Collected Trials (c. 1880)

Class [law]

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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

Account of the

Lives, Behaviour, and Dying

Words, of the most remarkable

Convicts,

From the Year 1700, down to the present Time.

Containing

Amongst many Others the following, viz.

Hardman Strudman, for the
barbarous Murder of Peter 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. Cape,
at the Tower.

Mr. Gregg, Clerk to the
late Secretary Harley,
Earl of Oxford, for holding 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.

Matthews Brinsden, for the
Murder of his Wife.

Capt. John Maffey, for
Piracy.

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

Jonathan Wild, the Thief-
Taker for several Feloni-

Felix quem faciunt aliena Pericula cautum.

Vol. I.

London:

Printed by J. Applebee, for J. Hodges, at the Looking-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.
I S a receiv'd Maxim, that Virtue is its own Reward, even in this Life, and Vice its own Punishment. Serenity of Mind, calm Thoughts, and an internal settled Tranquility of Soul are capital Blessings, always to be enjoyed by the Man whose Conscience reproaches him not, and whose Life has been regulated by right Reason and Religion. 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 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 Spi-
rit, 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 repente 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 Com-
misicu 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 of
all Restraint, and abandons himself to the Pra-
ctice of all manner of Iniquity with Greedi-
ness.

IT can hardly be unobserved, by any intelli-
gent Person, how strongly the Youth of the pre-
tent
sent Age are added 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 abandoned of God, and grown quite hardened 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 preserved
preserved 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.

Felix quem faciunt aliena Pericula cautum.
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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, Condemn'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 without any due Consideration, either of God's Mercies or Judgments, or of his wonderful Works which had often been set before him; that he

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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 Marlowhfeft, 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 confefs’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 seemed to be very penitent, and pray’d to God to forgive both thefe, 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 di- rected, 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 unspeak- able Grief) when Capt. Kidd was brought thither, he was enflam’d with Drink; which had so discompos’d his Mind, that it was in a very ill Frame, and very un- fit for the great Work to be perform’d by him. I pray’d for him, and fo did other worthy Divines that were prefeunt, to whom (as well as to myself) the Capt. appear’d to be much out of Order, and not fo concern’d and affefted, as he ought to have been; ’tis true, he spoke fome 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 fufpected his Sincerity, because he reflected more upon others, than upon himself, and endeavoured to lay his Faults upon his Crew and others, in the fame Manner he did when upon his Trial. When I left him at Newgate, he told me he would make a full Confeffion at the Tree; but instead of that (contrary to my Expectation) he was unwilling to own the Juftice of his Condemnation, or fo much as the Providence of God, who for his Sins had deservedly brought him to this untimely End. Darby Mullins perfifted in aferting 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 fung with them a penitential Pfalm, 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 defir'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 steadfast 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, live; in good Repute. He said he was a Lutheran, and had been well brought-up and educated, by his Parents; but (to his unexplicable 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 answer’d, 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 bless 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 seemed 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 pleased 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 composed, 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 Lolland, 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 the Year 1694, my Father sent me to School to Lubeck, where I continued till Michaelmas, 1698. From thence I went to Hamburgh, and stayed 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 Apprentice 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 lived for some time very friendly and lovingly together, till about August, when his Sister was married to one of our Masters, Mr. Dorein. 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 Recreation. Upon this Account, I conceived 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 used 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 said 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
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, shewed 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 pressed, 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 pressed, 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 myself, had of late been press'd 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 Master's, 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, oftener 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 Master's 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 lie, 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 Master's Dark-Lanthorn 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 sprang 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, press'd 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 Savoys 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 Mischief 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 it
may come to my Lot to have such a shameful End. Thus Providence having led me to those dismal and gastly 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 destroy'd 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 Austin-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 stole out of my Masters House, namely, the 20l. Bill; but the Man that should have paid it, being said to be gone out, I was desir'd 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 desir'd him to tell that young Man, if he came again, that I would come back to look for him there about One. Then I hast'd to the White-Horse-Inn again, and found the Party from whom I thought to have receiv'd the Money upon the Bill I brought to him; but he
he told me he had no Order to pay it. With this An-
swer 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 20l. which was in the Deceased's Pocket,
was found upon me. Then he ask'ing 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, promis'd 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, Mo-
ney, 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 Con-
finement. 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 advis'd by the Minifier
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 in-
dustriously 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 fafe
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 Sistars 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 magnifie 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.

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The Behaviour, Confession, and Dying-Words,
of John Goffe, alias White, alias Gaffney,
for a Robbery committed in Bofwell-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 Savoy’s Army, and was a Voluntier in her Majesty’s Service, going for Ireland, at the Time of his being apprehended 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 Silversmith, and Thomas Fowler, who were some time after executed for it. Thos’es, 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 Nicholas Moore, (who was then try’d for it and acquitted) and his Brother James Moore, and one Fitz-Morris, the former of whom, viz. Nicholas Moore, he says, was afterwards 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 engag’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 Mischief, as he could; saying, that he was the Cause the Persons they had robb'd, were not murth'rd, 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 Cen- sure 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 Rom-an Catholic; 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 Asent 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 Instruitions 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 en- lighten
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 Catholics 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 Horleydown 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 Barnewel, 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 Moor-fields; 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 Proctor, 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. Richardfon, 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 150l. and of that, had about 40l. 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 Perfons, 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
Good People,

TAKE Warning by my Fall; I am, you see, a young Man, who by my Sins have shortened my Days, and brought my self to this shameful (but deserved) Death. Take heed to your selves, and bow 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. These 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 steadfast 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.

SIR,

Heartily beg God's Pardon for all my Sins, and ask you Forgivenes 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 Esrick.

Directed thus.

This to Thomas Glover, Esq; at Hackney.

A Paper relating to Sir John Buckworth, &c.

SIR 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 Prostor, 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 Esrick.

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.

John 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 Saverdin, 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 Haverfham's Service; in which he stayed 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 belon'd to was commanded into Ireland, where it was broke, and this Dramatti discharge'd. Upon which, he being then at Yawle, got a slight Acquaintance with a certain aged Widow there, named Frances Morris, whom he never before had heard of, who giving out herself as a great Fortune, and of a noble Extravagance, 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 receiv'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 Three-score, 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 serv'd before, his Lordship was pleased 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, \textit{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 persuad'd 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 herself; 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
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. Whereunto 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 resolved to give him no Rest, who (though most innocently, as he again protest’d to me) had thus disturbed her: 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 Sicknes, he visit’d 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 Dramatt, 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 al-
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-Crofs, 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 stay’d for him, at, or about Hide-Park-Gate, to catch him in his Way to Kensington; 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 pafs, 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 she 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 turn-
...and walking on towards Knight's-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 reflect'd 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 Neckcloth, and would have strang'd him. Whereupon he beat her most unmercifully, both with his Cane and Sword, which he suppos'd 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 ask'd 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 assault'd 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 dispatch'd his
Lord's Business, for which he was come to Town, he re-
turn'd 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 prompt'd him to this Sin, endeavour-
ing to hinder him from repenting of it. This true, he
did not deny to me this wicked Action, but plead in
justification of it, saying, that he was highly provoked
by his Wife, who was a very ill Woman, and of a rel-
tlefs Spirit. And this he would often repeat, even after
his Condemnation, particularly when his Acquaintance
came to see him, to whom he endeavoured to leslen his
Crime, and represent it in lighter Colours, than it was
to be described. But at last, I hope, he was throughly
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 supposed Design of robbing
his Lord, that same Night he had committed the in-
human Act; 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
Asiæ-Milk int’r for his Lord, who (he said) he was well
assured, had no such Thought of him, that he would
have rob’n any Gold, or any Thing else from his Lord-
ship, as was suggested; 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 Mément to be seiz’d, did he entertain any thought
of running away from Justice, as knowing that the di-
vine Vengeance would some Time or other overtake him,
whither-foever 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 him-
selt to condign Punishment for it; adding to all this,
that when a little before his Trial, he went about to at-
tempt his Escape out of Newgate, in a disguise with
Women’s Cloaths, it was neither his own desire at first,
nor his Invention at all; but the Thing was prompted
to him, and he was persuaded to it by one Mr. Toward,
then a Prisoner with him there, who discover'd him, and
betray'd him, when he was ready to execute this Enter-
prise. 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
dest 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 In-
fluence of Sin, as (considering all the heinous and aggra-
vating 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 defired me to give it from him, to the
People, which I did. After Monfieur 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 barba-
rously 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 received 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 served 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 unsettled 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 stole 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 profane and lewd Wretch, and a sworn Enemy to those who were employ'd in the Reformation of Manners; 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 administered 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 23rd 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 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
as he was come back to Newgate, some of his Friends
that came thither to congratulate him, would have re-
joyced and made merry with him, for his Reprieve; but
he would not give way to it, as desiring privacy and re-
tirement 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 Repen-
tance 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 Reprieve 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 persuaded 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 Im-
mortality. 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 en-
gaged 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 grieved 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 wish'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 endeavours 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 administered 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, read-
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 came 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 such an idle Practice. First, It is displeasing to God, to have his Image scarify'd after such a Manner. Second, 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 Witnes 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 Shepard, 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 Mis-fortune 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 provoked 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 Atonement 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 Verses in Answer to the Bell-man's, the Night before the Execution,

THOU art the Bell-Man for this Night, 
Who com'ft 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 H O P E 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 Recompence, 
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 spoked 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 prently 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 seemed 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 steadfast 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-guiltinefs, and to wash all his Sins away in the most precious Blood of the Redemer of the World, and of his Soul. He said it was a happy Thing for him, that ever he came to Newgate: 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 Excesſs: And that all you that are here, and all thoſe, whose Hands this may come to, would oft en 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 Destructi on, 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 Kinman 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 Kinman’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 Johnson, 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 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 Emy in China, in October 1700, then came home Passenger in the Tavis flock, 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 Obser vance 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 Curs ing 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 Sylvestor 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 Pensioners. 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;
fhewing 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 artificiously 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 easy 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 asleep, that so by making him easy 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 Chaple 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 easy in them. He did not, nor indeed was he fit to receive the Holy Sacrament of the Lord's-Supper, and seemed 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 seemed 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 uttered 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.

