſo. *He aſſert-* ' *ed*, that he could have gotten ſufficient Evidence from ' *Berkſhire*, had he been poſſeſs'd of Money ; but the ' Mayor of *Portſmouth* having ſeized upon all his Sub- ' ſtance, and he being hurried away from thence to Pri- ' ſon, he was ſo far from being able to bring Witneſſes ' to *London*, that his poor Family was already reduced ' to a moſt deplorable Condition.

He was oft and oft requir'd to place his Mind upon a future Eſtate. But nothing could make him believe that he either ſhould or ought to ſuffer Death : Yet his Behaviour was not any way indecent or unbecoming, but grave and dejected : Being above forty Years of Age, he could not but conſider the Conſequence of neglecting his Soul, thro' Expectations of what might deceive him to his eternal Ruin.

2. *Edward Elliot*, a Lad about ſeventeen Years old, was born at a Village between *Petteſworth* and *Guildford* : His Father, who was a Taylor, took care to learn

learn him to Read and Write well, and also instruct him in early Principles of Virtue. This *Elliot* said, that about a Year before he was apprehended, 30 or 40 Persons met in *Surrey*, and hurry'd him away; the Captain of them saying, *He enlisted him in the Name of the KING of the BLACKS, and he must disguise his Face, and obey Orders, whether it was to break down the Heads of Fish-Ponds, to slaughter Deer, to cut down Woods, or the like; and if he refused to enter himself among them, and to take a faithful Oath to be true to them and their Interests, they would turn him into a Beast, he should eat only Roots, and drink only Water, and bear Burdens as one of their Horses, &c.* However he at last escap'd from them, after he had seen them abuse two Men, by setting them fast in the Ground to their Chins, and then tormenting and teasing them in a foolish Manner, so as befitted Dogs rather than Men: And after that he had seen them take a Cart by Compulsion, and oblige the Driver to carry them, and what they had with them, several Miles out of the Way; but having soon escaped from them, he was afraid to talk of his Bondage on Account of his Oath, and as knowing that they would lay wait and shoot him.

At the Time that he was apprehended he said, he liv'd with a Widow Gentlewoman, where he wanted no Happiness Life could afford. But the Morning the Keeper was murdered, *Marshall* and *Kingsbell*, and four others, (of whom one only was then taken) li't of him, and (as he affirm'd) ask'd him, *To accompany them to Farnham-Holt; for 'twould be very beneficial to him, and so far from disobliging, that 'twould oblige Gentlemen who would preserve him from Danger?* Accordingly, he said, seven of them black'd their Faces, (mostly with rubbing Gun-powder upon them) and having provided Arms and Instruments, set out upon the fatal Expedition: He said, that he trembled, and could scarce walk to the *Holt*, tho' at other Times he could travel 30 Miles a Day on Foot. As they were busy at their Game, and the Deer flying about the Woods, and the
Keepers

Keepers all alarm'd, and with Assistance, were in the *Holt* in search of them ; he was wander'd a great Distance from his Comrades, after a Fawn that was very young, and which he intended to have taken alive, to send to a young Woman that lived at *Guildford* ; when on a sudden the Keepers were upon him, and apprehended him, and tying him fast and secure, follow'd in Pursuit of the others. They soon found them, the Keepers (as I think he said) being six, and the *Black Men* seven in Number. After a fierce Encounter with Quarter-Staves, (as *Kingsbell* told me) the *Black Men* were desired to retire : But they resolving to die or conquer, slung a Defiance in their Teeth, and more furiously set upon them, not regarding their Lives, nor considering the loaded Guns that the Keepers presented before them. After a warm Fight, one of the *Black Men* (whose Name was *Barber*) was shot, and had his Thigh shatter'd to pieces : But one of the Under Keepers, as I think, belonging to the *Lady Holt*, was kill'd by a Shot from the Gun of *Marshall*. The Keepers being then resolv'd to spare none, prefs'd more warmly upon them, till they all ran away, leaving *Marshall* and *Kingsbell* taken, and also *Barber*, who fell wounded on the Grass.

Elliot hearing this Encounter, said he was terrify'd, knowing he must answer for all that should be transacted ; he greatly lamenting his not living quietly at home, where he might have continu'd happy, with Plenty about him.

3. *Robert Kingsbell*, was about twenty-six Years of Age, and living in the same House with his Parents (being Apprentice to his Brother a *Shoe-Maker*) in a Village call'd *Farness*, he said his Father had a particular Eye over him, lest he should run into any Enormities ; but he believed it was the Work of Providence, That the Night before the fatal Accident happen'd, he was sleeping in his Bed, as was all the Family, when, about Eleven o'Clock, *John Barber* gave a Signal at his Chamber-Window that awaken'd him, and getting privately

vately out of the House, he was receiv'd by *Barber* upon his Horse, and carry'd toward the *Holt*, which was 12 Miles distant. In the Way, according to his Appointment, they call'd upon *Henry Marshall*, whom they found wandering about alone in the Street where he liv'd; he arm'd himself, and mounting, went with them to call *Elliot* and the rest. He added, that tho' they set out at Midnight, 'twas Eight in the Morning before the Keepers molested them.

Spying the Keepers at some Distance, *Henry Marshall* swearing he would fire upon the first he met, was desir'd by this *Kingsbell*, *To fight with Swords as stoutly as he could, but to take Care how he took Life.* Which *Marshall* would not regard. He added, that when the Keepers desired them to retire, he answered, that they would retire if *Elliot* the Bound-Man should be deliver'd to them; but they had more Honour than to go off with Safety and leave their Friend in Danger. But the Encounter being begun, *Barber's* Thigh was shatter'd, and was taken; one of the Keepers besides lying on the Ground, in Blood, who expired immediately; three of the *Black'd Men* ran away, and left two fighting, one wounded, and one seiz'd and bound.

This unfortunate Man had all the Symptoms of a sincere Penitent; he spent whole Nights in reading and praying, often allowing himself no Rest at all. If any were idle and impertinent he check'd them, and begg'd they'd consider whither they were going, and what Eternity was. He procur'd what Books were necessary, and took particular Care to understand the Nature of the Sacrament, and what ought to be the Qualifications of one who intended worthily to receive it.

4. *Henry Marshall.* This Prisoner was near thirty-six Years old, small of Stature, but robust; one who distinguish'd himself by his Skill and Strength in rustick Exercises. I was told he once broke the Arm of an Highwayman, who was robbing a Gentleman upon the Road, near to a Pasture where his Business then lay.

He was Servant to a Farmer and *Butcher*, in a Village call'd *Lepbook*, being unmarried.

As he was bereav'd of his Speech, by the Will of God, I had little Opportunity of Discourse with him, his Tongue not being loosed till the Day before he died; but then he neither attempted to deny, or palliate the Murder he had committed, but seem'd to think it was a trifling Matter, and that he had a Right to stand upon his own Defence, and not to leave a Companion among his Enemies. When I ask'd him if he consider'd what a great Work it was to repent for the Sin of Murder, so as to save his Soul from Ruin? His Reply was, *That to be sure he should take Care of himself.* He appear'd very desirous to recover his bodily Health, but Death approaching near, he seem'd not any way to regard it, or to be any more concern'd than when it was distant, never having entertained (as I believe) any Expectations of a Pardon or Reprieve.

5 and 6. *Edward* and *John Pink*, two Brothers, were both Carters in *Portsmouth*, accounted industrious young Fellows, till corrupted by the Company of *Ansel* and others. *John* said he believed the Evidence was the severer against him and *Ansel* because some time before they ran away with his Wife, adding, That he ought to owe them no Ill-will because they had return'd his Wife to him again. He acknowledg'd Adultery to be a Sin, but had not the same Sentiments with regard to spoiling and wasting Forests and publick Chaces.

The House-keeper belonging to *Parvin*, going cross the Forest of *Bear*, on Horseback, was by these Men and *Ansel* catch'd and oblig'd to cut the Throat of the Deer which they had just taken; and was also compell'd to ride with them on their Enterprizes, and to wear a Dagger by her Side, and Pistols accordingly. After which they forced her to *Parford's* Alehouse, where they dined upon a Haunch of Venison, and after Dinner sent out two Persons to kill more Deer, not in his Majesty's Forest, but in *Waltham* Chace, belonging to the Lord Bishop of *Winchester*.

As Death approach'd, their Indisposition increas'd, which they both said was a greater Trouble to them, than the suffering a shameful Death, as it in a great Measure prevented their industrious Performances in a religious Way; but they humbly hoped, that as Sickness proceeded from God, God would make merciful Allowances for their great Weakness and Indisposition.

7. *James Ansel*, otherwise *Stephen Philips*, was about thirty Years of Age, who for some Years had led an unsettled Life, being often at *Guilford*, *Portsmouth*, *London*, &c. He said, that tho' some People were ready to lay Indictments against him at *Guildford* Assizes, if he escaped Death at *London*, yet he valued not of a Rust what they could do against him; for tho' he had been long suspected of robbing by a large Hill that is in the Road between *Guildford* and *Portsmouth*, not far from *Lephook*, and had many Years ago committed one Robbery there; yet he could prove that he kept up (the Country having a Suspicion of him) during the whole Time, when all those Robberies they intended to bring against him were committed by other Hands.

He afterwards acknowledg'd two Robberies on the *Portsmouth* Road, and also the shooting great Numbers of Deer; but said he was most concern'd, that he had destroy'd any Woods, or done any Damage, in *Squire Nerton's* Park, because he had heard that that Gentleman, when his Majesty enquired of the Nature of the People called *Blacks*, gave a very favourable Account of them. He said he could discover above twenty Offenders not taken; but as he had mention'd some, and no Notice taken of it to his Advantage, he was only sorry he had spoke at all. Being asked if they had any farther Design besides the killing of Deer? he answer'd, *That he had not*. Being farther asked, if he belong'd to those Men who kill'd the Man at the Inn? *He said he knew several of that Company, but had no Hand in that Murder*.

This Prisoner, judging it impossible he should escape the Law, set himself very earnestly to perform his Duty, was incessantly at Prayers, received the Sacrament with

the greatest Devotion, and appear'd very devout to the last Moment of his Life.

At the Place of Execution.

THE Morning they suffer'd, all of them having an earnest Desire to receive the Sacrament, all acknowledging the Murder who committed it, and the others the Felony; the Sacrament was given to the seven Persons. *Parvin* was desirous to be then cleared by the others, but was told 'twas an improper Time, and would ruffle their Minds with worldly Thoughts, when they ought to be intent alone on Heaven. When carried to suffer, Paleness and Symptoms of Death appear'd in their Aspects. When God visits Man for his Offences, how vain is his Strength and Courage! They who were able stood up in the Cart, during the Prayers at the Tree; but none appear'd to have any Power to pray, except *Philips*. Tho' *Parvin* had before told me, he had resign'd all Hopes of Life, yet at the Moment of Death it appear'd otherwise; for with wishful Eyes he look'd for a Reprieve, which he continually expected to be riding up towards the Tree. The Cart being drawn from under them, they all lifted up their Hands toward Heaven, and in a Moment appear'd to be dead.

