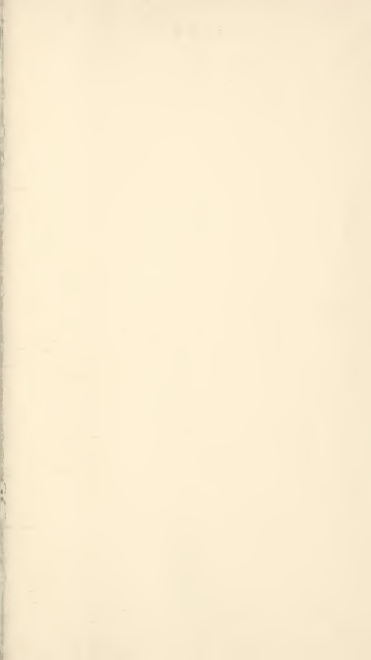
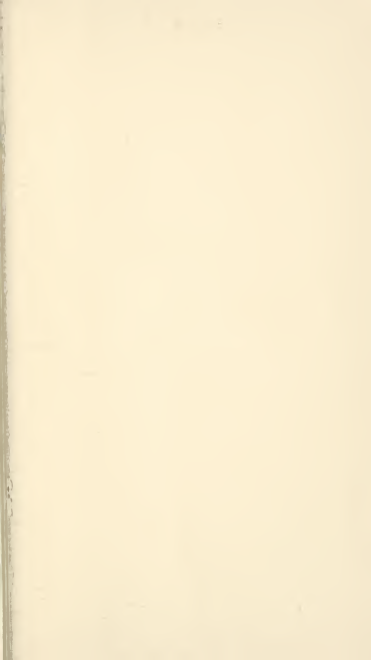
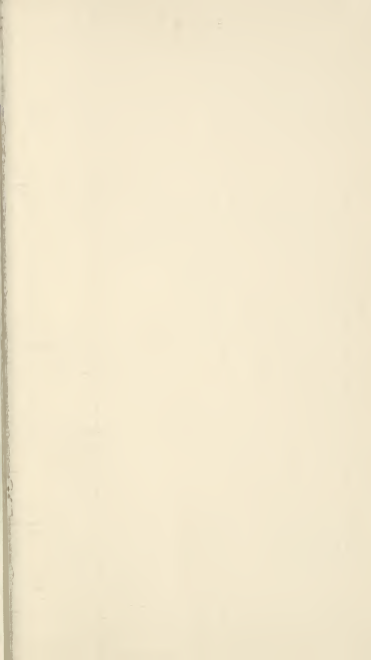




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A FULL and COMPLETE
HISTORY
OF THE
Lives, Robberies, and Murders,

Of all the most

NOTORIOUS HIGHWAYMEN,

That have been in England, Scotland, France and Ireland, from the Reign of William the Conqueror, to this time. Beginning with Thomas Dun, Robin Hood and Little John, Sir John Falstaff, Captain Hind, the Golden Farmer, Nevilsson, Whitney, and above 400 more.

A L S

Giving a more full Account than any yet published, of the Robberies committed by Benjamin Child, John Hawkins, and George Sympfon, who were all three executed for robbing the Bristol mail.

CONCLUDING

With the Life and Robberies of the famous Cartouche in France; and also the Robberies, and remarkable actions of John Molhoni and James Carrick, lately executed for robbing William Young, Esq; in his chair.

The whole being faithfully collected out of the best Histories, Records, Trials, Ordinaries, Accounts, and Manuscripts, By I. W.

murray mill House
John Stephen
GLASGOW.

Printed for J. GILMOUR and SON, and J. TAIT,
Booksellers, MDCCLXIX.

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THE
HISTORY
OF THE
HIGHWAYMEN,

From WILLIAM the Conqueror, continued
down to these Times.

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THOMAS DUN, *Murderer and Highwayman.*

THOMAS DUN, was born of poor parentage, at a little village betwixt Kempstom and Elstow, in Bedfordshire; and from a child was so given to pilfering, that whatever he touched was his own: And being grown up, he was *Jack of all Trades*, one day a merchant, and another a beggar. After he had committed any grand roguery, he would cover his body all over with scar cloths, and his face with plaisters; so that it was impossible even for his own mother to know him: Some times he was a blind hauper, another time a cripple, on other times he would sew on artificial arms, whilst with his natural ones, he would cut pockets, till at length he grew such an audacious rogue, that every body grew afraid of him. One day meeting a waggoner with a set of

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good

good horses, going loaden with corn to Bedford, he, without more ado, stabbed the man, and after he had thrown him into a ditch, drives the waggon to Bedford, where he sold it, horses and all, and then went off with the money; after which he commenced Collector in chief on the highway, and general ranger of the forests, where he robbed the robbers, who were used to skulk about the woods, till they all became tributary; where they acted a hundred sorts of villainies; so that no body durst come near those roads, especially between St. Albans and Tocester, murdering and robbing all travellers they met with, 'till king Henry built the town of Dunstable, to check the insults of Dun, who gave from thence name to the town so called. Notwithstanding Dun still kept a-doing; and having got all sorts of artists into his gang, nothing seemed too difficult for him to adventure on; some making false keys and betties, other deaf files, so that he kept all hands to work; and drew up laws by which every man should be governed in his several station.