His 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. Welsh, in which he had been a Year and a half, and actually was, at the Time of his being apprehended. He confessed, 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 those 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
Perfons who had brought him at first into, and encou-
raged 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; pray-
ing God, for Christ’s Sake, to forgive him all his Sins,
as he freely forgave those that had injured him; and
defired 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 blefs
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 Salva-
tion upon the alone Merits of JESUS CHRIST. While
he was under this Condemnation he behaved him-
selt very decently, and (to outward Appearance) with
Devotion; but yet he would not be persuaded to con-
feff the Fact for which he was condemned to die, though.
I ufed many pressing Arguments with him to that Pur-
tofe. At laft, (when the Dead-Warrant was brought
in, and not before) he confefs’d it was true, (as they
swore it against him) that he was endeavouring to break
open a Houfe at the End of Great Queen-Street in Drury-
Lane, and that he fhot the Watchman who came to
prevent him in it. *Which having declared, I gave him
fuch Reproof and Admonition as was fitting; shewing
him both the Heinoufnefs of that horrid Crime of
Murder, which he actually had, with that of Burglary,
which he intended to have committed, and the Aggra-
vation of his Guilt by his long and obfinate Denial of
both. Upon which he acknowledged, he was very guil-
ty indeed, and that his Sentence was juft; that he was
the worft and the vilest of all Sinners, not worthy to
lift up his Hands or his Eyes to Heaven, and receive
the leaft 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 Pur-
pose. I attended him there for the last time; and ha-
vring 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 warned 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
practise 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 Ex-
pressions, 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, Thomas Woodcock, Esq; and his Lady, with another Gentlewoman, on Finchley Common.

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 for the Reader's further Satisfaction herein, I must 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 particular 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.

JOHN SMITH, 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 Chancery-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 wick-ed 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 refted 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 persuad'd 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 shouldst come to that. So they proceeded on their wicked Design; and the next Perfon 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 Houn-slow-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 particularly 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 Periwig-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 Courses, which I let loose at once,
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 set 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 pursued by the Country and taken. This Trade I do declare to the World, That I never did follow above seven 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 cast, 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 those Houfes and all ill Company, and remember my last Dying Words, leaft some of you come to the same End, which I pray God you may not; for this that I suffer, is but the just Punishment of my Wickednefs 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 should be very willing for to do it; but as I am not, I hope my Life will be Satisfaction to them all; and for whomsoever 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 Jesus receive my sinful 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. Giles'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 Wilts, and brought up to the Law here in London, where he had lived for these several Years past. He confefs'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 acknowledged against him at his Tryal by Mr. Davis; yet he was not wanting at first in his Endeavours to extenuate the Crime of such Impostures; 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 defired 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.

EDW. JEFFERIS.

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, declaring 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 desir'd again the Prayers of all good People there; and he ended his Life with calling upon God for Mercy.

Mrs.
Mrs. Elizabeth Torfhill’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 Surprize 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 touch’d the Sword.
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 "quarrel'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,

Eliz. Torshill.

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

SIR,

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 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 horrid Crime, and express'd great Sorrow for it. And this was so much the more afflictive to his now awakened 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 itself, 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 satisfied 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. Cruius) 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 Anne (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 unseal'd 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 Dunn) 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 Obstinance he
He all along perfisted; 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 re-
solv'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 pre-
vent 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 In-
juries 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 man-
ners 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 endeavoured 
to instruct and reform, and thereby bring to God, 
thus desperately fly from him, and sink himself deeper 
and deeper into Terror 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 ashamed and sorry for it, he seemed 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 grieved 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 satisfy'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 serv'd 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 perswade 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 desired 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 indispensible 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 delivered 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 mentioned; 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 pray'd 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 Confeffion, 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,

YOU 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 desires 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. humble Servant,

from Newgate.

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 burning 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 laft 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 discharge’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 liv’d afterwards with a Joiner 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 stolen; and would fain have persuaded the World, that he had bought the Goods found in his Poffession,
feffion, 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 fold him the Linnen, the Gold Watch and Gold Tweezer, &c. and the latter on Tower-Hill, of whom he bought the two Piñols 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 allege 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 rol'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 Obedience, 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 protest'd that he was innocent of the Thing he was accus'd of, and condemn'd for. And in this Protestation of his Innocence he persist'd even to the very last. All the Time he was under Condemnation, he seem'd to
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 believe'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 Gentlemen 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 stayed 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, being 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 he call’d him, presently came to the Coach, with Mr. Morgridge, and brought her into the Guard-room; where having been a little while, the cry’d, Who shall pay for my Coach? Upon this Mr. Morgridge said, I will; and so discharged the Coach. Then he offered to salute her; but she scornfully rejected 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 increased, and came up to a very 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. Morgridge 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 Justice-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 receiv’d his Sentence; to which he seem’d willingly to submit.
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 Montrose, and brought up at the University 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 a 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
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 Sheriffs 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 satisfie in my Life
Life Time, I do sincerely 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 accessory to the Miscarriage before Toulon, 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 profiting the same to save my Life; for which Instance of his Love, to be preferred before Life itself, I bless and magnifie his Holy Name, with un-speakable 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 disown at my Death, but solemnly declare, that in all my Life, I never thought he had any Right to these Realms, how foolishly so ever I may have rendered myself 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-money, though I have met with the more just Reward of such secret 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 assisting 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 set any Person upon it, as it was alleg’d; but she confess’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 lascivious 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 restrain’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 the
the might (as it has prov'd) be involv'd in his Crime, and the dismal Consequences thereof; yet she was so be-witch'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 her self by her soul 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 Uncleanliness.

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 Downfall, 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 begged 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 Robberies committed by him and two other Persons on the Queen’s Highway.

He readily confess’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 induced 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)
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 unhap-
py 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 a-
way, and was the Cause of this his unhappy Death,
whiling that wicked Man might reform, and prevent
the like shameful and untimely End.

Upon my asking him, What sort of Life he had for-
merly 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 Farrier, 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 choose another, which he did; and
bound himself to a Carpenter, an Inhabitant of the Par-
ish 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 Cheaps-
fide: 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 feiz'd with them, and (as is said before) took a Trial for them, in which he was caft for his Life, while the other (viz. J. P.) made his Escape beyond Sea, and was not heard of, till he (Sollars) had been reprieve'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 clofe 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 Herefordshire; where he was, by their Care, brought up in a virtuous and religious way; but his unhappy Bias and Inclination to Vice made him neglect the Practice of the good Things that were taught him, and follow that wicked Course 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 rob'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 rob'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 Thorney, 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 lifted 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 confes'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 Publick: 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 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. Witness 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 no-
torious Facts of Murder and Robbery were committed
there: And that the Wrong she had done to that Mis-
tress 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 for-
mal 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 ob-
finate Denial of a Fact which her very Conscience (if
she had any) could not but reproach her continually with
the Commision 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 fed
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. Blundell's Chamber, when Peters mur-
der'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
hear
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 Pistle 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 whether 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 Victualling-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 allure 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 9th 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 these 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 acknowledg'd 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 Holloway, 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 endeavou'rd 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 wish'd 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, Confeffion, 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 Piftol, 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 Piftol
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 Uncleanness, and many
other Vices, the Remembrance of which was very grie-
vous to him; and that he heartily repented of them all,
wishing he had been so wise as to serve God, and honest-
ly follow'd his Calling of a Baker. Thus he accus'd
himself of his ungodly Deeds and Extravagancies in ge-
eral, 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 faint-
ly deny'd, that some Years ago he stole a Watch, and
was committed to Dover-Castle; out of which he hav-
ning 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 commit-
ted 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, Governor Beat, 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 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 Kingsland and Shoreditch: We took from the said Gentlewoman fix 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. Maw was 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. Maw 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 expres'd it to me] and Sutton and Maw 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 concerned
cerned in every one of them: But he said withal, that
he had none of the thirty-two Guineas taken from Go-
vornour Beal, So that it seems William Maw kept
them all for himself.

This Sutton, I found, was under a very great Disap-
pointment, as having (even to the last) been in Expec-
tation of a farther Reprieve ; hoping, but in vain, that
his Money (which he said was no less than three hun-
dred Guineas, which he had ready to give to save his
Life) might do great Feats that way; but he was misfa-
ten therein.

At the Place of Execution I attended him, and ex-
horted him to repent. I pray'd by him, then recom-
mending 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 Devo-
tions, 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 myself: And tho'
I had the tenderest of Fathers, yet my own extra-
gant Humour led me into Uncleanliness, Drunkenness, and
the unlawful Means to support both, which has brought
me
me to this unfortunate 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.

H e, (even from the very first) gave such Information 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.
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 High-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 lift'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 Pounds weight of Thread, and other Goods; which Fact he publicly 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 steadfastly 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 toss'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 a 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 con-
fect, that himself had actually been concerned in several
Felonies and Robberies, and in Coining, &c. for which
Things fake (as he might remember) he had a Fine of
10l. 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 endeavoured to bring him to an open Con-
fession 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 Matv,
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
Anfwer to the Questions I ask'd him about these Matters;
and as often as I offer'd my Arguments to him, to in-
duce 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 Chaple, your Doctrine is very good; and I re-
ceive 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 un-
pleasant 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 Confcience.

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 Phyfician 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 escaped 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 crueler 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 Youth, 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 inflicted 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
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 everywhere (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 Man 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?