They were executed at *Tyburn* on *Wednesday* the 4th of *December*, 1723.



The Behaviour, Confession, and Last Dying-Speech of Capt. John Stanley, who was condemn'd for the barbarous Murder of Mrs. Hannah Maycock, Widow, (a Gentlewoman whom he kept Company with) by giving her with a drawn Sword one mortal Wound near the left Pap, of the Length of half an Inch, and Depth of nine Inches, on the 20th of October, 1723.

THIS unfortunate Gentleman, Mr. *John Stanley*, was born at a Place call'd *Duce-Hall*, in *Essex*, (being the Seat of Mr. *Palmer* his Mother's Brother) in the Year 1698. The Father, being an Officer, was wont, it seems, to exercise the Boy at five Years, by parrying with him, and pricking him, and causing other Officers to do the same; to prevent his fearing any Weapon. The Lad was prais'd, and encourag'd with strong Liquors, and esteem'd a Wonder of his Age, being very active, and very witty. When a Lad, his Father took him (as he said) into *Spain* and *Portugal*, where he beheld several Fights; and delighting unaccountably in those Things, would often run from his Tent, and expose himself to Dangers at the Engagement; tho' oftentimes severely used by his Father, for leaving the Ground that he left him upon. He said many were the Fatigues and Hardships that he likewise endured in *Portugal*; but he added, that his Pleasure was to walk to and fro upon the dead Carcasses after an Engagement, and to look at them.

But returning to *England*, when his Father was committed Prisoner to *Newgate*, for stabbing a very near Relation of the Lord *Newburg's*, Misfortunes of a dif-

ferent Nature shock'd the Family, too tedious here to mention; but they blew over, and the Father being discharg'd from Prison, was order'd to *Ireland*; upon which he took his Son [*John*] with him, who had an Ensign's Commission given him, which he soon disposed of for Want of Money.

Leaving *Ireland*, he enter'd into the Vices of *London*, when a very little Stripling, having heard those Things talked of by his Acquaintance in *Ireland*. His Father, he said, desired him to make Application to the [then] General *Stanbope*, and he need not fear Preferment, for his Sake: But being well liked by Women, it made him give himself wholly to the pleasing them, tho' he never thought of marrying, but he resolv'd against it. He told a great many People in *Newgate* of his having Intrigues with two different Gentlewomen near *Cheapside* Conduit. But being check'd for having no Concern for such Offences, he said, *They were Gaieties, and Gaieties that all Men praesised, or wisbed to practice, which was all one*; nor would hear any thing against his own Opinion. Such was his extream Airiness and gay Carriage when first a Prisoner. Nor did he then make any Scruple of talking publickly of several vicious Tricks by him play'd at *Richmond*.

He told me, he had accompanied a Friend of his to *Flanders*, and from thence (I think) to *Holland*: He gave an exact Account of the Fortifications at *Lisse*, *Mons*, &c. and observ'd, *That as the Trade was some Years ago removed from Antwerp to Amsterdam, it might now be as easily transfered from Amsterdam to London, or Canterbury, &c.* He was also in *France*, and stay'd a considerable Time at *Paris*, and boasted of some fine Ladies that had conferr'd Favours upon him at *Paris*. It was there that he improv'd himself, as he said, in Fencing; which, when he return'd into *England*, he put too much in Practice: For instead of being obliged to Companies for the Treats they sometimes gave him, he too frequently quarrel'd with them, and bad them look at his Sword, &c.

But

But notwithstanding this unhappy Humour, he eſcap'd being kill'd; tho' he had, in the Fore-part of his Body, ſix or ſeven large Scars, which he ſhow'd me. He ſaid his greateſt Eſcape was, when going with one Captain *Faulkner* from the Captain's Lodgings at one Mr. *Collins's* near the General Poſt-Office; he parted from him juſt before he was kill'd by Mr. *Burdett*, and two other Gentlemen: Had he been there, he ſaid, he muſt have died too, for he was ſo much in Liquor, that he could but reflect on God's Goodneſs to him, in not cutting him off, when drunken, or in a Debauchery, but giving him Space to repent of his vicious Gallantries. He affirm'd, that he was very ſerious for a great while after his Friend's Death, and that it ne'er went out of his Mind; but that it made him give good Advice to ſeveral of his wild Acquaintance; and alſo made him aſk ſeveral ill Women, (when they thought he was going to commit Fornication with them) *Whither their Lewdneſs would lead them? If they thought to die as they lived? If they did not believe the Conſequence of Vice, when Youth and Beauty left them, would be Shame, Poverty and Woe?* &c. He affirm'd beſides, that as *Morris Fitzgerald* was his particuſar Friend, and as he was with him juſt before he kill'd the Watchman in the Strand, and ſaw him in Liquor, he would fain have carried him home, and told him, *If he aſſaulted or aſſaulted any Woman, he himſelf would be forwardeſt to be an Evidence againſt him:* And for that Reaſon, he added, it was, that tho' Mr. *Fitzgerald* ſo often ſent to him from *Newgate*, he would never ſee him, even to the very Time of his ſuffering Death; tho', as he aſſerted, he was no way afraid of going to *Newgate* to ſee him.

He mention'd other Eſcapes: Once he ſaid he was ſet upon by Footpads in the *Hampſtead* Road, as he came from *Belfize*: Another Time he was aſſaulted going in *Glouceſterſhire*, and drawing his Sword, was near being ſhot by the Highwaymen, who very much beat and bruifed him; and it was hard that he, whom no

Sword could dispatch, no Storms could drown, no Gun could ever kill, must fall by an ignoble Rope; that he, who had lived with Officers, must die with Robbers, &c.

After he had been some few Days committed, he declared, before several People, that he would ne'er die by the Rope; offering, in his airy way, to lay Wagers upon that Matter, &c. But afterwards being convinced that there was no Courage or Bravery in not being able to sustain Misfortunes, but getting from under them by robbing the Creator of one of his Creatures, he changed his Intent, and said, "He would die like a Gentleman and a Soldier, tho' in the Manner of a Dog: That his Enemies should see he could appear with the same Face at the Time of his Death, as during the Time of his Life." At the same time he acknowledg'd, that he had fully design'd to dispatch himself with a Knife, or with a Dose of *Opium*, as an easier or surer Way. But he added, that afterwards, when he resolv'd to die as the Law appointed, and to compensate for his Offences with his Blood, he had found a great Quiet and Satisfaction in his Mind; declaring, "That he was much more uneasy and unhappy before he was under Misfortunes than after. For he said, That every Time Mrs. *Maycock's* Name was mention'd in Company, a Trembling seiz'd his Limbs, and cold Sweats appear'd in Drops upon his Forehead; which he thought was an Omen of their being the Destruction of each other." He added, that what gave him still greater Reflection, and more Surmises, was, a Horse once throwing him under *Tyburn*, from which Place he could by no means disengage himself, or get up, till his two Friends advanced and assisted him; and the more, because, soon after he had the same Fate as he went under *Nerogate*, much injuring his Health by a Fall there. He affirm'd, that for two Months afterwards he constantly address'd himself to Heaven every Morning, desiring his Creator to direct his Steps, and to preserve him from Dangers and Misfortunes.

He

He said, that 'twas his Misfortune that he was educated as a Gentleman, and had Ambition cultivated in him, without having a real Estate to support his Education. His Father became sensible of this, and grew very uneasy at his being unfettled, fearing it might lead him into some Misfortune of fatal Consequence.

For this Reason he put him upon going abroad; and having Interest with some illustrious Persons, he had a Lieutenant's Commission given him; and was deputed to go over into *Africa*, (as I remember) as Governor of *Cape Coast-Castle*, a Fort belonging to the Royal *African* Company. He said, that he was at first very much delighted with the Prospect of this Voyage, and with Captain *Masseys* Company, who was with him: But Mrs. *Maycock* meeting him at *Portsmouth*, in order to his allowing somewhat for the Subsistence of her Child by him, according to the Profits that should arise from his Places: He began to entertain different Sentiments of his Voyage: The leaving certain Acquaintance in *London*: So that at *Portsmouth* he parted, as he asserted, with half the Money he received from the Company, and kept half the Money himself: From thence he return'd to *London* again, to the great Surprize of all his Friends, when they came to hear of him, and to the extream Grief and Affliction of his Father, who then dwelt in *St. Ann's* Parish by *Soho*: But his Father dying, he much bewail'd the Loss of him, and took it to much to Heart, that several of his Friends affirm'd, (which was about two Years before) he never was rightly in his Senses. And indeed his attempting to stab himself with a Penknife in the House of Mr. *Underbill*, only because some *Latin* was repeated in Company, had the Appearance of an Act of Lunacy; and his putting himself into such violent Storms of Passion, as once frighted a Woman and her Family out of the House, without any Provocation given, had the same Appearance: Both which were sworn upon his Trial. *

* See SELECT TRIALS, vol. I. page 369.

He said his Fathers Death made a very strong Impression upon him, and he made Resolutions to forsake all his Acquaintance that was not very grave and sober ; but he was not able to compleat any Reformation. He told me 'twas for this Reason that he went to *Flanders*, and continued there a considerable Time ; by seeing new Places, and conversing with unknown Men, he added, that he imagin'd he should wholly forget those Women whom he had known in a vicious Way ; but returning into *England* he follow'd his usual Course, which, as he said, he should not have done, had he been Master of a competent Fortune for his Subsistance.

It afterwards appear'd, that all his good Resolutions were soon lost, and that he enter'd again on his former Gaities and Vices ; a Proof of which was, his going (intoxicated with Wine) along the Fields towards *Hampstead*, and there stabbing Mr. *Darwson* an Attorney at Law. I was desir'd to examine him about the Truth of that Matter before he dy'd : I did so, and he gave me the following Account of it.

“ I was walking with two Tradesmen, and met Mr. *Darwson* and five more Gentlemen, a Quarrel arising, “ I interposed, having a good Sword ; a Pistol was then “ fired at me, (as I think by the *Apothecary* who was “ with Mr. *Darwson*) and the Bullet graz'd by my Skin “ thro' my Coat and Waistcoat, which Hole in the “ Coat has been seen by several People, and may now “ I believe, be seen at my Mother's at the *Swan-Tavern* “ in *Long-Acre*, where she and I lodg'd : As I thought “ it was the *Apothecary* who push'd so hard upon me, “ my Design was to have stabb'd him, but he being a “ little Man, Mr. *Darwson* interposed between us, and “ receiv'd the Sword into his own Body, which went “ thro' the lower Part of his Belly into his Back-Bone, “ and immediately laid him in Blood ; he was carried “ to the *Half-Way-House*, and the Surgeon took Care “ of him for about six Weeks. I prov'd to be known, “ and was appointed to be arrested ; for a long Time “ they were in Pursuit of me, but my Sword sav'd me.”

This

This was what he said; but when he was told that the wounded Man, being a young Man, was obliged to leave off his Business upon the above Account; he appear'd to be sorry for that; but he refused to discover the two Persons that were in Company with him, saying, that as he committed the Fact, and had taken it upon himself, 'twould be hard and dishonourable to bring those Men into Disasters, or lay them under a Necessity of paying for the Cure.