Dun being one day informed, that a parcel of Lawyers were to dine at a certain Inn at Bedford; he hastens there, where puffing and blowing, as one of the company that was to come in, he ordered a dinner for a dozen men, which he had no sooner done, but in came the lawyers, with whom he behaved himself so handsomely, that in the midst of dinner he packed up their cloaks, and marched off.

After this, Dun, and some of his company, took tour in a strange country, and put in at an inn; where asking for a chamber, the mistress shewed them up stairs, which she had no sooner done, but they went about to ravish her, but being hindered by the husband's coming up, were for the present put by their prey: About midnight one of them feigned himself sick, raises the host, who spying a man in the chamber, runs after him, whilst in the mean time, these rascals

rascals seize on his wife, who had run up into Dun's chamber for privacy; but the husband soon missing his wife, runs up after her, and would have killed her, which she prevented by causing one of them to kill him: This would not satisfy Dun, who understanding there was money in the house, clapt a dagger to her breast, and tells her that if she would not shew where the money lay, she was a dead woman; which she refusing, was quickly dispatched, and the house rifled of all the plate and money they could find, and so marched off to look for other business.

Just after, Dun, with some of his gang, goes to an old rich knight's house, and understanding all the servants were abroad but one, knocked at the door, desiring to speak with the master; the maid not mistrusting them, lets them in, upon which they went straight up stairs to the master, pretending great business; and then Dun taking the knight aside, told him he must lend him one hundred marks, or else they swore they would cut his throat, which the old knight was forced to comply with, and came well off too, considering what rogues he had to deal with, that they took nothing, nor did not murder him.

The many robberies he had a long time committed up and down the country, caused the sheriff of the county of Bedford, to go with his men in quest of him, and drive him out of his skulking holes in the woods, which Dun having notice of by his spies, resolved to satisfy himself of the danger he was threatened with, disguised himself in a canvas doublet, and an old steeple crown'd hat, and draws near them; where observing them not to be as strong as himself, he rallies up his comrades, and routed them; and in the pursuit, took 11 prisoners; from whom taking their livery coats, he hanged them up in the wood, with one of which he went just after to a neighbouring castle, demanding in the king's name, the gates to be opened, saying he came to search for that rogue

Dun, whom he was informed had hid himself there; which being done, he made a great bustle, searching in every corner for thieves; but finding none, he swore the thieves were hid in the trunks, which being unlocked, he loaded himself and his companions with every thing of value he could, and so marched off with his booty to the wood; which so enraged the lord of the castle, that he addressed the king and parliament against the sheriff's men, for which one of them was hanged, but upon understanding that Dun had got eleven of their coats, the rest were set at liberty.

In this course Dun succeeded above twenty years, committing also many robberies along the river Ouse, insomuch that all the country knew his name; though few had courage enough to venture to take him; for he was commonly attended with 50 horse; and feared neither men, women, nor children, which inflamed the whole country so much, that they were resolved no longer to endure his insolencies; upon which a stout country man, with five or six of the sheriff's officers resolved to take him at any risk, in his usual walks near his house, which Dun having notice of, came thither by night with his crew, swearing and cursing in such a manner, that the whole town were alarmed, upon which his company dispersed themselves, but he went to an inn in a country village, and lay snug for some time, 'till at length the sheriff's officers found him out; when two of them were just going to seize him, he rose from the table, where he sat with his dagger in his hand, and killed first the one, then the other; and after had the assurance to stay to bridle his horse, with which, for that time, he rid away; which the country people perceiving, rushed all on him with clubs, forks, rakes, and what they could get, to the number of 150, and forced him from his horse; yet with his sword in his hand, he made his way through them; but their number encreasing, they

they closely pursued him, which made him run so fast, that he got the start of them at least two miles, and hid himself in the standing corn, notwithstanding in half an hour the field was beset with above 300 people, upon which he forced himself through them again, and got into some vallies, where he undressed himself, and swam over a river, with his naked sword in his teeth; by this time the banks were covered with multitudes of people, seeking out boats to follow him, where he sat on the bank to rest himself, 'till the people came over to take him, at which he got up, and wounded five or six of them, which gave him an opportunity to swim again towards the shore in another place; whither the people also followed him, thumping and beating him with their staves and oars, until they took him, who immediately carried him to Bedford goal, under a strong guard, for fear of a rescue; and in about a fortnight, being recovered of his wounds, he was brought into the market-place in Bedford, where a stage was erected for his execution, and two executioners appointed, whom he swore he would kill, if they durst come near him; and although they got him down nine times; yet he got up again; but at length he was forced to yield, and was cut into 13 pieces, to hang up in so many places in the county, for a terror to others.

ROBIN HOOD, Murderer and Highwayman.