There Bodies being demanded by, and deliver'd to the Sheriffs 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. Man) 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 Man, 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, sing 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 De-
votion'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 Pa-
rents, who are honest People. They did not bring me up to 
this I am now come to. But I was undutiful and disobe-
dient, and would not follow good Counsel. I desire that none 
would be so unjust as to reflect upon my Friends, who are no 
avays 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, late-
ly 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, de-
scribing 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 Pa-
per deliver'd to me by the said Baynes and 
Sutton
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, be 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 Beat, with one Henry Harding, and took from them two Coats, one blue trim'd with black, and the other a light coloured Coat; 1l. 18s. 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 14s. 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 Maw 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 Maw, 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 persuaded 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 endeavou'd to persuade him to, was in order to the rend'ring his De-
votions 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 him self 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, but 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 desired) of representing him as a true Penitent. To this he said little or nothing, but that He was sorry for his Passion.

II. A
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. In 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 100l. Exchequer Notes, two Bank-Bills, 10l. each, a Bond of 100l. and several other Notes, some payable upon Sight; with a silk Night-gown, and some wearing Apparel; which I sold to M. H. for 51l. which she paid unto me Thomas Jarrott, and to R. H—d, and C. H—n, to each 17l.

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 4l. 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-Cutter's Shop in White-Chapel, about 7 Months since, and sold to M. H—s, for 25s. 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 4s. per doz. to Mr. M—w, and
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7. S—t, R. H—nd, and P. Gr—rs, 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 fufian 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. W—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—f, 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—r, 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 Paul's-Church, about 7 Months since, full of Chocolate, and twelve doz. China Dishes; sold for 4 l. to Mrs. B—rd, Ant. G—f shared with me.

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

XI. Nine Months since, a Portmante-Trunk from the Blue-Boar-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, pufhing back the Lock, some wet Linnen; sold to Mrs. B—n for 6 s.

XIII. A Portmante-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 we...ng Apparel; fold to Mrs. Wh--le for 7 or 8 l.

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

XVI. Twenty-three yards of green Cloth, out of a Cart in Bis...gate-Street, parted between R H--nd, C. Fr--n, C. M--us, a Butcher, in Wh-- Ch--, and myself; fold 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; fold 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--ch had their Shares.

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

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

XX. Five Weeks since, a piece of Callimancoe, thirty Yards, from a House in Mon...lds, and seven Yards of Shalloon; fold to Mrs. W--le--lt, for 40 s. the same Sharers.

XXI. In at a Window, Leiceste...Fields, two Sconces and a large Looking-gla... fold to Mrs. Wh--d. for 18 s. six Months since.

Thomas Jarrott.
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 pursued 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 forswear 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 jull'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 the 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. Jarrott.

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 Excife-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 Nurfe, 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 Cholwell, Sifter to Mrs. Scoles; they dwelling both together, at that time without Temple-bar, and after-wards in Covent-Garden. As this young Maid grew up, they put her to all manner of Houlë-work they had for her to do, and she help'd them also in their Business of Clear-farching: 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 revolv'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 Mistresses, who drank it; and thereupon one of them (viz. Mrs. Scales) 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. Cholwell, the Poison did not kill her; which this treacherous Maid observing, and finding herself disappointed of her Design, revolv'd to poison her a second Time, and do it effectually, as she had serv'd her other Mistresses 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. Cholwell's Breakfast. Here the good Providence of God manifestly appear'd, in the Preservation of Mrs. Cholwell'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 deceased, 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 Sweetheart, 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 Mistress should leave behind them, were the only Causes of it. And being farther ask’d, Whether she had not sometimes cheated her Mistress of Monies, which she did receive for them, she not only own’d it, but withal confess’d: That to hide these 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 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 Mistresses, Mrs. Chobwell, 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 pray'd much by herself, 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, condemned 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 herself 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 persuad'd 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 stay'd about six Weeks, and then took Lodgings for herself; 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 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 supposeth he had no Design particularly upon Mr. Spurling's Life, yet he could not disown his having Malice in his Heart, fo 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 Houfden, 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 confess'd 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 Grafer in the Country, at another Time a Printer of Cailicoes, and afterwards kept a Corn-Chandler's Shop in Long-Acre, and then remov'd to Southwark, where he kept a Victualling Houfe in the Parish of Christ Church; that he had also practifed Surgery
geery 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. Cartleton, 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 Substance of what he declar'd, while under Sentence of Death, he shew'd 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 Houfden, Condemned for counterfeiting the current Coin of this Kingdom.

This Jane Houfden 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, received Sentence of Death the 15th of Octobre 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 Houffden, 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 errected 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.


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 serve his Turn: He was fairly tried, 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 passed 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 complained 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 increas'ing 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.


He denied his being guilty of this horrid Fact; saying, he had no Intent to do that Mischief, but so far from it, that he did what he could to prevent it; yet acknowledge'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 convict'd for Blasphemy, and another Time for a Felony; for which latter Fact he was sent to that Work-house
Work-house, where Charles Houghton, William Lovder, with himself and others made a Riot, in which Houghton was killed upon the Spot, himself and Lovder 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 Confection 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 past, 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 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 call 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 Work-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 past) 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 convict’d 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 shou’d 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 unpentned.
pented of, and if so, carry'd the Guilt of them upon 
his Soul into another World. From which Considera-
tion, I endeavour'd to make this Lowther and Keele sen-
sible of God's Goodnefs and merciful Providence to-
wards them, whom he had suffer'd to live longer, gi-
ving them Space and Time, and other Means for Re-
pentance, 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 Low-
ther 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 Newcaflle upon Tyne, in Northum-
berland; and that he had ufed the Sea almost ten Years, 
and once was (for a little while) Master of a small 
Collier, (giving him by his Father) trading between 
Newcaflle and London, and might have done well if he 
had kept to that honest Employment. Now he saw his 
Folly, and lamented his deplorable Cafe, who had thus 
by his wicked Life brought Mifery, Shame and Death 
upon himself in this World, and might (unless God 
would be graciously pleased to fhow him Mercy) be loft 
to all Eternity.

In the Morning they were carry'd from Newgate to 
Clerkenweil-Green, where they were hang'd on a Gal-
lows erected there for that Purpose, at which Place I at-
tended them, and discharged my Ministerial Office to 
their poor Souls for the laft Time, giving them Gholt-
ly Admonitions and Exhortations, praying and singing 
Some Penitential Psalms with them, and made them re-
hearfe the Apostle's Creed, as is usual on fuch melan-
choly Occasions, and finally recommending them to 
God's boundlefs Mercy and all-sufficient Grace, I with-
drew from them.

As Keele and Lowther were going to speak to the Peo-
ple in their own Vindication I stop'd 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 fhow them Mercy.
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 condemned 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 Milton at the Old-Bailey, for that will be very satisfactory to me, because I may not still lie under the Aversion 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 pleased 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 myself your


Humble Servant,

R. Bourage.
A true Copy of Mr. Keele’s Letter, delivered 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 swor against wrongfully, you are very sensible, as well as I, that we were all swor 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 above-said 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 Lowther 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 Goffling, 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 perceive'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 the 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 owned, 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 Furlow 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 confessed 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 Loathfomeness 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-fill 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 grieved 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 Goßling into my Closet, and there the said Goßling charg'd him home with
with the Murder of John Hatton; 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 protest'd (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 Dougla, condemned for the Murder of William Sparks, by stabbing him with a Knife.

He said that he was 33 Years of Age, born at Dun- ston, 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, wherein they happening to exceed the Rules of "Sobriety
"Sobriety, were both of them so very much discomfited with Drinking, that they knew not well what they did."

Upon which I told him, "That I suppos'd such excessive 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 harboured malice and hatred in his heart against that poor man, whom he thus basely stab'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 trial 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 apprehend'd, the bloody knife with which he had committed that horrid fact was seen to fall from him."

When I had obser'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 deceased; saying further, that he did not think the deceased 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 Passages 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 Adultery, his profane Swearing, and excessive Drinking, &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 Forsaking 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 profess'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
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 ridiculed 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 visit’d 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,
mourn, 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 delivered 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 Infirmity 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;
JV.

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...titled, 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 myself. 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 Roman 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 concern'd in those traiterous 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 enlist'd himself into the King's Service, and received his Bounty-Money and Pay, he did (underhand) 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 alledg'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 defir’d his positive An-
swer:” And the Question was this; “Whether he
thought it lawful for any Man to attempt the de-
throning King George I. and thereby involve these
Kingdoms in Blood and Ruin?” At this he made a
Pause, and feem’d to be furpriz’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 inno-
cent 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 feem’d
resolv’d to persift 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 asser’d at the Tree the day of his Execution.

A Copy of Joseph Silver’s PAPER.

Joseph Sullivan, alias Silver, being now under
the Sentence of Death, and having no other View
or Consideration at present, but to discharge my Con-
science, do hereby solemnly declare in the Presence of
God, that Colonel Joshua 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 sign’d by the said Colonel Paul,
or with his Privity 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 lifting 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 Apprentices-
ship 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 Vinters 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-
eral, 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 lifted 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 repent'd 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 Siker could 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 Con-
cfciences by a free and full Confession, and sincere Re-
pentance of their wicked Deeds. But they would say
no more, only Silver read a Paper, wherein he pretend-
ed to justify his Fact; and Harv said much to the fame
Purpofe in his behalf. I pray’d with them, fung a Pe-
nitential Pfalm, and would make them rehearfe the A-
postles Creed, but they gave but very little Attention
to what was perform’d. When I had done my Minifte-
rial 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 ra-
ther Dolzel, for Piracy.

BEING in Company with a French Sea Captain,
and four other Mariners, who all coming on board
a certain French Vefsel, 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 fix Perfons, and one of them
thus ty’d, either fell, or (which is moft probable) was
thrown into the Sea, wherein not being able to help
himself, nor receive any Affifiance from his Companions,
to whom he cry’d, Dear Friends fave me, and then pe-
rifh’d.

This Dolzel, who was formerly try’d and convicted at
the Old-Bailey, and there condemn’d for High-Treafon
fome Years before, as being a Privateer, acting with a
Commission of the French King’s, when that Prince
actually was in War againft 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 irreverent 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 pleased 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 inter
pret what the Witnesses (who cou'd not speak English) i swore against him, but in that Office (which I neither sought 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 discharge'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 would 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
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 Doze: 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 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
The Confeffion and Behaviour of Capt. John Gordon, Capt. William Kerr, and Mr. John Dorrell, for High-Treafon.