He freely acknowledg'd his Faults, in being so passionate and warm a Temper, and begg'd Pardon of all Men whom he had quarrel'd with, mentioning in particular a Gentleman whom he call'd Captain *Chickley*, whom he said, he disagreed with at a Cyder-Celler in *Covent-Garden*, and fought with in a dark Room in that Place: He did believe that it was thro' God's Mercy that they were seperated by a Constable that was sent for, or otherwise he might have been sent suddenly out of the World, without any Preparation, in the midst of Rage and Choler, and in the Commission of an ill Action; for he added, that he receiv'd a dangerous Wound in his Breast, near his Shoulder, the Sword going quite thro' his Body, and out at his Back, his Opposer receiving only two slight Cuts.

He had three Children by Mrs. *Maycock*, (whom he so barbarously murder'd) one whereof was about four Years old, and liv'd and lay with him till his Death; he appearing to be very tender and indulging of the Boy; he was so for several Years towards it's Mother Mrs. *Maycock*, because he was welcome to her House when she liv'd at the Corner of the *Old-Bailey* upon *Ludgate-Hill*, and afterwards when she remov'd into *South-wark*, she refusing some Offers of Marriage on his Account. This Amity, he said, was first impair'd by their Substance being partly exhausted; and afterwards he had some Repentment upon hearing she had new Men whom she approv'd of, and had seen the visible Effects of their Love at the House in the *Old-Bailey*:
 " But (contin'd he) I must own, that I was chiefly
 O 6 " the

“ the Occasion of it, as I at first seduc'd her, and then “ was not able to maintain her.” But he would not acknowledge what one Evidence at his Trial depos'd, That he expressed an Intent to kill her half a Year ago. After this, he was going to send a Letter to Mr. *Bemont* in *Newgate-street*, on what Account I know not, when he was told Mr. *Bemont* was just Dead, where upon he fell into a great Agony, as if he had thereby been hinder'd from saying something of Importance.

He was very much shock'd when he heard that Mrs. *Maycock's* Life and Death had also broken her Brother *Bryan's* Heart, who died on *Tower-Hill*; so that, tho' at first his Behaviour was light, and his Expressions, that he did not fear dying by a Rope; yet afterwards he grew very calm and serious, saying, “ He should die “ with Delight to satisfy Blood with Blood.” He read the Scripture and Forms of Prayer to *Saunders* and *Harrington*, who lay at the same Time under Condemnation in the *Condemn'd-Hole*, he attended regularly the Chapel, absenting himself but twice, and read the Psalms, and made the other Responses with much Care; yet he twice show'd the Effects of his Temper upon two Persons, whom he absurdly fancy'd appear'd there to triumph over him in his Misfortunes. He said he hop'd Christ would receive his Soul, because he had been so good a Father to his dear Child; and he would even shed Tears, and call the Deceased, cruel! barbarous, &c. He desir'd he might receive the Sacrament the Day he died, and the *Sunday* preceeding, at which Times he appear'd altogether serious, grave, and compos'd, saying, he was easy in his Mind, and ready to enter another World.

About nine o'Clock he was the Morning of his Execution carry'd up to Chapel, and appear'd compos'd and serene; but on a sudden flew into a Passion, and said, ‘ He was vex'd on no Account but because he had ‘ not fired the whole House where Mrs. *Maycock* died.’ He was request'd to lay aside those Starts of sudden Passion if possible, and to be in Charity with all the World:

World: He then grew very calm, and call'd earnestly upon God and Christ. He receiv'd the Sacrament with the utmost Devotion, and afterwards said, 'He was perfectly easy at the Thoughts of leaving this World, which to him had been a Life of Anxiety and constant Hurry and Uneasiness.'

He was carry'd in a Mourning-Coach to *Tyburn*, and arriving at the Place of Execution, turn'd pale when he was first put into the Cart, and said to me he was sick: He desir'd that the Rope which was ty'd over the Tree might be again unty'd, that he might kneel down while God was worshipp'd; which was accordingly done. During the Prayers he was extremely earnest and fervent, but a Sickness at the Stomach at Times coming upon him, he lean'd his Head, and desired me to support him with my Hand.

Being ask'd if he intended to say any Thing to the People, he answer'd, 'No, his whole Mind he had told me two or three Days before, which he suppos'd People would see, and he had nothing more to add.' He then said, 'That as his Friends had provided an Hearse that stood near to bear away his Body, he hop'd no one would be so cruel as to deny his Relations the Gift of his dead Limbs, that they might receive Christian Burial, unless he was promised that, he could not die in Peace,' When the Cap was put over (by his Countenance) he was seen to shed Tears, receiving the Pity of all present, he easily resign'd his Breath.



The Behaviour and Confession of Peter Curtis, alias Friend, who was indicted for breaking the House of Fluellen Aspley, in the Night, and stealing a silver Tea-pot, value 9l. a silver Coffee-pot, silver Candlesticks, and many other Pieces of Plate, to the Value of 30 or 40l. It appearing that the Prisoner was apprehended as he attempted to pawn some part of the Goods with Charles Shellse, and that in Newgate he confessed the stealing of them, as soon as he was inform'd that Joannah Grundy had discover'd all the remaining part of the conceal'd Plate: The Jury found him guilty of the Indictment.

THIS Prisoner when he was first under Condemnation, appear'd to be deeply touch'd with a Sense of his Condition; but afterwards, instead of being still more and more concern'd, he gradually ceas'd to regard Death, to the Time he died; yet his Behaviour was no Way rude or stubborn, but at Prayers he was serious and observant. He said, tho' he was not 30 Years of Age, he had pass'd thro' such a vast variety of Adventures, Accidents, and Shocks in Life, as had long ago learn'd him to despise Death whenever it should approach, and in whatever Shape. The beginning of his Disasters was occasion'd by his not approving of the Trade (a *Ship-Carpenter*) which his Father assign'd him, when he sent him very young from the West of England, his native Place. Before he was thoroughly arriv'd at Man's Estate he married, fell off from Business,

ness, and resolv'd to follow no working Employ: He observ'd, that this Hatred towards Labour and Industry, God punish'd him for; for it was the Source and Occasion of a World of Fatigue and Hardship to him, and from the very Day that he purpos'd and resolv'd to give himself up to Pleasure, he never enjoy'd any Pleasure at all: But leaving his Employ he enter'd into the Service of several Noblemen and Gentlemen, but was always unsettl'd in his Mind: He own'd, that where he liv'd he had frequent Opportunities of improving himself in the Knowledge of the Religion he profess'd, but neglected to make such Improvements: He complain'd indeed that the Cause why he never read at Chapel was, his being laid (when committed to *Newgate*) in a Stone Hole, where the chill Damps impair'd his Eye-sight, but there was Reason to think other Things.

After he had forsaken Business as a Servant, he was plung'd into many Difficulties, and enlisted himself as a Volunteer for the Sea Service, but absolutely refusing to work, he was employ'd as a Trumpeter on Board the *Effex*, and in the *Shrewsbury* Man of War, when Admiral *Bing* was sent against the *Spaniards* in the *Mediterranean*.

In the Beginning of his present Majesty's Reign, when the Commotions broke out in *Scotland*, he was sent thither in the *Scotch Grays*, and fought under the Duke of *Argyle* at the Battle of *Dunblain*; at the beginning of the Fight he said he had his Thigh shatter'd, his Horse shot under him, and the next Soldier to him (together with his Horse) being shot dead at the same Time, the two Horses falling crush'd him between them, and broke three of his Ribs.

After he recover'd his Strength by God's Assistance, he intended, with 80*l.* that he was Master of, to put himself into a Way of Business; but having been bound he said, for an Acquaintance in a pretty large Sum of Money, and the Creditor being inform'd he was going to Sea again, in order to avoid him, not having the
Money

Money to pay, he apprehended him as a Felon, but in reality to detain him till he could regularly arrest him for Debt, which he did when three Days were expir'd; being conducted to the *Poultry-Compter*, he was confin'd in so lamentable an Apartment, that he affirm'd, it was almost impossible for him not to be infected with the horrid Viciousness of them who was confin'd. After a long Continuance there, in the midst of Hunger, Cold, Curses, Blasphemies, Skirmishes, Drunkenness, Quarrellings, &c. he obtain'd his Enlargement, was hir'd as a Servant by Mr. *Aspley*, who liv'd near the *Compter*. Leaving his Service, after a pretty long Continuance in it, he took up his Abode with *Joannah Grundy*, this *Grundy* was the Contriver of this Robbery, and advised him to fire the House, as he asserted, but whether his Assertion was true I know not: He added, that he objected to the firing Mr. *Aspley's* House, that it was situate next an *Oyl-Shop* and an *Apothecaries*, and near the *Compter*, and therefore might probably burn the whole Night at least, and consume the Street, especially as the Wind was that Night extremely boisterous and tempestuous.

Being apprehended on Suspicion, after making an Offer of two Pieces of Plate, he was again committed to the *Compter*, afterwards try'd at the Sessions-House in the *Old-Bailey*, but acquitted for want of Evidence; after which his said Master (judging him innocent) was instrumental in getting him discharg'd; but a Week after he was again apprehended, try'd, and convicted. These long Series of Disasters were worse to him he said than Death, besides other Hardships, never having been undrest, or in a Bed in 22 Weeks, except the one Week he was at Liberty. As he appear'd quiet and calm, he affirm'd that Composure was owing to his Resignation to the Will of God, but at last it appear'd that his Cheerfulness proceeded from his fully believing he should not suffer Death, for besides his design'd Escape, he had wealthy Friends and Relations, upon whom he wholly relyed, which made his Behaviour so much alter while he lay under Conviction. I shall add no

more

more concerning this unhappy Man, hoping that whatever they who saw him judg'd of him from his outward Deportment, he nevertheless was penitent in Heart, and inwardly sorry for his Offences, so as to obtain the Favour and Mercy of a merciful God.

The Confession and Behaviour of William Parkinson, who was convicted for feloniously breaking the House of Richard Goodman, on the 17th of May 1724, and stealing from thence 20 Guineas, &c. He was also convicted of breaking the said House a second Time, and taking Goods to the Value of 25 s. which Robbery was committed the 25th of April.

THIS young Man was, when first under Condemnation, very observant of his Duty ; as the Time was protracted, his Appearance of Repentance slackened ; and tho' he seem'd carefully to read the Scripture, the Prayers, &c. I was inform'd that he privately made a Scoff at the Word of God, and especially at the Prayer for his Majesty. Altho' when I discours'd with him, he assur'd me, that his Father was particularly careful to instruct him in his Duty, and on his Death-Bed earnestly advis'd him above all Things to regard Sobriety and Virtue, telling him he would be left to a wicked World. After his Father's Decease he left *Leeds* in *Yorkshire*, and his Trade (a *Cloth-worker*) and came to *London*, which was the beginning of his Woe and Misfortunes, for God (he said) seem'd to have forsaken him from that very Time, for he could take no Delight but in Publick-Houses, and in lewd Company ; altho' (as he said) he never committed any criminal Action before the Robbery at the House of Mr. *Goodman*, which he never thought of till the Hour he
com-

committed it, at which Time, having been drinking till 12 o'Clock at Night, and very much disguised in Liquor, he repair'd Home to Mr. Goodman's, and committed the Fact. Two Days before he was executed, being requir'd to consider the Importance of his Soul, &c. he affirm'd, he did so, and would do so, but was nevertheless assur'd he should have a free Pardon, as well as the two old Offenders; he said, as it was discover'd they should lie several Weeks under Condemnation, certain Women advis'd them to break an Hole thro' the Wall of the *Condemn'd-Hole*, which the length of Time would give them an Opportunity of so doing, and so more effectually to secure their Escape; he own'd that this had made him remiss and negligent of his Duty, and neither he nor *Curtis* could believe that to make an Escape from Justice was any Sin, provided no Murder was committed in the Attempt: *Parkinson* alledged the Frailty and Infirmary of Human Nature, and said, that the sight of Death made even the Son of God to cry out, *If it be possible let this Cup pass from me?*

Being ask'd the Day before he suffer'd, if he did not believe the Reception of the Holy Sacrament wou'd aggravate and enchanse his Guilt, since, having had so long Time, he had employ'd it more to preserve his Body than to save his Soul? He reply'd, that he hop'd there was Mercy for him, and he thought he might safely receive the Sacrament; but he would examine his own Heart, and declare whether it was wean'd from this World, and placed upon Heaven; as the Thief on the Cross was accepted at the Moment of his Death, why (he said) might not he? But he was answer'd, that the Thief on the Cross never heard of Christ before, and as soon as he did, he cry'd out, *Remember me when thou comest into thy Kingdom,*

The Day before he was executed, he shed a great many Tears in the Chapel, and both he and *Curtis* seem'd much to regret the Time they had foolishly thrown away in endeavouring to save their Bodies; but
Parkin-

Parkinson was particular sorrowful at a Letter sent to his Wife from his Mother in the Country, who at the writing of it supposed him dead, which Letter he answered in such a manner as show'd (how great soever his Folly had been) the natural Temper and Disposition of his Mind was relenting, good and humane ; tho' that natural Disposition was much effac'd by a negligent Life, and vicious Company : What chiefly (immediately before he suffer'd Death) perplex'd his Thoughts was, that any other Person should be sav'd, and he by being executed be made an Example to deter others from vicious Actions.

Their Behaviour, &c. at the Place of Execution.

BEFORE these Malefactors suffer'd Death, it pleas'd God to touch their Hearts with a deep Sense of their Offences, and they receiv'd the Sacrament with the utmost Fervency, and all the Tokens of sincere Devotion. As they were carry'd to *Tyburn* all Persons took Notice of the Decency of their Deportment ; *Curtis* there declar'd, that the Woman with whom he lodg'd perswaded him to rob Mr. *Apsley*, telling him, her Friend in the Country would put of China Ware, or Goods, to the Value of 1000*l.* or upwards ; and that her Son got into the House and let *Curtis* in, and the Woman receiv'd the Goods ; but (added he) it is my Fate only to die, who sav'd the House from being fired, and theirs to escape who advised it, at the same Time to show he did not repine at his Fate, he smil'd. As to the 1400*l.* which he had buried in a Portmanteau, he was directed to discover the true Owners, that their Effects might be restor'd to them ; but he said, he found the Portmanteau on *Finchley-Common*, and believ'd it belong'd to a Foreign Ambassador, or Nobleman ; all the Direction he could give was, that the Coat of Arms was a Black Spread Eagle and Dolphin. The
Diamond

Diamond Ring that he had been observ'd to wear, he could not affirm he came honestly by, but he begg'd Pardon of God for all the Offences of his Life: *Parkinson* was especially penitent, in the most earnest manner invoking the Mercy of God.

They were executed at *Tyburn* the 15th of *June* 1724.

The following is an Account of the Behaviour and Confession of Charles Towers, one of the Mint Rioters, who was executed at Wapping.

CHARLES Towers, sometime Inhabitant near *St. James's Market, Butcher*, was indicted for feloniously appearing with several others, arm'd with Guns, Swords, Staves, or other offensive Weapons, and having his Face black'd, or being otherwise disguised, on the Highway called *Wapping-Wall*, on the 21st of *June* 1724, to the Terror of his Majesty's Subjects, against the Peace of our Sovereign Lord the King, and against the Form of the Statute made and provided, and which was to take Effect after the 1st of *June*, in the 20th Year of King *GEORGE* I. Upon his Trial it appear'd, that on *Sunday Morning*, at 11 o'Clock, *June* the 20th, *Charles Towers*, with seven others, rush'd into the House of *John Errington* (with a large Stick like a Quarter-Staff in his Hand, his Hair clipt off, without Hat, Wig, or Shirt, only with a blue Pea-Jacket, which flying open before, show'd his Breast, as well as his Face, Black, and besmear'd as with Soot and Grease) whence they rescued *J. West*, affirming, that they were sworn thereto, for his Name was set down in their Book kept at the seven Cities of Refuge; and offering (as the Prisoner was with loud Acclamations carrying off) to strike *D. Taylor*, *Waterman*, and *G. Errington*, Brother

ther to the King's Evidence; and the Prifoner's Allegations, that he never was in any Riot, but only defending himself against the Bayliffs, &c. not being thought of any Force, he was by the Jury found guilty of Felony without Benefit of Clergy.

As this unfortunate Person, after his Apprenticeship marry'd young, before he was possess'd of a Competency, and Children and the Charges of a Family encreas'd upon him, he then judg'd that Gaming was a proper Method to retrieve himself, and support his Family; but by Cards he lost that little he was then possess'd of: His Circumstances being desperate, he engag'd for a Friend in a very large Sum of Money, which soon oblig'd him to fly into the *Old-Mint*. In his greatest Distress, he said, he refus'd to rob or thieve, denying that he ever was guilty of any notorious Offence except one, which was, Unfaithfulness to his Wife's Bed; for which, he added, he must acknowledge he deserv'd Death, tho' Adultery is so seldom punish'd in this Kingdom: As for robbing Mr. *Huggins* of a silver Spoon, which he was convict'd some Time ago, and order'd for Transportation, he deny'd his seeing any such Spoon; and as for the picking the Pocket of Mr. *Westwood* an Officer, and taking 3 s. with which Fact he was lately charg'd, he said, he believ'd the Money might fall out of the Officers Pocket, as they Ditch'd him in a sad and shameful manner, but that he never saw any Silver or Copper. He farther said, that their Way was, as he must then acknowledge, very cruel and unbecoming Christians, for during his Time, twelve or more were sentenc'd to be whip'd by a Judge who was chosen from among them, for the Day, and sat in State: He added, that during his Confinement some Persons had abus'd and insulted him, who were Friends to Mr. *Jones*, Bailiff; but he protest'd he was not Judge when *Jones* was sentenc'd, but one who was formerly an Officer in the Army; nor had he ever any Designs against Sir *Isaac Tilliard*, or his House. He dwelt four Years in the *Old-Mint*, but owing to one Man 70 l. was forc'd

to

to harbour in the *New-Mint*, and took a House in *Gravel-Lane*, for Prisons, he said, were all so full, that Men died like rotten Sheep, and he had rather go to the Place whither he was going, than dwell under that Tyranny. He acknowledg'd the Fury and Violence he had us'd against innocent Men, and observ'd how contrary it was to Christian Lenity and Mildness: He confess'd he had been by much too Enterprizing and Rash; but at the same Time added, he thought the Officers were before his Misfortunes fully reveng'd of the *Minters*, for among others, a *Carpenter's* right Arm was so hack'd and chop'd, that the Surgeon was forc'd to cut it off; as for himself, he show'd how dangerously his Head was cut, even six Weeks ago, the large Scars whereof appear'd.

He deny'd that he was ever in Disguise with Design to do Mischiefe, but he said, they had Mock-Masquerades, and particularly one in *Meeting-House-Alley, Wapping*, where Men and Women met, under the Number of Twenty, and he in particular was in a *Miller's* Habit, and his Face cover'd over with White: He directed his Wife to offer this to the Consideration of his Majesty in a Petition; and also to insert her having two Children, besides one in her Body, which must come to Misery if the Father was taken from 'em, which Petition she deliver'd at the Council-Chamber Door.

He was happy in having his Health continu'd entire, from the first beginning of his Misfortunes, and in having *R. Swanston* with him, who was able and ready to read the Scriptures: When *R. Swanston* had been sick in the Night and could not read and pray at 10 o'Clock in the Morning, as was their constant Practice, *Towers* the next Day much condol'd the Misfortune, saying, he wish'd he was in a Capacity to employ some Person who should sit up each Night and awaken him to Prayers as soon as Midnight was pass'd. The Day before his Death he seem'd more chearful than before, saying, " This was decreed for me, and I am easy and contented "

“ tended under it ; and how should I be otherwise, for
 “ I am going from a Life of Trouble, and Noise and
 “ Confusion, to a World of Quiet.

*The Behaviour of Charles Towers at the
 Place of Execution.*

THIS Prisoner (who was carry'd in a Cart to the Gallows erected by *Wapping*, thro' a very great Concourse of People, many of whom with Tears lamented his Condition) appear'd with uncommon Intrepidity ; and tho' the Evening before he wept very much when he took Leave of his Wife and one of his Children, the immediate Prospect of his own Suffering no way shock'd him ; but in a very loud and exclaiming Voice he asserted his Innocence to the Spectators, after the Conclusion of the Prayers, &c. and to make all who were there believe, ' That he was not disguised ' when he rescued Mr. *West*, unless the dirty Condition ' he was commonly in, could be so term'd. That Captain *Buckland*, censur'd Mr. *Jones*, the Bailiff, when ' he was used in so cruel and unchristian a Manner that ' he swooned, &c. That the others who were apprehended in the *New Mint*, and confin'd on the same ' Account, were not guilty of going arm'd in Disguise, ' or of any thing else that could nearly affect them ; ' and named Mr. *Saintbe* in particular. That he did ' not rob Mr. *Henry Brooksbank*, of any Brandy, Tobacco, or Pipes, as he had been charg'd, though the ' House was threaten'd and design'd against. *To this he* ' *added*, that lest his Words should be mistaken, he had ' most of the Substance of them down in Writing ; ' and pull'd out a Paper written by an Acquaintance, for ' he could not write himself. He afterwards said, If the ' Sheriff or the High Constable must of Necessity have ' the Paper, pray at least grant that it may be now ' read before all these People, for 'tis not against any ' Court: *The Paper was according to his Desire read before*

fore the People, and was to the following Purport or
 Effect: That as he was in other Matters a great
 Sinner (and had for other things deserved Death) he
 underwent the Punishment with Patience; and hum-
 bly hoped that Almighty God would be merciful to
 him for the Sake of Jesus Christ, in whom he trusted;
 that he did not know of any Disguise he was in;
 that he did never commit Theft or Robbery; did not
 steal a Silver Spoon, or any Money; did not rob
 any Bailiff, &c. that he was forced and obliged to
 take Sanctuary in the Place call'd the *Mint*, in order
 to avoid his Creditors, because his Debts were so large
 that it was not possible for him ever to pay them."