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 fame Service, for which he left the Employment of a Brewer he was concern'd in) were try'd for, and convicted of High-Treafon, 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, fometimes 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-Treafon they were condemn'd in this World, and must for ever suffer in the next for, unlefs they took timely Care to avoid by a timely Repentance that unfppeakable Mifery they muft 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 defires 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' Chrift to the Penitent, fo on the other his fevere Justice to the unrelenting and harden'd Sinner.
As I was one time laying before them the Heinouf-
ness and dismal Conquences 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 fa-
tisfied with this their Answr, 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 se-
riously 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 weigh-
ty 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 Na-
ture, which I represented to them, Mr. Gordon said, 
*It had been good for them to have been wiser.* I expect-
ed 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. Gor-
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, faying 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 Cala-" mity upon them for their former Sins, and they sub-" mitted 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 looked 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
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 Vicegerent 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 Heinousnes 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 Bengal) he stabb'd a Gentleman, and was brought over in Chains into England for his Trial; but the Evidence dying by the Way, he escaped for that Time? At this he seem'd to be very much surpriz'd and discountenanced, 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 some times 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 rehearsed 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.

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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 Ani-

madversions or Remarks thereon, here follows:

The LETTER.

I T is strange, as my Lord Wharton said on a remarkable Occasion, that of all Societies of Men, there is none practice 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 Que-

stions
afions to those Wretches are so very impertinent, and so inconsistent, that I can hardly repeat them without forfeiting. 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 alluded to 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 Traitors 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 Traitors 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 Papist 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 disposed 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 Usurpers and Rebels properly belong to the Pretender and his Adherents, and all Forfivorn Favourers of that restless and traiterous 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 Arbi-
trary Power.

There will be no Cause of Pity, but rather of Praise, 
cheerfully 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 Ene-
mies, as he has the Hearts of all honest Men and true 
Protestants.

As I do not deserve those reproachful and unjust Ap-
pellations of Vilest of Mankind, Flatterer and Lyar, 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 Præctices of 
his audacious Party; and am not terrify'd with thefe 
their Threats of having my Funeral Elegy soon cry'd about 
the Streets, tho' at the same time I am sensible enough 
of fuch 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, anfwer it, 
is because I was in hopes this wicked Party would re-
form: But finding they do not, I must here give them 
Warning, praying them to consider the heinous Sins and 
unspeakable Mischies they are daily involving themselves
in, who thus presume to continue provoking God's Indignation and Wrath, by their resisting the Powers that be, which (faith 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.

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 2s. 6d. 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 flighting 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 severall 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 mifs'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 Infinuations, confute their Arguments, and contemn 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 seduce'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 rule'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 Confeffion to Almighty God is a fufficient Acknowledgment in this World, I'm oblig'd (for Vindication of her) to acquaint Mr. Fletcher, that his Waggon was robb'd by my felf and Thomas Edwards, at Sevenoak in the County of Kent; and I never fold any but to Mrs. Keys, except one dozen of Handkerchiefs to another Perfon, 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 tho' Perfons 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's in the Inn-Yards at Night: As to the Fault I die for, I acknowledge it just, but being in Liquor, was seduced 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 felf, with Patience, to His Blesfed Will, and hope (with true Repentance and a ftedfaft Faith in Chrift Jefus) He will feal my Pardon in Heaven before I go hence, and be no more feen: And I bles God, I have had more Confolation under my Condemnation than I ever had thefe 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 Commifion of fuch Faults, especially one Perfon, who hath accus'd me of it fince 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 felf, that if God had prolong'd my Days, I would relinquit all
all such Courfes. This is a true Account of my Life past; Witness my Hand, Dec. 22, 1715. Henry Powell.

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A true Copy of the P A P E R deliver'd to the Sheriffs of London by Colonel Henry Ox- burgh, who was Drawn, Hanged, and Quartered at Tyburn for High-Treason, against His Majesty King G E O R G E I. May 14, 1716.

C U S T O M has made it almost necessary for Pers- 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 Communion 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 earntly 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 set- ting a Catholick King on the Throne, and re-establish- ing 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 myself oblig’d to pay him the same Duty, and do him the same Service, as if a Catholic; nor do I know any Catholic 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 surrender’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 sav’d.

I pray God of his infinite Goodness to restore the Nation to its former Happines, 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 Gaftcoign, 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 myself 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 myself 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. Caldrood'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 could 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 could 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 Walmsey 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.
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 Catholic 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 Prac-
tices 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) steppt 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 Glor-
rious 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 addressed 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 pleased 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 disturbed. And here I advised them also to warn the People to be Loyal and truly religious, taking Care not to follow their Steps in Rebellion and unsound 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 perceived 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 Chicken) 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 fold 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 Shipperston, 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.
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 forborn 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 perfwade 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 Cot-terel, 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 Difficult-ty, 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, *if* Whether he knew any Thing
Thing of the Murder of Squire Hanlon, 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 persist’d 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 rehearfe 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.

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The Behaviour and Confession of John Montfleurs 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 Merchandising, 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 Catholick. 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 answer'd at first, That he would; but after some time said, That as he suppos'd 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 Instrucions relating to those Points or Principles, wherein they differ the one from the other; and considering also that he was born in the Roman Communion,
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 Instrucions he had received of me since his Confinement in Newgate (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 Instrucions to set him forward in the right Way) I press’d 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 Deceafed having firft began a Quarrel with him, they both by Consent went out together, to decide the Difference by dent of Sword: This he alleging for his Pretence as a legal (or at leaft allowable) Way, to ask and receive Satisfaction for Affronts and Injuries given, was presently shewn his great Mistake herein, and his indifpenfable 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, Ps. li. 12. Deliver me from Bloodguiltiness, 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 relent. I defir'd him for God's fake, 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 re-
ply'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 im-
plor'd God's Mercy and Pardon. Being not fully satis-
fy'd with his Confession, I further desir'd him to declare freely and ingenuoufly, what was the true Cause of his committing that Murder. To which he giving no An-
swer, his Silence put me upon asking him this plain Queftion, which I press'd him to answer positively one way or other, \textit{viz.} Whether he did not kill the De-
ceafed with an Intent of having his Money and other his Goods? Whereto he made this only Reply, \textit{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 Mifery. 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 con-
cern'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 Ap-
proach 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 express'd his Grief for all his Sins, and parti-
cularly 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 Deceafed 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 Season, 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 refuse 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 Confession of Henry Chickley, condemn'd for assaulting Mr. Charles Brown on the King's Highway, and taking from him a Silver Watch, a Pocket-Book, and a Bank Note of 25 l. 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 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 car-
ried 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 under-
go to all Eternity in the next. Then I asked them fe-
verally, 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. 2dly,
That all the Time they were under Condemnation they
would not be made sensible of their miserable Condi-
tion, 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 Cha-
pel, they could not forbear playing with one another,
and were ready upon any Call, to go out to the Chapel-
Door and drink there. 3dly, 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 profligate 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 Catholic 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 ask'd 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 Marquifs 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
sections, and Thanks to his Sifter the Dutchess of Shrewsbury, from whom he had receiv’d many Favours, and to whom he had done many Injuries, befeeching 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 Confession, Behaviour, and Last Speech, of James Sheppard, condemn’d for High-Treason, in imagining and compassing the Death of his most sacred Majesty King George 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 detesta-
ble Intention to me, and withal added, "That he verily believ’d it was a Motion that came from God to his Soul;" I then told him, "That as such an Intention was most wicked, the most horrid Thought that ever could enter into the Heart of Man; so (considering the Nature of it) he should have concluded it rather to be, as it really was, an Impulse or Suggestion from the Devil, who had seduced him, and led him to this unparalleled 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) expressly forbid Murder in general, much more such (particularly) as that he would have committed, which speaks Horror to humane Nature, as being a Crime 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 convinced, 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 murdered in that treacherous 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 inhuman Thought came into his Mind) a long time, so he had Leisure and Opportunity to consider 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 admis,
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 Enterprise: 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 unparalleled 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 sinn’d; 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’d 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-er
"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-
pofe, if God (as he ascerted) had given him a Com-
mussion, 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, fo in this Particular (es-
pecially) viz. Whether Pride (which is the Sin of the
Devil) had not a great Share in that his diabolical De-
vice; 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 dur’d
attempt to him; for doubtless that must be his Ambi-
tion and Self-Conceit, mixt with an evil Disposition and
other bad Qualities in him? To which he anfwer’d,
" It was not fo; 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’d a few days since;” which
he feem’d to be very forry for. Who that execrable
Perfon was, and whether he knew any other of this
Devilish Temper, he would not, and faid he should never
tell: But of fuch, if fuch Monsters there be in the
World, I muft and will fay this, and heartily with it,
Except they repent, let them all likewise perish. Some
time after this I had another Discourse with that un-
happy Affaffine and obdurate Sinner, who may be faid
to be another * James Clement, a second John Chafel,
a Ravillac, a blind devoted Agent in the Devil’s Caufe,
most tenacious to his pernicious Principles, which were
fo fix’d upon him, that I (and I believe fome others that
faw him) found it next to impoffible, by what Man
could do, to remove them from him; who had a Pre-
judice against all Orthodox Divines, and ’tis pity any
other were fuffer’d to come to him and confirm him in
his evil Disposition.