He also inveigh'd against the Bailiffs; but declared that
 he died in Charity with all Mankind. After the Paper
 was read, he return'd to his usual Composure, and again
 grew calm. As the Cart began to move forward, he
 with the loudest Cries and Exclamations cry'd out to
 God to receive his Soul, till his Breath was stopped,
 wringing his Hands in a passionate Manner; after
 which, the Strength of his Constitution appear'd in the
 extrem and surprizing Difficulty with which he died.

He was executed at *Wapping*, in the Parish of St.
Paul Shadwell, on *Monday January* the 4th 1724.

*The following is an Account of John Hewlett,
 for the Murder of Joseph Candy, on the
 26th of December, 1729, by giving him
 with a Staff a mortal Bruise on the Head;
 of which he instantly died.*

THIS *John Hewlett* was born in the City of *Co-*
ventry, in *Warwickshire*, Son of *Richard Hew-*
lett, Butcher of the same City. He was visited in the
 Condemn'd Hold the Night following his Condemna-
 tion,

tion, where he gave Reins to his Passion, and inveigh'd against the Evidences, wishing God would revenge the Wrong done to him, by some signal and terrible Judgment upon them ; and in case that failed, he hop'd that after Death he should be able to come and pay them a Visit to revenge himself of them by Apparition. Being furnish'd with a Competency of Learning for a Trade, his Father bound him an Apprentice to a Butcher near *Leicester*, where being weary of his Business, he enter'd into the First Regiment of His Majesty's Foot Guards, which was then engag'd in the Service with his late Majesty King *William*, in *Brabant* and *Flanders*, where in the Battle fought between the Allies and the *French* at *Steenkirque* [in which his Colonel, *Robinson*, then Commander of his Company, was shot dead] he receiv'd a small Shot in his Neck, and another in his Groin : Another Wound he receiv'd in his Head at *Landau*, which fractur'd his Skull, and laid him under a Necessity of its being trapann'd, to which, as he said, he ow'd the Weakness of his Brain, insomuch, that upon the least Ruffle or Disorder of Mind, or taking the smallest Quantity of Liquors, Passion master'd his Reason. And being asked whether it might not be probable that he should commit a Crime of that Nature for which he died, in one of those Extasies; reply'd No ! God knows me to be innocent, but God forgive me, I was in Drink that Night ; but however I saw a Man strike the Deceased on the Head with a Staff, but he would not mention his Name. After he had completed seventeen Campaigns in *Flanders* and *Spain*, he return'd to *England*, and at the Peace concluded in Her late Majesty's Reign, was discharg'd ; he then enter'd into a Gentleman's Service, where he marry'd a Countrywoman, by whom he had nine Children, tho' he had surviv'd all his Children : And he said, the greatest Addition to his Sufferings was, that his Wife was then at the Point of Death, and he had too much Reason to charge himself with the hast'ning of it, by his rough and unfaithful Dealings with her. A Night or

two before his Execution came a Person, who 'tis suppos'd was an Evidence against him at his Trial, though the Man came to visit him as a Friend, and offer'd to serve him in his Power, yet he could not forbear treating him with very unbecoming Language; nay, even to threaten him with Murder if possibly he could have Access to him; in one Word, his whole Behaviour whilst under Sentence (till the *Saturday* next preceding his Execution) was like that of a Person delirious, expressing little or no Concern for any thing but the leaving of his Wife, and some few old Acquaintances he had in *Warwickshire*. On the *Saturday* being reminded of the near Approach of his Suffering, he then began to have a Sense of it, and a Concern what might be the Consequence of it; being admonish'd to prepare for the Reception of the Blessed Sacrament, he coolly own'd he had been a very great Sinner, and hoped that would be no Bar to his Admittance to the Table; and being inform'd 'twould not, he express'd his Joy at it, and said he would contribute his utmost to a Preparation for it. He deny'd the Fact at the Tree.

Executed *Feb. 1, 1724.*

The Account of Jonathan Wild, the Thieftaker, taken from his own Mouth, in the Condemn'd-Hole in Newgate, four Days before his Execution.

JONATHAN WILD was the Son of Persons in a mean and low State of Life; yet for all that I have ever heard of them both honest and industrious; their Family consisted of three Sons and two Daughters, whom their Father and Mother maintained and educated in the best Manner they could from their joint Labours,

Labours, he as *Carpenter*, and she by selling Fruit in *Woolverhampton* Market in *Staffordshire*, which in future Ages may perhaps become famous, as the Birth-place of the celebrated Mr. *Jonathan Wild*. He was the eldest of the Sons, and received as good an Education as his Father's Circumstances would allow him, being bred at the Free-School to read and write, to both of which having attained to a tollerable Degree, he was put out an Apprentice to a *Buckle-Maker* in *Birmingham*. He serv'd his Time with much Fidelity, and came up to Town in the Service of a Gentleman of the long Robe, about the Year 1704, or perhaps a little later; but he not liking his Service, or his Master not altogether so well pleas'd with him, he quitted it and retired again to his old Employment in the Country, where he continued to work diligently for some Time; but at last growing sick of Labour, and still entertaining a Desire of tasting the Pleasures of *London*, up hither he came a second Time, and work'd Journey-Work at the Trade to which he was bred; but this not producing Money enough to support those Expences, *Jonathan's* Love of Pleasure threw him into, he got pretty deeply in Debt, and some of his Creditors not being endued with altogether as much Patience as his Circumstances requir'd, he was suddenly arrested, and thrown into *Wood-street-Compter*; having no Friends to do any Thing for him, and having very little in his Pocket when this Misfortune happen'd, he liv'd very hardly there, scarce getting Bread enough to support him from the Charity allow'd to Prisoners, and what little Services he could render to Prisoners of the better sort in the Goal; however as no Man wanted Address less than *Jonathan*, so no Body could have employ'd it more properly than he did upon this Occasion, he thereby got so much into the Favour of the Keepers, that they quickly permitted him the Liberty of the Gate, as they call it, and he thereby got some little Matter for going of Errands; this set him above the very pinch of Want, and that was all, but his Fidelity and Industry in these

mean Employments procur'd him such Esteem amongst these in Power there, that they soon took him into their Ministry, and appointed him an Under Keeper to those disorderly Persons who were brought in every Night, and are called in their Cant, *Rats*. *Jonathan* now came into a comfortable Subsistence, having learnt how to get Money of such People, by putting them into the Road of getting Liberty for themselves; but there he met with a Lady who was confin'd on the Score of such Practices very often, and who went by the Name of *Mary Milliner*, and who soon taught him how to gain much greater Sums than in this Way of Life, by Methods which he till then never heard of, and will, I am confident, to this Day carry the Charms of Novelty to most of my Readers; of these the first she put him upon, was going on what they call the *Twang*, which is thus manag'd; the Man who is the Confederate goes out with some noted Woman of the Town, and if she fall into any Broil, he is to be at a proper Distance, ready to come into her Assistance, and by making a sham Quarrel, give her an Opportunity of getting off, perhaps after she had dived for a Watch or a Purse of Guineas, and was in Danger of being caught in the very Fact; this prov'd a very successful Employment to Mr. *Wild* for a Time. *Moll* and he therefore resolv'd to set up together, and for that Purpose took Ledgings, and liv'd as Man and Wife; notwithstanding *Jonathan* had a Wife and a Son at *Woolverhampton*, and the fair Lady was married to a *Waterman* in Town; by the Help of this Woman, *Jonathan* grew acquainted with all the notorious Gangs of loose Persons within the Bills of Mortality, and was also perfectly vers'd in the manner by which they carried on their Schemes, he knew where and how their Enterprizes were to be gone upon, and after what manner they dispos'd of their ill got Goods, when they came into their Possession. *Wild* having always an intriguing Head, set up for a Director amongst them, and soon became so useful to them, that tho' he never
went

went out upon any of their Lays, yet he got as much or more Money by their Crimes, than if he had been a Partner with them, which upon one Pretence or other he always declined; he had long ago got rid of that Debt for which he had been imprison'd in the *Compter*, and having by his own Thought projected a new manner of Life, he began in a very little Time to grow weary of Mrs. *Milliner*, who had been his first Instructor, what probably contributed thereto was the Dangers to which he saw himself expos'd, by continuing a *Bully* in her Service; however they parted without falling out, by Reason he had occasion to make Use of her pretty often in his new Way of Business.

As soon as any considerable Robbery was committed, and *Jonathan* receiv'd Intelligence by whom, he immediately went to the Thieves, and instead of offering to buy the whole, or any part of the Plunder, he only enquir'd how the Things were done, where the Persons liv'd who were injur'd, and what the Booty consisted in that was taken away, then pretending to chide them for their Wickedness in doing such Actions, and exhorting them to live honestly for the future, he gave it them as his Advice, to lodge what they had taken in a proper Place which he appointed them, and then promised he would take some Measures for their Security, by getting the People to give them somewhat to have them restored again. Having thus wheedled those who had committed a Robbery into a Compliance with his Measures, his next Business was to divide the Goods into several Parcels, and cause them to be sent to different Places, always avoiding taking them into his own Hands: Things being in this Position, *Jonathan* or Mrs. *Milliner*, went to the Persons who were robb'd, and after condoling the Misfortune, pretended that they had an Acquaintance with a *Broker*, to whom certain Goods were brought, some of which they suspected to be stolen, and hearing that the Person to whom they thus applied had been robb'd, they said they thought it the Duty of one honest Body to

another to inform them thereof, and to enquire what Goods they were they lost, in order to discover whether those they spoke of were the same or no. People who have had such Losses are always ready after the first Fit of Passion is over, to hearken to any Thing that has a Tendency towards recovering their Goods: *Jonathan* or his Mistress therefore, who could either of them play the Hypocrite nicely, had no great Difficulty in making People listen to such Terms; in a Day or two therefore they were sure to come again, with Intelligence that having called upon their Friend, and look'd over the Goods, they had found part of the Things there, and provided no Body was brought into Trouble, and the Broker had something in Consideration of his Care they might be had again. He generally told the People when they came on this Errand, that he had heard of another Parcel at such a Place, and that if they would stay a little, he would go and see whether they were such as they describ'd theirs to be which they had lost. This Practice of *Jonathan's*, if well consider'd, carries in it a great deal of Policy; for first it seem'd to be a very honest and good natur'd Action to prevail on evil Persons to restore the Goods which they had stole; and it must be acknowledg'd to be a great Benefit to those who were robb'd, thus to have their Goods again upon a reasonable Premium; *Jonathan* or his Mistress all the while taking apparently nothing, their Advantages arising from what they took out of the Gratuity left with the *Broker*, and out of what they had bargain'd with the Thief to be allow'd out of the Money which they had procur'd him. Such People finding this Advantage in it thus, the Rewards were very near as large as the Price is now given by Receivers, since receiving became so dangerous, and they reap'd a certain Security also by the Bargain. With Respect to *Jonathan* the Contrivance plac'd him in Safety, not only from all the Laws then in being, but perhaps would have secur'd him as effectually from those that are made now, if Covetousness had not prevailed

vailed with him to take bolder Steps than these ; for in a short Time he began to give himself out for a Person who made it his Business to procure stolen Goods to their right Owners : When he first did this, he acted with so much Art and Cunning, that he acquir'd a very great Reputation, not only as an *honest Man* from those who dealt with him to procure what they had lost, but even from People of a higher Station, who observing the Industry with which he prosecuted certain Malefactors, took him for a Friend of Justice, and as such afforded him Countenance and Encouragement. Certain it is, that he brought more Villains to the Gallows than perhaps any Man ever did, and consequently by diminishing their Number, made it much more safe for Persons to travel, or even to reside with Security in their own Houses ; and so sensible was *Jonathan* of that Necessity there was for him to act in this manner, that he constantly hung up two or three of his Clients at least in a Twelvemonth, that he might keep up that Character to which he had attained, and so indefatigable was he in the Pursuit of those he endeavour'd to apprehend, that it never happen'd in all his Course of acting, so much as one single Person escap'd him ; nor need this appear so great a Wonder, if we consider, that the exact Acquaintance he had with their Gangs, and the Haunts they us'd, put it out of their Power almost to hide themselves so as to avoid his Searches.

When this Practice of *Jonathan's* became noted, and the People resorted continually to his House in order to hear of the Goods which they had lost, it produc'd not only much Discourse, but some Enquiries into his Behaviour ; *Jonathan* foresaw this, and in order to evade any ill Consequence that might follow upon it, put on upon such Occasions an Air of Gravity, and complain'd of the evil Disposition of the Times, which would not permit a Man to serve his Neighbours and his Country without Censure. *For do I not, quoth Jonathan, do the greatest Good to the one, when I persuade*

those wicked People who have depriv'd them of their Properties, to restore them again for a reasonable Consideration: And are not the Villains whom I have so industriously brought to suffer that Punishment, which the Law, for the Sake of iis honest Subjects, thinks fit to inflict upon them: In this Respect, I say, does not their Deaths shew how much Use I am of to the Country? Why then, added *Jonathan*, should People asperse me, or endeavour to take away my Bread? This kind of Discourse serv'd, as my Readers must all know, to keep *Wild* safe in his Employment for many Years, while not a Step he took, but trod on Felony, nor a Farthing did he obtain but what deserv'd the Gallows. I shall next give an exact and impartial Account.

In the first Place then, when a Person was introduced to Mr. *Wild*'s Office in the *Old-Bailey*, it was first hinted to him, that a Crown must be deposited by way of Fee for his Advice, when this was complied with, a large Book was brought out, then the Loser was examined with much Formality, as to the Time, Place, and manner, that the Goods became missing, and then the Person was dismissed with a Promise of careful Enquiries being made, and of hearing more concerning them in a Day or two; when this was adjusted, the Persons took their Leave, with great Hopes of being acquainted shortly with the Fruits of Mr. *Wild*'s Industry, and highly satisfied with the methodical Treatment they had met with, when at the Bottom this was all Grimace; *Wild* had not the least Occasion for these Queries, but to amuse the Persons he ask'd, for he knew before-hand all the Circumstances of the Robbery much better than they did; nay, perhaps had the very Goods in his House when the Folks came first to enquire for them, tho' for Reasons not hard to be guess'd, he made use of all this Formality; before he proceeded to return them, when therefore according to his Appointment the Enquirer came the second Time, *Jonathan* then took care by a new Scene to amuse him, he was told that Mr. *Wild* had indeed made Enquiries,

but

but was very sorry to communicate the Event of them ; the Thief truly who was a bold impudent Fellow, rejected with Scorn the Offer, which pursuant to the Losers Instructions had been made him, pretended he could sell the Goods at a double Price, and in short, would not hear a Word of Restitution unless upon better Terms ; but notwithstanding all this, *Jonathan* says, *If I can but come to the Speech of him, I don't doubt bringing him to Reason.* At length after one or two more Attendances, Mr. *Wild* gave the definitive Answer ; that provided no Questions were ask'd, and you gave so much Money to the *Porter* who brought them, you might have your Things at such an Hour precisely. This was transacted with all outward Appearances of Friendship, and honest Intention on his Side, and with great seeming Frankness and Generosity ; but when you come to the last Article, *viz.* what Mr. *Wild* expected for his Trouble, then an Air of Coldness was put on, and he answer'd with equal Pride and Indifference, *That what he did was purely from a Principle of doing Good, as to a Gratuity for the Trouble he had taken, he left it totally to themselves, they might do it in what they thought fit ;* and even when Money was presented to him, he receiv'd it with the same negligent Grace, always putting you in Mind, that it was your own Act, that you did it merely out of your Generosity, and that was no Way the Result of his Request, and that he took it as a Favour, not as a Reward.

Had Mr. *Wild* continu'd satisfied with this Way of dealing, in all Probability he might have gone to his Grave in Peace, without any Apprehensions of Punishment but what he was to meet with in a World to come ; but he was greedy, and instead of keeping constant to this safe Method, came at last to take the Goods into his own Custody, giving those that stole them what he thought proper, and then making such a Bargain with the Loser, as he was able to bring him up to, sending the *Porter* himself, and taking without Ceremony whatever Money had been given him.

A Gentleman who dealt in Silks near *Covent-Garden*, had bespoke a Piece of extraordinary rich Damask, on Purpose for the Birth-Day Suit of a certain Duke, and the Lace-Man having brought such Trimmings as was proper for it, the *Mercer* had made the whole up in a Parcel, tied it at each End with blue Ribband, sealed with great Exactness, and plac'd on one End of the Compter, in Expectation of his Grace's Servant, who he knew was directed to call for it in the Afternoon; accordingly the Fellow came, but when the *Mercer* went to deliver him the Goods, the Piece was gone, and no Account could possibly be had of it, as the Master had been all Day in the Shop, so there was no Pretence of charging any Thing either upon the Carelessness or Dishonesty of Servants; after an Hour's fretting therefore, seeing no Remedy, he e'n determin'd to go and communicate his Loss to Mr. *Wild*, in Hopes of receiving some Benefit by his Assistance; the Loss consisting not so much in the Value of the Things, as in the Disappointment it would be to the Nobleman not to have them on the Birth-Day. Upon this Consideration a Hackney-Coach was immediately called, and away he was order'd to drive directly to *Jonatban's* House in the *Old-Bailey*; as soon as he came into the Room, and had acquainted Mr. *Wild* with his Business, the usual Deposite of a Crown being made, and the common Questions of *how, when, and where*, having been ask'd, the *Mercer* being very impatient, said with some kind of Heat, 'Mr. *Wild*, the Loss I have sustain'd, tho' the
 'trifling Value of the Goods be very great, lies much
 'more in disobliging my Customer, tell me therefore
 'in a few Words, if it be in your Power to serve me,
 'if it is, I have 30 Guineas here ready to lay down,
 'but if you expect that I should dance Attendance for
 'a Week or two, I assure you I shall not be willing to
 'part with above half the Money. Good Sir, replied
 'Mr. *Wild*, have a little more Consideration, I am no
 'Thief Sir, nor no Receiver of stolen Goods, so that
 'if you don't think fit to give me Time to enquire,
 'you

' you must e'en take what Measures you please : ' When
 the *Mercer* found he was like to be left without any
 Hopes, began to talk in a milder Strain, and with abun-
 dance of Intreaties fell to persuading *Jonathan* to think
 of some Method to serve him, and that immediately ;
Wild stepped out a Minute or two, as if to the *Necessary-
 House*, as soon as he came back told the Gentleman,
 ' It was not in his Power to serve the Gentleman in such
 ' a hurry, if at all; however in a Day or two he might
 ' be able to give him some Answer ? ' The *Mercer* in-
 sisted that a Day or two would lessen the Value of the
 Goods one half to him, and *Jonathan* insisted as pe-
 remptorily, that it was not in his Power to do any
 Thing sooner ; at last a Servant came in a Hurry, and
 told Mr. *Wild* there was a Gentleman below desir'd to
 speak with him, *Jonathan* bowed and begg'd the Gen-
 tleman's Pardon, told him ' he would wait of him in a
 ' Minute, ' and without staying for a Reply withdrew,
 clapped the Door after him, in about five Minutes he
 return'd with a very smiling Countenance, and turning
 to the Gentleman said, ' I protest Sir, you are the
 ' luckiest Man I ever knew, I spoke to one of my
 ' People just now, to go to a House where I know
 ' some Lifters resort, and directed him to talk of the
 ' Robbery that had been committed in your House, and
 ' to say, the Gentleman had been with me and offer'd
 ' 30 Guineas, provided the Things might be had again ;
 ' but declared, if he did not receive them in a very short
 ' Space, he wou'd give as great a Reward for the Dis-
 ' covery of the Thief, whom he would prosecute with
 ' the utmost Severity, and if you go directly Home, I
 ' fancy you'll hear more News of it yourself, than I
 ' am able to tell you ; but pray Sir, remember one
 ' Thing, that the 30 Guineas was your own Offer, you
 ' are at free Liberty to give them, or let them alone,
 ' do which you please, 'tis nothing to me ; but take
 ' Notice Sir, that I done all for you in my Power,
 ' without the least Expectation of Gratitude : ' Away
 went the *Mercer* confounded in his Mind, and wonder-
 ing

dering where this Affair would end ; but as he walk'd up *Southampton-street* a Fellow overtook him, patted him on the Shoulder, and deliver'd him the Bundle unopen'd, told him the Price was 20 Guineas, the *Mercer* paid it him directly, and returning to *Jonathan* in half an Hour's Time, readily expressed abundance of Thanks to Mr. *Wild* for his Assistance, and begg'd him to accept of the 10 Guineas he had sav'd him for his Pains ; *Jonathan* told him, ' That he had sav'd him nothing, ' but suppos'd that the People thought 20 Demand ' enough, considering that they were now pretty safe ' from Prosecution.' The *Mercer* still press'd the 10 Guineas upon *Jonathan*, who after taking them out of his Hand return'd him five of them, and assured him, ' There was more than enough, adding, 'Tis Satisfac- ' tion enough Sir, to an honest Man, that he is able ' to procure People their Goods again : ' This you will say was a remarkable Instance of his moderation ; I will join to it as extraordinary an Account of his Justice, Equity, or what else you'll please to call it. It hap- pen'd thus,

A Lady whose Husband was out of the Kingdom, and had sent for her Over-Draughts for her Assistance, to the amount of between 1500 or 2000 *l.* lost the Pocket-Book in which they were contain'd, between *Bucklers-bury* and *Magpye-Ale-House* in *Leadenball-street*, where the Merchant liv'd upon whom they were drawn, she however, went to the Gentleman, and he advis'd her to go directly to Mr. *Jonathan Wild* ; accordingly to *Jonathan* she came, deposited the Crown, and answer'd the Questions she asked him, *Jonathan* then told her, that in an Hour or two's Time possibly some of his People might hear who it was that had pick'd her Pocket ; the Lady was vehement in her Desires to have it again, and for that Purpose went so far at last as to offer 100 Guineas ; *Wild* upon that made Answer, ' Though they are of much greater Value to you ' Madam, yet they cannot be worth any Thing like it ' to them, therefore keep your own Council, say no- ' thing