Things being fo, and he in that desperate Cafe, all I
could do, was to pray, as I did, That God would vouch-
safe 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 His-
story of France.
him from this miserable State of Error and Sin; to
refcue him out of the Snares, and from under the Ty-
ranny and Slavery of Satan, and admit him into the glo-
rious Liberty of his blessed Children. Thus I went on
with him, using all possible Endeavours to mollify his
ftony Heart, and bring it into a better Frame. And to
flew him that this strange Opinion he had rashly and in-
confiderately espous’d, was not the Opinion of all the
Non-jurors, I inftanc’d in the worthy Perfon to whom he
apply’d himself for his Furtherance in this Bloody Aét,
who was so far from complying with it, that he look’d
upon it as an horrible and deteftable thing; and fo
thought himfelf 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, faid I, why should
you, a young Man as you are, who have not that Ex-
perience in Things (especially those relating to publick
Government) which they of a longer standing in the
World, and larger Capacities than your felf, may rea-
onably be suppos’d to have? Why should fuch a one as
you think himfelf more Knowing and more Religious
than other Men; to excel in Goodnefs and Wisdom
even thofe you have reafon to think well of? Why
should you be fo felf-conceited and fo presumptuous, as
to fancy that what you thought to be wrong might and
muft be rectified by you, and you muft put your own
Life upon it? How could you be fatisfied in the Recti-
tude of thofe Thoughts of yours that were fo strange,
and fo monftrous? To thofe Questions he gave me this
short Anfwer: “I am fatisfied I was in the right; add-
ing, 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 till kill him whom we own for our
“King, or any Friends of his.” Wou’d you, faid 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 thofe Thoughts when fhe was alive; but if
“fhe were fo now, I would kill her.” Which Exprefs-
fion he repeated two or three times, to the Amazement
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 defir'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 my self 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 Que-
"tion 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 unman-
nerly. 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 an-
swer'd nothing. Then I turning to that pretended Confeffor 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 traitorous Imagi-
nation 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 somethings 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-Confeffor with his Assistant. After some previous Words of Civility, I said,
said, 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 Fact 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 Queries; 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 satisfie 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 allege 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 defire 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 perfifted in his former Opinion, as he had declar'd it to me. "That it was lawful for him, and he had a "Commiffion from God, to affaffinate 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 retrafted and repented of it? To this he would give me no manner of Anfwerv: 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 defir'd my private or publick Prayers, and the Prayers of the Church, as People under Condemnation generally do? He answer'd, He defir'd their Prayers only who were of his Communion. So I left him, telling him at parting, I was forry to fee 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 defir'd it or no) fo 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 himfelf 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 Lofs of all things (yea, Life it felf) for His Majesty and the Royal Family's Service and Intereft, and for the Truth of the Gospel: And I care not for what Slanderous Tongues can fay, 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 laft Saturday at Prayer in the Chapel of Newgate, obferving 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 fee 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 shown 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 Absolution, tho' he visibly dy'd without Repentance.

N. B. Those that have already reflect'd, 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 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 NONJUROR.

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 Arguer, 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 Falsehood 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 Expurgatorius 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 cheerfully Boy, in Discharge of thy Conscience,
"Confidence, 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! prithee 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 had 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 Drunkard! 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 untimely 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 dom'd and raved to no Purpose, 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 Information; but feed 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 Favours of the Religion of the French Refugees. 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 fucking Posterity, which may with an Emphasis be said to copy after the Example of James Clement, John Chastel, and Ravillac, 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 Shephard's Side, to choose whomsoever he pleased 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, to 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 possessed your Soul in Peace and perfect Tranquillity, under the utmost Resignation, had a Clergyman of the Roman 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,
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 Raftiness 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 choosing 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 wherein he was executed. Did not the Marquis 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 Catholic 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 Marquis 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 Marquis 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
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 Case, 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 S I R,

Yours, &c. Philalethes.

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

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

Ordinary Paul,

THOU haft 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 immortal 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 mere Sight of such a Weather-cock, a Jesuit, a Wolf in Sheep's Clothing, saying, Beware of false Prophets, which shall come to you in Sheep's Clothing, but inwardly they are ravening Wolves; and I am afraid you are one of the Multitude 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 spotless as the Dove, is a horrid Insolence. 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 Usurper'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 Blasphemy,
is pleased to let his Name, and the Place of his Abode
be known to me, as mine is to him, he may surely de-
depend upon receiving from me a full and distinct An-
swer to every Part of it, such as I once gave to a for-
mer 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 abomi-
nable Lincs: What Spirit he, and those of his Party
may reasonably be thought of, who so highly and bla-
sphemously commend an horrible Assaiffine, that
would have imbru’d 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 De-
signs 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 Opin-
ion can we have of their pretended Religion and ho-
nest 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 juft, 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 Clothing. 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 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 pleased 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.
The Confession, Behaviour, and Last Speech, of John Price, alias Jack Catch, for the Murder 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 Soho, then within the Parish of St. Martin's in the Fields, now in that of St. Ann Westminster: That his Father, sometime 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 excesive 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 confiderate 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
leaft 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 "loft 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, saying, "That if he had many Sins, they were "such as were common to other Men as well as him- "self; 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 Wagons with Rags: That afterwards he took a Fancy to go to Sea, and accordingly serv'd on board the Old Ruffel, Grafton, Devonshire, and other Men of War, for the best Part of eighteen Years off and on: That likewise he was, some Years since...
Once, Finister 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 compas; 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 Marshallsea, 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 saifd, That while he was under Confinement in the Marshallsea, he now and then obtain'd the Liberty of going abroad to work as a Labouring Man, which he did for some time, serving Brick-layers, 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 loosing 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 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 persist'd 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 contract'd further Guilt) and that he might be deliver'd from Blood-guiltiness. I sung with him that part of the fifty-first Psalm, 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 erect'd 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 advance'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 return'd into England, and not long after had a Lieutenant's Commission in the Regiment of Horse commanded by the Lord Marquefs of Winchefer. 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 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 desire'd me to spare that Part of my Service, because he was very busi, 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 visit'd 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 convict'd of Murder, and accordingly receiv'd Sentence of Death.

After this I repeated my Visits to him, and desire'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 desire'd me to
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 convicte 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 alleging, 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 under-
standing that he had the Night before took a Dose of
Poison, and after that stab'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.' Where-
upon I endeavour'd to make him sensible he had no
Power over his own Life; and, that by this he put him-
self 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 Sollici-
tations of his Friends, nor his own Attempts upon him-
sel, 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 fai'd about an Hour with his Mother after his
Arrival there) I pray'd with him in the Cart, gave him
some Exhortations, fung 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 directing the
Spectators
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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.

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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 Intermisition; 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 Bagno) that he had none of his Ribs broke; and that seeing him naked he had no Bruises.

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 In
tilt to him, and said he was drunk.

No Notice was taken of the ill Character of the House,
nor of the Waiter, nor of the Deceased, who had many
times by his unmanly 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
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. Webs-
tier, the yet only unconcern’d Person in the Room (tho’
they threatened that they would commit her to Newgate
with Mr. Bird, and that she should certainly be hang’d)
sware, 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 Vi-
lence 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 House,
faw 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 fame Bruises,
and his Shirt very much torn; a Surgeon, who dres’d
the Bruises, swore the fame; as also, that Mr. Bird
had other Bruises on his Body, which he dres’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, deceased, who was the late servant at the Bagno 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 faith, 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 Bagno, which as soon as this Deponent discover'd, she caused the said Samuel Loxton to be apprehended and carried before Justice Saintlo, 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 faith, that the said Samuel Loxton, this Deponent's late Husband, was the said Samuel Loxton, that was kill'd at the Bagno 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, makeneth 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 Cooper, 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 seemed very sorry for what he had done.

Mary Shaw.

Jur. in Cur. 11 die Februari.
coram J. Ayres.
JOHN Cornis," 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 Cowper) by one Mr. Shaw, a Clergyman of the Church of England, at his Houfe in College-Court, Westminster, in the Presence of these Deponents. And these Deponents can the better deposite, 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.

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 Houfe 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 faith, 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.

Ann Harrison.

In
MARY 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 Susannah Loxton his Wife, to put to Nurse, and agreed with this Deponent for 2s. 6d. 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 dropped 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 faith, 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 Susannah Loxton, and that she was his Wife, but declar'd, he had made a Resolution never to cohabit with her.

Mary de Costa.

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.

Receive 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 discharge’d by due Course of Law. Given under my Hand and Seal the 13th Day of July, 1717.

L. Sainth.

Veræ Copia examen per Bodenham Rouse, Turnkey.

Anne Towne, Servant to Mr. Seedwell, at the Bagnio in Silver-street, Deposeth, 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. Venersell said, the said Lieutenant defired a Bath, which she this Deponent understood was deny’d him; and that Venersell was push’d out of the Room, and fell down Stairs, but that Venersell return’d back, and double lock’d the said Lieutenant’s Door on the outside, as Venersell told her. This Deponent farther faith, That there was no Person in any Bath at that Time. And this Deponent further
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further faith, That some time after the 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 faith, 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 faith, 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 faith, 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 faith, 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.

POWIS.

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, deceas’d, 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.

7th 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 Dres and Appearance shew’d himselfe 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.

7th 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 Venerfell, 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 Venerfell, who was his Surgeon? He the said Venerfell 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 Venerfell only said so to aggravate Matters against the said Capt. Bird. And this Deponent further faith, 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 faith, 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.

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

The
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-Pigeons, 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 Be-
avour. 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,
eafe I should teach her to deny it, and make her Con-
fession 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 shou'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 persuad'd to fit on a
Chair, but would fit on the Floor, saying, "That she
ought to humble herself in Dust and Ashes; and
that had she ten thousand Hearts, she would willing-
ly 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 Execu-
tion on Friday: She then ask'd me, "if it was pro-
L 3 " per
"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 accustom'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 misc'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 everything 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 Cafe Knife, that cut the Children's 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 advised 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 Talk 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 live nigh that Place."
"Place." I then told her of the Common Fame as to the cohabiting with Mr. Griffin unmarried, "she professed 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 pronounced 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 Donway 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 OEkonomift, 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 Sabachtani*, 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 desire'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.