' thing in the hearing of my People, and I'll give the
 ' best Directions I am able for the Recovery of your
 ' Notes ; in the mean while, if you will go to any
 ' Tavern near, and endeavour to eat a bit of Dinner, I
 ' will bring you an Answer before the Cloth is taken
 ' away ;' she said she was unacquainted with any House
 thereabouts, upon which Mr. *Wild* named the *Baptist-
 Head* ; the Lady would not be satisfied unless Mr. *Wild*
 promised to eat with her ; he at last complied, and she
 order'd a Fowl and Sauzages at the House he had ap-
 pointed, she waited there about three quarters of an
 Hour, when Mr. *Wild* came over and told her he had
 heard News of her Book, desir'd her to tell out 10
 Guineas upon the Table in Case she should have Occa-
 sion for them, and as the Cook came up to acquaint
 her that the Fowl was ready, *Jonathan* begg'd she
 would just step down to the Street-Door, and see whe-
 ther there was any Woman waiting at his Door ; the
 Lady without minding the Mystery did as he desir'd her,
 and perceiving a Woman in a Scarlet Riding-Hood
 walk twice or thrice by Mr. *Wild*'s House, her Cu-
 riosity prompted her to go near her, but recollecting she
 had left the Gold upon the Table up Stairs, she went
 and snatch'd it up without saying a Word to *Jona-
 than*, and then running down again, went towards the
 Woman in the red Hood, who was still walking be-
 fore his Door ; it seems she had guess'd right, for no
 sooner did she approach towards her, but the Woman
 came directly up to her, and presenting her her Poc-
 ket-Book, desir'd, ' She would open it and see that all
 ' was safe ;' the Lady did so, and answering, ' It was
 ' all right,' the Woman in the Red Riding-Hood said,
 ' Here's another little Note for you Madam,' upon
 which she gave her a little Billet, on the out-side of
 which was writ 10 Guineas, the Lady deliver'd her the
 Money immediately, adding also a Piece for herself,
 and return'd with a great deal of Joy to Mr. *Wild*,
 told him, ' She had got her Book, and would now eat
 ' her Dinner heartily ;' when the Things were taken
 away,

away, she thought it was Time to go to the Merchants, who probably now was return'd from *Change*, but first thought it necessary to make Mr. *Wild* an handsome Present; for which Purpose, putting her Hand in her Pocket, she with great Surprize found her Green Purse gone, in which was the Remainder of 50 Guineas she had borrow'd of the *Merchant* in the Morning, upon this she look'd very much confus'd, but did not speak a Word; *Jonathan* perceiv'd it, and ask'd her if she was not well; I am tolerably in Health Sir, answer'd she, but am amaz'd that the Woman took but 10 Guineas for the Book, and at the same Time pick'd my Pocket of 39. Mr. *Wild* hereupon appear'd in as great a Confusion as the Lady, said, 'He hoped she was not in earnest, but if it were so, begg'd her not to disturb herself, she shou'd not lose one Farthing.' Upon which *Jonathan* begging her to sit still, stepp'd over to his own House, and gave, as may be suppos'd, necessary Directions; for in less than half an Hour, a *Jew* (call'd *Abraham*, that *Wild* kept as his Footman) bolted into the Room, and told him the Woman was taken, and on the Point of going to the *Compter*; you shall see Madam, replied *Jonathan*, turning to the Lady, what exemplary Punishment I'll make of this infamous Woman.' Then turning himself to the *Jew*, *Abraham*, says he, was the Green Purse of Money taken about her; yes Sir, reply'd his Agent, O la! then said the Lady, I'll take the Purse with all my Heart; I would not prosecute the poor Wretch for the World. Would not you so, Madam, replied *Wild*? Well then we'll see what's to be done.' Upon which he first whisper'd his Emissary, and then dispatch'd him; he was no sooner gone, than *Jonathan* saying the Lady would be too late at the *Merchant's* unless they took Coach; which thereupon they did, and stopp'd over-against the *Compter-Gate* by *Stocks-Market*. She wonder'd at all this, but by that Time they had been in a Tavern there a very little Space, back comes *Jonathan's* Emissary with the Green Purse
and

and the Gold in it, ' She says Sir, says 'the Fellow to
 ' *Wild*, she has only broke a Guinea of the Money for
 ' Garnish and Wine, and here's all the rest of it; very
 ' well, says *Jonathan*, give it to the Lady, will you
 ' please to tell it Madam?' The Lady accordingly did,
 and found there was 49, ' blefs me! says she, I think
 ' the Woman's bewitch'd, she has sent me 10 Guineas
 ' more than I shou'd have had? No Madam, reply'd
 ' *Wild*, she has sent you the 10 Guineas back again
 ' which she receiv'd for the Book; I never suffer any
 ' such Practices in my Way: I oblig'd her therefore to
 ' give up the Money she had taken, as well as that she
 ' had stole; and therefore hope, whatever you may
 ' think of her, that you will not have a worse Opinion
 ' of your humble Servant for this Accident.' The Lady
 was so much confounded and confuted at these unac-
 countable Incidents, that she scarce knew what she did,
 at last recollecting herself, ' Well Mr. *Wild*, says she,
 ' then I think the least I can do is to oblige you to
 ' accept of these 10 Guineas; No, reply'd he, nor of
 ' 10 Farthings, I scorn all Actions of such a sort as
 ' much as any Man of Quality in the Kingdom; all
 ' the Reward I desire Madam, is, that you will acknow-
 ' ledge I have acted like an honest Man, and a Man of
 ' Honour.'

Jonathan brought a vast Number of the most noto-
 rious amongst them to the Gallows, even tho' he him-
 self had bred them up in the Art of Thieving, and
 given them both Instructions and Encouragement to
 take that Road ruinous enough in itself, and even by
 him made fatal. Of these none was so open and appa-
 rent a Case as that of *Blake* alias *Blueskins*; this Fel-
 low had from a Child been under the Tuition of *Jonath-*
an, who paid for the curing his Wounds, whilst he
 was in the *Compter*, allow'd him 3 s. 6 d. a Week for
 his Subsistence, and afforded his Help to get him out
 there at last, yet soon after this he abandon'd him to
 his own Conduct in such Matters, and in a short Space
 caused him to be apprehended for breaking open the
 House

Houfe of Mr. *Kneebone*, which brought him to the Gal-
 lows; when this Fellow came to be tried, *Jonathan*
 indeed vouchsafed to fpeak to him, and affur'd him,
 that his Body fhould be handsomely interr'd in a good
 Coffin at his own Expence; this was ftrange Comfort,
 and fuch as by no Means fuited with *Blueskin*; he infi-
 fted peremptorily upon a Transportation Pardon, which
 he faid he was fure *Jonathan* had Intereft enough to
 procure for him; but upon *Wild's* affuring him that he
 had not, and that it was in vain for him to flatter him-
 felf with fuch Hopes, but that he had better difpofe
 himfelf to thinking of another Life, in order to which,
 good Books and fuch like Helps fhould not be wanting;
 all which put *Blueskin* at laft into fuch a Paffion, that
 tho' this Difcourfe happen'd upon the Leads at the *Old-
 Bailey*, in the Prefence of the Court then fitting, *Blake*
 could not forbear taking a Revenge for what he took
 to be an Infult on him, and therefore without much
 ado, clapp'd one Hand under *Jonathan's* Chin, and
 with the other, taking a fharp Knife out of his Pocket,
 cut him a large Gafh a-crofs the Throat, which every
 Body at the Time it was done judg'd mortal; *Jonathan*
 was carry'd off, all cover'd with Blood, and tho' at
 that Time he professed the greateft Refentment for fuch
 bafe Ufage, affirming that he had never deferv'd to be
 fo treated, having done all that lay in his Power for the
 Man who had fo cruelly defign'd againft his Life; yet
 when he afterwards came to be under Sentence of Death
 himfelf, he regretted prodigioufly the Efcape he then
 made from Death, often wifhing that the Knife of *Blake*
 had put an End to his Life, rather than left him to lin-
 ger out his Days till fo ignominious a Fate befell him;
 indeed it was not *Blake* alone who had entertain'd No-
 tions of putting him to Death, he had difobliged almoft
 the whole Group of Villains with whom he had Con-
 cern, and there were Numbers of them who had taken
 it into their Heads to deprive him of Life; his Efca-
 pes in the apprehending fuch Perfons were fometimes very
 narrow, having receiv'd Wounds in almoft every Part
 of

of his Body, had his Skull twice fractured, and his whole Constitution so broken by these Accidents, and the great Fatigue he went thro', that when he fell under the Misfortunes which brought him to his Death, he was scarce able to stand upright, and never in a Condition to go to Chapel: But we have broke a little into the Thread of our History, and must therefore go back in order to trace the Causes which brought on *Jonathan's* Adventures, and finally his violent Death, which we shall now relate in the clearest and conciseft Manner that the Thing will allow.

The Practices of this Criminal in the manner we have before-mention'd, continu'd long after the Act of Parliament, and that in so notorious a manner at last, that both the Magistrates in *London* and *Middlesex*, thought themselves oblig'd by the Duty of their Offices to take Notice of him; this occasion'd a Warrant to be granted against him, by a Worshipful Alderman of the City, upon which Mr. *Wild* being apprehended somewhere near *Woodstreet*, he was carry'd into the *Rose* Spunging-House, sitting in the Kitchen at the Fire, waiting the Leisure of the Magistrate who was to examine him; in the mean Time the Crowd was very great, and *Jonathan* with his usual Hypocrisy harangu'd them to this Purpose; ' I wonder, good People, what ' it is you wou'd see? I am a poor honest Man, who ' have done all I could to serve People when they have ' had the Misfortune to lose their Goods by the Villany of Thievs; I have contributed more than any ' one Man living to bringing the most daring and notorious Malefactors to Justice, yet now by the Malice ' of my Enemies, you see I am in Custody, and am ' going before a Magistrate who I hope will do me Justice; why should you insult me therefore? I don't ' know that I ever injur'd any of you; let me intreat ' you therefore, as you see me lame in Body, and afflicted in Mind, not to make me more uneasy than I ' can bear; if I have offended against the Law it will ' punish me, but it gives you no right to use me ill, un-
' heard,

‘ heard, and unconvicted.’ The People of the House, and the *Compter* Officers by this Time had pretty well clear’d the Place, upon which he began to compose himself, and desir’d them to get a Coach to the Door, for that he was unable to walk; about an Hour after he was carried before a Justice and examin’d, and was thereupon immediately committed to *Newgate*; he lay there a considerable Time before he was tried, at last he was convicted capitally upon the following Fact, which appear’d on the Evidence exactly in the same Light in which I shall state it.