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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 Offler, 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 for L 5

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 laid 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 press’d, 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 excus’d, 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 obdurate 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 fluxt’d and forc’d up into his Face, and press’d 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 sone Brandy was put
into his Mouth to revive him. He was very faint and
almost speechless for two Days, but then began to re-
cover Strength, for sometime; afterwards he again grew
worse, and desired to receive the Sacrament, for he be-
liev'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 Slum-
ber. 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 Re-
pentance 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-heath,
likewise
likewise towards Kingston, and sometimes on the Road to Ware; that there was besides one Tyson, and one William Colthoufe of their Gang, but was not then taken.

He was enraged at Joseph Lindsey in particular, because Spigget 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 Pancras-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, insinuating 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 lifted 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 Dover, 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 les 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 extremity 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 let 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 endured 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 fee his Mother, or at leaft 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 Sloop, and all who refused were to be killed as Cowards and unhearted Wretches; after which they emptied the other Vessel of every Thing of Value, than turn’d it a-float, being less swift, and less fit for failing, 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, Trinidado, &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 Bermudas 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 Governor 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 worldly 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 accustom'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 leaving 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 choisen, 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 affur'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 reprieve'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 stiould faint, and call'd for some Water to drink, and then after the Prayers were concluded, he request'd that the People present might be cau'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 Disgrace, for Crimes which fully deserve so vile a Death, and I freely confess myself guilty of the Crimes I was convict'd of, as well as many other Faults of the like Nature, for which I beg the Pardon 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
The Behaviour and Confession of Matthew Clark, for the Murder of Sarah Goldington, at a Place call'd Wilsden-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 forcibly leading 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 sitting in the Church-yard with other idle Fellows, during the Time of Divine Service.

But he added, that he perceiv'd his Mind and Inclinations 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 contented with his old Way of Life, viz. going to Plough, and driving Carts; but used to skulk about Busky-heath, 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 Expenses. 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 scrabbled to the Door; he see'ing 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 surpriz'd
furpriz'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 perceive'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 Consciences 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 Busby-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 Wilson, 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 Wilson carry'd the Mail to the End of the Lane, where this Prisoner Hawkins was waiting, in order to rifle 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 Plaisterer; but he not relishing so mean a mechanic 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 Duty, where as Vol. I. M Butler
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 accused 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 propereft 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 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 induced 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 talked 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 satisfied 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 Willis, his Friend and Accuser, because he acted not out of Ill-will to him, but to preserve his Life; he answered, '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 embro'd his Hands in the Blood of his Companion; however,
however, he freely forgave him from the very Bottom of his Heart, and wished 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 conclude the Sacrament, Prayers, and all, by Nine of the Clock on Monday Morning, being the Day of Execution: 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 shew'd 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 Bost-Poy, on the 6th of April 1722, about One o'Clock in the Morning, and taking a Black Geling 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 ungenteel 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 Diversion were innocent, yet his Business decayed insensibly, and he was obliged to abscond, and soon fly the
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 elegible 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 aimed at some Writing Business, as to keep Accounts, or the like. That he was Assistant to Mr. Grubshaw a Fruitener in collecting his Debts, and to his Sister Ellet, of Bowtry, 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 th'o' 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 Dishgrace, 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 Hawkin 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 encline 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 affur'd him, that 'twas not necessary to confess anything, 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 were 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 Tokens.
Icens 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 easilv lost his Breath.

Executed at Tyburn May 21, 1722.

They were both carried in a Cart to Hounslow-heath, and there hung in Chains.

An Account of the Behaviour, Confession, and Last Dying-Speech, of Matthias Brinfden, for the Murder of his Wife Hannah Brinfden, 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 Brinfden, of the Parish of St. Anne, Black-Fryars; for that he, on the 16th Day of July, 1722, did mortally wound, and murder, Hannah Brinfden, 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 abfented 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, Parfons, or Prayers: But this, I believe, was only to prevent his being forced to the Chapel, that he might indulge himself in Sloath and Idlenefs: Tho' afterwards, he deny'd that ever he declar'd himself a Roman Catholic, 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 Savagenefs and Barbarity of Nature, that, instead of throwing himself upon the Mercy of the Court; instead of defiring Death rather than Life, with Remorfe of Conscience; instead of bursting out into Tears, for the Loss of the Partner of his Bed, his Joys and Grieves; 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 muft swear falsly, in affering that the Wound was fix Inches deep, when the Knife produced in Court was not fix Inches long.

After his Condemnation, he being at Chapel, I examin'd him, and tax'd him with having fo little Regard for his Soul, which must so assuredly make its Appearance in another World, in fo 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 Diet, 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 ask'd, *How then the Wound could be so deep?* He answer'd, *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 stab'd her with the other, he laid her gently on the Bed, to preserve her from Death, and to save the Infant that was fucking 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 perfuaded to say he forgave her; and it was next Day before he could be induc’d to kiss her, as he 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 Christ’s 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.* Farewell 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 Sicknese he sustaine’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 administered 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 Surprize or Conterarnation. 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 increase a natural Waspishness in my Temper. I fell in Love with Hannah my late Wife, and after much Difficulty won her, she having five Suitors 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 design'd only to make her obey me thoroughly, which the Scripture 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 deerve 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 inditested 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 Ambufcades in the thick Woods which were to be pafs'd thro', and destroy'd several of the English; some of the Indians being arm'd with Guns, tho' moft of them were naked; but after a great many of them were slaughtered, they durft not appear any more, but kept close in thick Woods, where they could run much fafter 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 flew 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 contiau'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 Kindnes 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 Gloucefter, but the Money insensiblly wafting, he be-took 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 fo much in Favour with his Officer, that he took him into his Houfe, 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 convict'd of this Murder: He added, that he thank'd God, that during the whole Courfe 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 fo 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 would 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 Junk, otherwise Levee, having unexpectedly a Present made him of a Coffin, he began to fit it to his Feet at first, passing several Jests upon it; but that he being offended at Junk'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 sitting.
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 reduced) 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 lightest Engagement, nor to have any one with him damaged; 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 Baltic; but the Muscovite Ships not daring to face the English at Sea, and it being judged 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-ruled 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 Money, 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 fame 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 Newtner's-Lane, he could make but very little of it: He said, he had Reason to 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 fold 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 misfled Fire. Then three Men came riding along on full Speed, being inform'd of what had past, by the Man who escap'd; but they seeing a Chariot approaching, they let the Horfemen 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 fame 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.
There 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 House he believ'd by one of her Bullies, to whom she had given the foul Disease; but the People of the House fearing themselves to come into Trouble, (because several Neighbours would Witness that Murder was frequently cry'd out in the House) smother'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 second House that he broke open with two others, was in Southwark, near the Mint, from whence they took Calamanco to the Value of 22 l. and being apprehended, he was made an Evidence, and his two Companions were convic'ted at Kingston Assizes; but one receiving a Pardon, the other only was executed, whose Name was Harvey.

This unsuccessful Beginning made him at once forsake his intended Course of House-breaking, and return to Street-Robberies, in which one they call'd Will the Sailor, was assistant to him, and sometimes wore a very long Sword, and pick'd Quarrels with single Gentlemen without Swords, that engaging with them, Oakey might run away with their Hats, Wigs, or Swords, during the Skirmish: But that Fellow forfaking him, he fell into Acquaintance with Reading, Hawes, Milksop, Lincoln, Wilkinson, and others, all executed for Robberies on the Hampstead Road, he mention'd about 20 Robberies he was in, and added, that there was scarce a Robbery committed by them, but he was either concern'd in it, or was employ'd the mean Time by them in selling Goods, getting, and cleaning Pistols, or the like in London, and had some Part of their Booty; for one Nathaniel Hawes us'd to tell him, he was too little of Body for a Hero. Being ask'd if Wilkinson 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 Highgate, 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 for 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 Demonstration 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, concealed 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 Forgivenefs 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 rob'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 refum'd his Strength, ran from them, and escaped. The next Village being rais'd, and soon after the whole Country, they were apprehended, and put into Winchester Goal, and Mead, Wade, and Darkine were found Guilty; but James Butler was remov'd to Newgate for another Offence, and convicted at the Old-Bailey.
* The following Confessions J. Butler the Highwayman, gave to a Prisoner in Newgate, who sent them to me, witnessed that 'twas all sign'd by him, viz. James Butler.

I Was born in the Parish of St. Ann Soho, was put Apprentice to a Silver-Smith, whom I left in six Months: I went to Sea, and was bound (being a Boy) to Capt. Andrew Douglas, Commander of the Arundel Man of War: Afterwards I went to my Father in France, soon left him, and went a Voyage to Boston in New-England; but ran away from Capt. Steward Powell, our Commander, and went to New-York, from whence I failed out in the Station of a Foremast-Man, on Board the George Sloop, Capt. Abline Commander; I ran away from the said Sloop, and went to Martinico, and failed there in the Station of a Linguist for the French Tongue, in a Trading Vessel. Soon after going in another Sloop to cruize, I had a Quarrel with the Captain and went to Jamaica, and liv'd there a Year in Quality of a Clerk, but was then pressed on Board his Majesty's Ship Mary, Capt. Vernon Commander, belonging to it fifteen Months, and was paid off at Portsmouth August 26, 1721.

Being soon after put into Newgate; when I got out, I got acquainted with John Dyer, William Duce, and Joseph Rice, with whom on the 27th of April 1723, I robb'd in the Fields near Chelsea; then we robb'd two Men in the King's Road, between that Place and Buckingham-House; then my Lady Chudleigh's Coach at the same Place, in which Action Joseph Rice was shot; we then robb'd a Coach in Tottenham-Court Road, wherein

* Here's no Account what Butler was condemn'd for.
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 Hampstead 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-Bridgewell, 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 Fals, begg'd daily of me to lead a sober Life; and also Mrs. Raddifon 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 refus'd to Man, I make Attonement with my Blood: I die a Roman Catholick. Signed by me in the Presence of Witnesses.

James Butler.
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 Maffey, 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 Maffey, for Piracies committed on the High-Seas; and Philip Roche for the same Offence, but the Death of the latter of these being repitied for some Time, the former was at that Time order’d for Execution.