He was indicted on the afore-mention’d Statute, for receiving Money for the restoring stolen Goods, without apprehending the Persons by whom they were stolen; in order to support this Charge, the Prosecutrix *Catherine Stephens* depos’d as follows, On the 22d of *January*, I had two Persons came into my Shop under pretence of buying some Lace, they were so difficult that I had none below would please them; so leaving my Daughter in the Shop, I went up Stairs and brought down another Box; we could not agree about the Price, and so they went away together, in about half an Hour after I missed a Tin Box of Lace that I valued at 50 *l.* the same Night, and the next I went to *Jonathan Wild’s* House, but not meeting with him at Home, I advertis’d the Lace I had lost, with a Reward of 15 Guineas, and no Questions ask’d; but hearing nothing of it, I went to *Jonathan’s* House again, and then met with him at Home, he desir’d me to give him a Description of the Persons that I suspected, which I did, as near as I could, and then he told me, that he would make Enquiry, and bid me call again in two or three Days, I did so, and then he said, ‘ That he had heard something of my Lace, and expected to know more of the Matter in a very little Time;’ I came to him again on that Day he was apprehended, (I think it was the 15th of *February*) I told him, that tho’ I had advertis’d but 15 Guineas Reward, yet I would give 20 or 25 Guineas, rather than not have my Goods; ‘ Don’t
‘ be

' be in such a Hurry, (*says Jonathan*) I don't know but
 ' I may help you to it for less, and if I can I will ;
 ' the Persons that have it are gone out of Town, I
 ' shall set them to quarrelling about it, and then I shall
 ' get it the cheaper ;' on the 10th of *March* he sent me
 Word, that if I could come to him in *Newgate*, and
 bring 10 Guineas in my Pocket, he would help me to
 the Lace ; I went, he desir'd me to call a *Porter*, but
 I not knowing where to find one, he sent a Person who
 brought one that appear'd to be a *Ticket-Porter* : The
 Prisoner gave me a Letter, which he said was sent him
 as a Direction where to go for the Lace, but I could
 not read, and so I deliver'd it to the *Porter* ; then he
 desir'd me to give the *Porter* the 10 Guineas, or else
 (he said) the Persons that had the Lace would not deli-
 ver it ; I gave the *Porter* the Money, he went away,
 and in a little Time return'd, and brought me a Box
 that was seal'd up, but not the same that was lost, I
 open'd it, and found all my Lace but one Piece : Now
Mr. Wild says I, what must you have for your Trou-
 ble? ' Not a Farthing, says he, not a Farthing for
 ' me, I don't do these Things for worldly Interest, but
 ' only for the Good of poor People that have met
 ' with Misfortunes ; as for the Piece of Lace that is
 ' missing, I hope to get it for you e'er be long, and I
 ' don't know but that I may help you not only to your
 ' Money again, but to the Thief too, and if I can,
 ' much Good may it do you ; and as you are a good
 ' Woman, and a Widow, and a Christian, I desire no-
 ' thing of you but your Prayers, and for them I shall
 ' be thankful : I have a great many Enemies, and God
 ' knows what may be the Consequence of this Imprisonment.'

The Fact suggested in the Indictment was undoubtedly fully prov'd by this Deposition, and tho' the Fact happen'd in *Newgate*, and after his Confinement, yet it still continu'd as much and as great a Crime as if it had been done before ; the Law therefore condemn'd him upon it, but if he had even escap'd this, there were other

other Facts of a like Nature, which inevitably would have destroy'd him; for the last Years of his Life, instead of growing more prudent, he undoubtedly became less so, for the Blunders committed in this Fact, were very little like the Behaviour of *Jonathan*, in the first Years in which he carried on this Practice, when no Body behav'd with greater Caution, as no Body ever had so much Reason to be cautious; and tho' he had all along great Enemies, yet he conducted his Affairs so, that the Law could not possibly lay hold of him, nor his Excuses be easily detected, even in respect of Honesty it self. When he was brought up to the Bar to receive Sentence, he appear'd to be very much dejected, and when the usual Question was propos'd to him; *What have you to say, why Judgment of Death should not pass upon you?* He spok with a very feeble Voice in the following Terms.

' My Lord, I hope I may even in the sad Condition
' in which I stand, pretend to some little Merit in re-
' spect to the Service I have done my Country, in de-
' livering it from some of the greatest Pests with which
' it was ever troubl'd; my Lord, I have brought many
' bold and daring Malefactor to just Punishment, even
' at the Hazard of my own Life, my Body being co-
' ver'd with Scars I receiv'd in these Undertakings; I
' presume, my Lord, to say, I have some Merit, be-
' cause at the Time the Things were done, they were
' esteem'd meritorious by the Government; and there-
' fore I hope, my Lord, some Compassion may be shewn
' on the Score of those Services: I submit myself
' wholly to his Majesty's Mercy, and humbly beg a
' favourable Report of my Case.' When Sir *William*
Thompson, now one of the Barons of his Majesty's Court
of *Exchequer*, as Recorder of *London* pronounced Sen-
tence of Death, he spok particularly to *Wild*, put him
in Mind of those Cautions he had had of going on in
those Practices, rend'ring Capital by Law, made on pur-
pose for preventing that infamous Trade of becoming
Broker for Felony, and standing in the middle between
the

the Felon and the Person injur'd, in order to receive a *Premium* for Redress.

Under Conviction, no Man who appear'd upon other Occasions to have so much Courage, ever shew'd so little; he had constantly declin'd ever coming to Chapel, under Pretence of Lameness and Indisposition, when Clergymen took the Pains to visit him, and instruct him in those Duties which it became a dying Man to practice; tho' he heard them without Interruption, yet he heard them coldly, and instead of desiring to be instructed on that Head, was continually suggesting Scruples and Doubts about a future State, asking impertinent Questions as to the State of Souls departed, and putting frequent Cases of the Reasonableness and Lawfulness of *Suicide*, where an ignominious Death was inevitable, and the Thing was perpetrated only to avoid Shame; as such Discourses were what took up most of his Time between his Sentence and Death, so they occasion'd some useful Lectures upon this Head, from the charitable Divines who visited him.

Jonathan at last pretended to be overcome with the Reasons which had been offer'd to him by some Revd. Divines, on the Subject of Self-Murder; but it plainly appear'd, that in this he was a Hypocrite; for the Day before his Execution, notwithstanding the Keepers had the strictest Eye on him imaginable, his Wife convey'd to him a Bottle of *Liquid Laudinum*, of which having taken a large Quantity, he hop'd it wou'd prevent his dying at the Gallows; but as he had not been sparing in the Dose, so the largeness of it made a speedy Alteration, which being perceiv'd by his Fellow Prisoners, seeing he could not keep open his Eyes at the Time that Prayers were said to them as usual in the *Condemn'd Hole*; whereupon they walk'd him about, which first made him sweat exceedingly, and then very sick, at last he vomited, and they continuing still to lead him, he threw the greatest part of the *Laudanum* off from his Stomach; he continued notwithstanding that, very drowsy, stupid, and unable to do any thing but gasp
out

out his Breath till it was stopp'd by the Halter. He went to the Place of Execution in a Cart, and the People instead of expressing any kind of Pity or Compassion for him, continu'd to throw Stones and Dirt all the Way he went along, reviling and cursing him to the last, and plainly shew'd by their Behaviour, how much the blackness and notoriety of his Crimes had made him abhorr'd, and how little Tendernefs the Enemies of Mankind meet with, when overtaken by the Hands of Justice. When he arriv'd at *Tyburn*, having at that Time gather'd a little Strength, Nature recov'ring from the Convulsions in which the *Laudanum* had thrown him, the Executioner told him, he might take what Time he pleas'd to prepare for Death; he therefore sat down in the Cart for some small Time, during which the People was so uneasy, that they call'd out incessantly to the Executioner to dispatch him, and at last threat'ned to tear him in Pieces, if he did not tie him up immediately; such a furious Spirit was hardly ever discover'd in the Populace upon such an Occasion; they generally look on Blood with Tendernefs, and behold even the Stroke of Justice with Tears; but so far were they from it in this Case, that had a Reprieve really come, 'tis highly questionable whether the Prisoner could ever have been brought back with Safety, it being far more likely, that as they wounded him dang'rously in the Head in his Passage to *Tyburn*, they would have knock'd him on the Head out-right, if they had attempted to have brought him back.

Before I part with Mr. *Wild*, 'tis requisite that I inform you in respect to his Wives, or those who were called his Wives, concerning whom so much Noife has been made: His first was a poor honest Woman, who contented herself to live at *Wolverhampton*, with the Son she had by him, without ever putting him to any Trouble, or endeavouring to come up to Town to take upon her the Stile and Title of Madam *Wild*, which the last Wife he liv'd with did with the greatest Affectation; the next whom he thought fit to dignify with the

the Name of his Consort, was the afore-mention'd Mrs. *Milliner*, with whom he continu'd in very great Intimacy after they liv'd separately, and by her Means carried on the first of his Trade in detecting stolen Goods. The third was one *Betty Man*, a Woman of the Town in her younger Years, but so suddenly struck with the Horror of these Offences which she had committed, that on the Persuasion of a *Romish Priest* she turn'd *Papist*; however croneous the Principles of that Church might be, in the Communion of which she died, *Wild* even retain'd such an Impression of the Sanctity of this Woman after her Decease, and so great Veneration for her, that he order'd his Body to be buried next hers in *Pancras* Church-yard, which his Friends saw accordingly perform'd, about two o'Clock in the Morning after his Execution. The next of Mr. *Wild's* *Sultana's* was *Sarah Perrin*, alias *Graystone*, who surviv'd him; *Judith Nunn*, by whom he had a Daughter, who at the Time of his Decease might be about 10 Years old, both Mother and Daughter being then living. The six and last was the no less celebrated Mrs. or Madam, than he was remarkable by the Stile of *Wild the Thief-Catcher*, or by Way of *Irony*, of *honest Jonathan*; this remarkable Damfel before her first Marriage was known by the Name of *Mary Brown*, afterwards by that of Mrs. *Dean*, being Wife to *Skull Dean*, who was executed about the Year 1716 or 17, for House-breaking; some malicious People have reported that *Jonathan* was accessory to the hanging him, merely for the Sake of the Reward, and the Opportunity of taking his Relict, who whatever Regard she had for her first Husband, is currently reported to have been so much affected with the Misfortunes that happen'd to the latter, that she twice attempted to make away with herself, after she had the News of his being under Sentence; however by this his last Lady he left no Children, and but two by his three other Wives, who was living at the Time of his Decease.

As to the Person of the Man it was homely to the last Degree, there being something remarkably villainous in his Face, which Nature had imprinted in stronger Terms, than perhaps she ever did upon any other; however he was strong and active, a Fellow of prodigious Boldness and Resolution, which made the Pusillanimity shewn at his Death more remarkable; in his Life Time he was not at all shy in his owning his Profession, but on the contrary bragged of it upon all Occasions; into which perhaps he was led by that ridiculous Respect which was paid him, and the Meanness of Spirit some Persons of Distinction were guilty of in talking to him freely. Common Report has swell'd the Number of Malefactors executed thro' his Means, to no less than 120; certain it is, that they were very numerous, as well in Reality as his own Reckoning; and it has been said, that there was a considerable Sum of Money due to him for his Share in the Apprehension of several Felons at the very Time of his Death, which happen'd at *Tyburn* on *Monday* the 24th of *May*, 1725. being then about 42 Years of Age.

The End of the first Volume.