John Maffey 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
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 composed 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 Satisfac-
tion, that it was not his Fate to be in the Condemn'd Hole at a Time when it was crowded with a great Num-
ber of Malefactors; for he could not see how 'twas pos-
sible 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 resolve'd to let him push his Fortune, either by going to Sea, or as a Soldier: He appearing at the Siege of Lille in Flan-
ders, and was there made a Lieutenant under the late Duke of Marlborough; after which he assist'd at the Sieges of Mons, Dorway, 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 press'd as forward in every Place as possibly might be, he did not receive one honourable Scar.

Returning into England, he resolve'd to lead a Life en-
tirely 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 set 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; insomuch, 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. Maffey was then left sole Commander of) he was importuned by the Captain to go on board his Ship and turn Pirate, which he was obliged at that juncture to comply with; but yet he acknowledged that he ought to have addressed 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 descried a merchant’s vessel, which appeared 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 fastened themselves in them, feasting upon what they found, and looking in the trunks and coffers belonging to the officers, passengers, and others, and taking such things as appeared best for their purpose; adding, that the captain of the pirate ship always asked him, what they should take? But he as constantly turned about and replied, he might do as he pleased; for he understood no more how to be a pirate (he said) than to be a mountebank; and thence here he lived very well, yet his heart was uneasy, and he frequently dreamt he was in a ship failing 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 informed 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 lived) 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 the 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 used 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. Defiring all Persons who saw his Calamities, to prefer the sober 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, left 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-
wife pray God to forgive all the Evidences that
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 liv-
ing 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.

Capt. John M'Gee,

The
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 Wife, Pierce Cullen, and Andrew Cullen, (the last not yet taken) a considerable Time ago, did cruelly and barbarously assault and murder Pierre Tartouë, 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 Afluence 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 Multuits, 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 Nantes 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 Wise 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 Tartouz, to execute their cruel Intentions upon, because it was a finall 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 Masacre was to begin; but Francis Wife 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 resolved 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 Mafacre began; the two Men, upon their coming down, had their Brains beaten out, and were thrown overboard; 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, toil 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 Caufe of such Shrieks and Noises; but the same Cruelty was immediately acted towards all of them; for (some in their Beds, some just start'd 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 Perfon we are here particularly speaking of, said, That after the first two or three were massacred, Blood was as Water, and their being cover'd 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. Tartouë 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 begged 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 preferred 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 deftitute of Money wherewith to hire Sailors to Man the Ship they were posses'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 Tartouë. Philip Roche also affirm'd, that Francis Wife 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 laid 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 Action.

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, &c.
and being obliged to acknowledge the Matter: He there discover'd his Accomplices, and was told his Life should be saved 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 Pitholes, together with the Trunk full of Clothes, taken from him by Order of the Lords-Judges in Ireland, might be restored 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 Tartoué prov'd partial to his own Countryman, and was going unjustly to lash the Irishman; whereupon the Irish resist'd, the Quarrel became general, and the Irishmen throw 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 de-
parted, he seem'd dipp'd in Gore; he made Anfwer,
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 apprehen-
sive that he should suffer himself, but appear'd as
cheerful as if out of Confinement; imagining, that if
they all died, by the immediate Hand of God, he
should be enlarged direftly, 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 thofe
Felons that were in Confinement at Edenburgh, having
been taken in the Ship of Pierre Tartoue, which Neal
and Rock, &c. had turned a-drift.

On his Trial he appeared not very folicitous, know-
ing that 'twas imposfible to convict him of the Murders,
and as imposfible he could get quit of the Pyracies.
Being under Condemnation, he began rigidly to profefs
himfelf a Roman Catholick, and faid he muft conform
wholly to the Direftion of his Priest, who would not
allow him any longer to join in our Way of Worfhip;
fo that he no longer uf'd the Chapel, which till then he
had frequented. Sometime after the Execution of Mr.
John Maffey, he fent a Letter to me, Signifying among
other things, that tho' he could not join in our Form of
Worfhip, having been educated in a different Way, yet
he would be glad if I would read and explain fome
Chapters in the Holy Bible, particularly what related
to the Paftion of our Bleffed Saviour, and to the bleffed
Resurrection. Accordingly, on Monday I read to him
the 15th of St. Paul's Firft Epifle 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 Atheifts would perfuade 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 it is parted 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 December 1723.

Seven Men, call’d Waltham Blacks, having been apprehended (purfuant 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’s-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 reading
ing and praying; this they imputed to their miserable
Place of Confinement, having been accustom’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 pro-
nounc’d upon him, he was taken speechless, and con-
tinued 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 leaft 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 affisted these unhappy
Wretches in preparing for Eternity, by reading to them,
at those Times when they were not sent for to the pub-
lick Chapel.

The Account of these unhappy Men when un-
der Condemnation.

1. RICHARD Parvin, Master of a Publick-
House in Portsmouth, from his first Confin-
ment, was most serious in Deportment, as if some Me-
lancholy refted upon him; but I fear, the strong No-
tions he entertain’d of a Reprieve, in some Measure
prevented his placing his Thoughts wholly on Heaven;
and his perifting in the Declaration, that he was inno-
cent of the Offence he was to die for, made it ques-
tionable, whether (when alone) he had any Tears of Con-
trition, or any hearty Sorrow.

He talked much, that being two Months in Win-
chester Goal, the Keeper continually desired James An-
sel 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
no matter what 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 was able to carry such loads of venison as they were reported to bring from the forests; and therefore pretended he could not furnish them with horses. But the allegations against him appeared 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 answered, 'That he was not with them, but was indeed on the forest; for having a young maid, who was admired by several gentlemen, she happened in an ill mood to fly from him over the forest, (called, as I remember, Bear-forest;) thinking that her leaving him might be prejudicial to his trade; he hastened after her, and in the search, called to refresh 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 victuals in Portsmouth could have cleared up his innocence, and 'would have been a christian part to have done so. He asserted, that he could have gotten sufficient evidence from Berkshire, had he been possessed of money; but the Mayor of Portsmouth having seized upon all his substance, and he being hurried away from thence to Portsmouth, 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 required 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 Pettsworth 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 Happines Life could afford. But the Morning the Keeper was murdered, Marshall and King'sbell, 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 't would be very beneficial to him, and so far from disobliging, that 't would 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 Hole, 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 Kingstoll told me) the Black Men were desired to retire: But they resolving to die or conquer, flung 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, press'd more warmly upon them, till they all ran away, leaving Marshall and Kingstoll 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 Kingstoll, 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 lived; 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 Staves 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 distinguished himself by his Skill and Strength in rustic Exercisés. 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 called Leppock, 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 Angel, otherwise Stephen Philips, was about thirty Years of Age, who for some Years had led an unsettled Life, being often at Guildford, 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 Rush 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 Lepbooth, 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 different
ferent Nature shock'd the Family, too tedious here to mention; but they blew over, and the Father being discharge'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 Stanhope, and he need not fear Preference, 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 resolve'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 practis'd, or wished to practis'e, 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 confess'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 notwithstanding this unhappy Humour, he escaped being kill'd; tho' he had, in the Fore-part of his Body, fix 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 Consequences 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 particular 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 affronted 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 affirm'd, 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 Belsize: Another Time he was assaulted going in Gloucestershire, and drawing his Sword, was near being shot by the Highwaymen, who very much beat and bruised him; and it was hard that he, whom no Sword
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 resolved 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 Limb, 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 Newgate, 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 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 unsettled, 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 Maffey's Company, who was with him: But Mrs. Maycock meeting him at Portsmouth, in order to allow 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 be 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 affirmed, (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. Underhill, 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. *

He said his Fathers Death made a very strong Impression upon him, and he made Resolutions to forfake 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 Subsistence.

It afterwards appear'd, that all his good Resolutions were soon loft, 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. Dawson 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. * Dawson and five more Gentlemen, a Quarrel arising, I interpos'd, having a good Sword; a Pifrol was then fired at me, (as I think by the Apothecary who was with Mr. Dawson) and the Bullet graz'd my Skin thro' my Coat and Waistcoat, which Hole in the Coat has been seen by feveral 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. Dawson interpos'd 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 fix 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 ap-
pear'd to be sorry for that; but he refused to discover
the two Persons that were in Company with him, say-
ing, 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 Ne-
cessity of paying for the Cure.

He freely acknowledg'd his Faults, in being so pas-
fionate and warm a Temper, and begg'd Pardon of all
Men whom he had quarrel'd with, mentioning in par-
ticular a Gentleman whom he call'd Captain Chickley,
whom he said, he difagreed 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 sudden-
ly out of the World, without any Preparation, in the
midst of Rage and Choler, and in the Commiffion of
an ill Action; for he added, that he receiv'd a dan-
gerous Wound in his Breast, near his Shoulder, the Sword
going quite thro' his Body, and out at his Back, his
Opponent 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 mov'd into
Southwark, the 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 Refentment 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 (continu'd he) I must own, that I was chiefly
O 6    " the
"the Occasion of it, as I at first seduced her, and then was not able to maintain her." But he would not acknowledge what one Evidence at his Trial deposed, that he expressed an Intent to kill her half a Year ago. After this, he was going to send a Letter to Mr. Beumont in Newgate-street, on what Account I know not, when he was told Mr. Beumont was just Dead, whereupon he fell into a great Agony, as if he had thereby been hindered 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 showed the Effects of his Temper upon two Persons, whom he absurdly fancy'd appeared 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 preceding, at which Times he appeared altogether serious, grave, and composed, 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 requested 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 called earnestly upon God and Christ. He received 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 desired that the Rope which was tied over the Tree might be again untied, 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 91. a silver Coffee-pot, silver Candlesticks, and many other Pieces of Plate, to the Value of 30 or 40 l. It appearing that the Prisoner was apprehended as he attempted to pawn some part of the Goods with Charles Shellbe, and that in Newgate he confessed the stealing of them, as soon as he was inform'd that Joanna 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,
nefs, and resolv'd to follow no working Employ: He obser've'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 purpo'sd 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 forfaken Business as a Servant, he was plunged 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 Essex, 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/. 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 hire'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 Joanna Grundy, this Grundy was the Contriver of this Robbery, and advis'd him to fire the House, as he affirm't, but whether his Affertion 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 first 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 rely'd, 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 judged 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 flakened; 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 affirm'd me, that his Father was particularly careful to instruct him in his Duty, and on his Death-Bed earnestly advised 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 forfaken 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 came
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 assure’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 al­le­g­ed the Frailty and Infirmity 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 would aggravate and enchance 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 persuad'd him to rob Mr. Aspley, telling him, her Friend in the Country would put of China Ware, or Goods, to the Value of 1000/. 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 advis'd it, at the same Time to show he did not repine at his Fate, he smil'd. As to the 1400/. 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 believe'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.
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 30th Year of King George I.

Upon his Trial it appeared, 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, shou'd his Breast, as well as his Face, Black, and bemear'd as with Soot and Grease) whence they recu'd 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, Bro-
ther to the King's Evidence; and the Prisoner's Allegations, that he never was in any Riot, but only defending himself against the Bailiffs, &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 possessed of a Competency, and Children and the Charges of a Family increased upon him, he then judged that Gaming was a proper Method to retrieve himself, and support his Family; but by Cards he lost that little he was then possessed of: His Circumstances being desperate, he engaged for a Friend in a very large Sum of Money, which soon obliged him to fly into the Old-Mint. In his greatest Distress, he said, he refused to rob or thief, 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 deserved 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 3s. with which Fact he was lately charg'd, he said, he believ'd the Money might fall out of the Officer's 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 sentence'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 abuse'd and insulted him, who were Friends to Mr. Jones, Bailiff; but he protest'd he was not Judge when Jones was sentence'd, but one who was formerly an Officer in the Army; nor had he ever any Designs against Sir Isaac Tiliard, or his House. He dwelt four Years in the Old-Mint, but owing to one Man 70L. was forc'd to
to harbour in the *New-Mint*, and took a House in *Gravel-Lane*, for Prifons, 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 used against innocent Men, and obferv'd how contrary it was to Christian Lenity and Mildness: He confefs'd he had been by much too Enterprizing and Raft; but at the fame 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 dangeroufly his Head was cut, even fix Weeks ago, the large Scars whereof appear'd.

He deny'd that he was ever in Disguife with De SIGN to do Mischief, but he said, they had Mock-Maquerades, 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 alfo to insert her having two Children, besides one in her Body, which muft 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. Swanson* with him, who was able and ready to read the Scriptures: When *R. Swanson* had been fick in the Night and could not read and pray at 1 o'Clock in the Morning, as was their conftant Practice, *Towers* the next Day much condol'd the Misfortune, faying, he wish'd he was in a Capacity to employ fome Perfon who fhould fit up each Night and awaken him to Prayers as soon as Midnight was pafs'd. The Day before his Death he feem'd more cheerful than before, faying, "This was decreed for me, and I am eafy and con-
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 us’d 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. Sainthe 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 left 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 be-fore
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 stop’d,
wringing his Hands in a passionate Manner; after
which, the Strength of his Constitution appear’d in the
extream 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-
evrenty, 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 hoped that after Death he should be able to come and pay them a Visit to revenge himself of them by Apparition. Being furnished 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 Steenkirk [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 owed the Weakness of his Brain, inso much, 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 compleat'd 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 hastening of it, by his rough and unfaithful Dealings with her. A Night or

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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 admonished 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 informed '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 Thief-taker, taken from his own Mouth, in the Condemn'd-Hole in Newgate, four Days before his Execution.

J O N A T H A N W I L D 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 he 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 tolerable 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 tainting 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 allowed 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 those 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 Practises 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 Lodgings, and liv’d as Man and Wife; notwithstanding Jonathan had a Wife and a Son at Wootverhampton, 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 Instruc-tor, what probably contributed thereto was the Dangers to which he saw himself exposed, 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 Compli ance 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 loft, 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 Mistrefs 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 loft. 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 pre-
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 acquired 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 endeavoured 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 used, 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 produced not only much Discourse, but some Enquiries into his Behaviour; Jonathan forefaw 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 its 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 muft 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 Lofer 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 determined 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 Jonathan's House in the Old-Bailey; as soon as he came into the Room, and had acquainted Mr. Wild with his Business, the usual Deposit 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 intrinsic Value of the Goods be very great, lies much more in disoblighing 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 abundance 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 insisted that a Day or two would lessen the Value of the Goods one half to him, and Jonathan insisted as peremptorily, 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 Gentleman’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 refort, 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 would give as great a Reward for the Discover 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 wondering.
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 Affistance, 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 assur'd him, "There was more than enough, adding, 'Tis Satisfaction 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 happen'd thus,

A Lady whose Husband was out of the Kingdom, and had sent for her Over-Draughts for her Affistance, 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 Leadenhall-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 ask'd 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
there abouts, 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 the
order'd a Fowl and Sauages 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 Oc-
casion 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 Jon-
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 gues'd right, for no
sooner did she approach towards her, but the Woman
came directly up to her, and presenting her her Poc-
et-Book, desir'd, 'She would open it and fee 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 fo, begg'd her not 'to disturb herself, she shou'd not lofe one Farthing:' Upon which Jonathan begg'd her to fit still, step'd over to his own Houfe, 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, reply'd 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, reply'd 'Wild? Well then we'll see what's to be done:' Upon which he first whisper'd his Emisfary, and then diipatch'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-againft 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 Emisfary 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, 'bless 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 her self, ' Well Mr. Wild, says she, 'then I think the leaft 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 fort 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 no-
torious amongst them to the Gallows, even tho' he him-
seld 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 Jon-
athan, who paid for the curing his Wounds, whilst he 'was in the Compter, allow'd him 3s. 6d. a Week for 'his Subsistance, and afforded his Help to get him out 'there at last, yet soon after this he abandon'd him to 'his own Conduft in such Matters, and in a short Space 'caused him to be apprehended for breaking open the 'House
House of Mr. Kneebone, which brought him to the Gallows; when this Fellow came to be tried, Jonathan indeed vouchsafed to speak to him, and assured him, that his Body should be handsomely interred in a good Coffin at his own Expense; this was strange Comfort, and such as by no Means suited with Blueskin; he insisted peremptorily upon a Transportation Pardon, which he said he was sure Jonathan had Interest enough to procure for him; but upon Wild's assuring him that he had not, and that it was in vain for him to flatter himself with such Hopes, but that he had better dispose himself to thinking of another Life, in order to which, good Books and such like Helps should not be wanting; all which put Blueskin at last into such a Passion, that tho' this Discourse happen'd upon the Leads at the Old Bailey, in the Presence of the Court then sitting, Blake could not forbear taking a Revenge for what he took to be an Insult on him, and therefore without much ado, clapp'd one Hand under Jonathan's Chin, and with the other, taking a sharp Knife out of his Pocket, cut him a large Gash across 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 greatest Regretment for such base Usage, affirming that he had never deserved to be so treated, having done all that lay in his Power for the Man who had so cruelly design'd against his Life; yet when he afterwards came to be under Sentence of Death himself, he regretted prodigiously the Escape he then made from Death, often wishing that the Knife of Blake had put an End to his Life, rather than left him to linger out his Days till so ignominious a Fate befell him; indeed it was not Blake alone who had entertain'd No- tions of putting him to Death, he had disoblige'd almost the whole Group of Villains with whom he had Concern, and there were Numbers of them who had taken it into their Heads to deprive him of Life; his Escapes in the apprehending such Persons were sometimes very narrow, having receiv'd Wounds in almost 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 concisest 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 would 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 Thieves; 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, 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 there-upon 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 stepped 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 advertised 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 deliver 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 Trouble? '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 nothing 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 of itself. 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 proposed to him; What have you to say, why Judgment of Death should not pass upon you? He spoke 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 respect to the Service I have done my Country, in delivering it from some of the greatest Pefts with which it was ever troubled; my Lord, I have brought many bold and daring Malefactor to just Punishment, even at the Hazard of my own Life, my Body being cover'd with Scars I received in these Undertakings; I presume, my Lord, to say, I have some Merit, because at the Time the Things were done, they were esteem'd meritorious by the Government; and therefore 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 Sentence of Death, he spoke particularly to Wild, put him in Mind of those Cautions he had had of going on in those Practices, rendered Capital by Law, made on purpose 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 lit-
tle; 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 thofe Duties which it became a dying Man to prac-
tice; tho’ he heard them without Interruption, yet he
heard them coldly, and instead of desiring to be instru-
fed 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 Cafes of the Reasonablenefs and Lawfulnefs of
Suicide, where an ignominious Death was inevitable, and
the Thing was perpetrated only to avoid Shame; as
fuch Difcourfes were what took up moft of his Time
between his Sentence and Death, fo they occasion’d fome
ufeful Lectures upon this Head, from the charitable Di-
vines who vifited him.

Jonathan at laft pretended to be overcome with the
Reasons which had been offer’d to him by fome Rev’d.
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 ftricteft 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 fparing
in the Dofe, fo the largeness of it made a speedy Alte-
ration, which being perceiv’d by his Fellow Prisoners,
feeling he could not keep open his Eyes at the Time
that Prayers were faid to them as ufual in the Confem’d
Hole; whereupon they walk’d him about, which firt
made him sweat exceedingly, and then very fick, at laft
he vomited, and they continuing ftil to lead him, he
threw the greateft part of the Laudanum off from his
Stomach; he continued notwithstanding that, very
drowsy, f stupid, and unable to do any Thing but gap
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 abhor'd, and how little Tenderness 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 recover'd 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'n'd 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 Tenderness, 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 Noise 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 Affection; the next whom he thought fit to dignify with the
the Name of his Confort, 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 those Offences which she had committed, that on the Persuasion of a Roman Priest she turn'd Papist; however erroneous 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 Damsel 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 Relic, 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 Puffilanimity 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 Dignity 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.