THE stories of Robin Hood, among the country people are as fictitious, as the theft of Mercury among the Heathens; the one being reputed a god, on account of his dexterity at pilfering, and the other being generally believed to be a nobleman, on account of his many exploits in the forest: But the truth of it is, Robin Hood was a poor Shepherd's son, born near the forest of Sherwood, in the reign of Henry

II. and for some time followed the trade of a butcher, which could not long support him in his extravagancies: And in the beginning of king Richard's reign, he betook himself to the highway, wherein he became so great a master, that he has ejected the chief of all the rapparees in the kingdom; admitting none into his gang, 'till he had tryed their valour himself. Having at length above 400 men under his command; among whom was Little John, William Scarlock, and Arthur Bland, whose courage he sufficiently tryed before he entertained them: They keeping altogether in the woods, became a terror to the country, and it was impracticable by reason of their dexterity at bows and arrows in those days, to be taken; who one day meeting with some of the king's archers, gave them a mark to drink his health, because they behaved themselves like men of courage. A little after, Robin Hood, Little John, and Scarlock, meeting with some of the king's archers, killed five of them dead upon the spot, and then robbed the other ten, and bound them to an oak; which rendered his name so terrible in the country, that none durst pass without being tributary to him.

Robin meeting with a butcher, gave him six pounds for all his meat; with which he went to Nottingham, and sold a lumping pennyworth; and then went to an inn, and spent all the money of his customers; where he got in company with the sheriff of the county, whom he persuaded to go along with him to see 100 acres of land, and 300 head of cattle, which he was about to sell, which he readily agreed to, and took 400 l. in gold along with him; but when he perceived what a place he was got to, he wished himself at home, but it was then too late; for upon Robin's winding his horn, slept up Little John with fifty of his companions, whom Robin Hood commanded to take the sheriff to dinner with them; which
they

they had no sooner done, but they robbed him of all his money.

One of his gang's name was Gamwel, who having kill'd his father's man, fled to Robin for protection, but he being seized at Nottingham, at a merry making, was condemned to be hang'd; which Robin hearing of, sent to the sheriff, whom he had just before robb'd, to beg his life; which the sheriff not consenting to, made Robin take his 100 men, and rescue him, leaving the hangman hanged in his room: A little after this, Robin with ten of his men, robb'd the bishop of Carlisle of 800 marks, having in his retinue above 50 men, making him first say mass, and then tied him to a tree, to mind his more private devotion. Notwithstanding all this, and several other robberies every day committed by him and his followers, he with Little John; and Midge the Miller, ventured up to London, to see a shooting match, which was to be performed before the king and queen: Who being in disguise, challenged three of the gamesters to shoot with them for 100 marks, which was backed by the queen, with 100 l. against the king, upon which Robin shot almost in the middle of the clout; beating his adversary above a span; Little John's adversary had no share in it, for he hit the black mark; and Midge the Miller pinned up the basket, by cleaving with his arrow the pin in two, which was in the middle of the black; so that the queen won the betts. But when the king knew afterwards that it was Robin Hood, and part of his gang that had beaten his archers, he swore that he should be hanged whenever he was caught: and in order thereto, he sent out several detachments of soldiers, into the forest of Sherwood after him, which Robin having private notice of, withdrew into Yorkshire, and from thence into Newcastle, Cumberland and Lancashire, and Cheshire, and last of all to London, till the heat of the hue and cry was over; and then

he returned to his old places of rendezvous, to the no small joy of his companions, after eight months absence. When just after, king Richard taking a progress into the north of England, Robin was resolved to rob him; and taking 60 of his followers along with him, he way-laid the king betwixt Grantham and Newark; and first killing one of his retinue, who made some resistance, he robbed all the rest, and then coming up to the king, quoth Robin Hood, *May it please you my liege, we are gentlemen that live by our bows and arrows, and sometimes by our swords and quarter staves, which we are obliged to use when people refuse paying us tribute, for the privilege of travelling through our territories, which extend through Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, and Lincolnshire; but my liege, supposing you to be a man of more honour and generosity, than to make words for a trifle; it is our good opinion of you, that you would give us what gold you have about you without putting us to the trouble of using any violence upon your person.* The king seeing it was in vain to resist gave him a purse with 100 pieces of gold in it; but swore he would hang him, whenever he was taken: About a week after the queen came the same way to meet the king, which Robin hearing of, he clothed himself, and all his men, in fine green cloaths, richly laced with fine broad silver lace, and white feathers in their hats, and met her in the same place they had robbed the king; to whom they paid all the homage, duty and allegiance, as became good subjects; because she had often interceded with the king to reverse his out-lawry; and so conducting her within four or five miles of York, there took their leave. Robin Hood thus continued in this licentious course of life near 20 years, when being very sick, and struck with remorse of conscience, he withdrew into a monastery in Yorkshire, where being let blood by a nun, he bled to death, aged 43 years, and was buried

buried in Kingsley, with the following epitaph fixed on his grave stone,

*Here, underneath this marble stone,
Thro' death's assault, now lyeth one,
Known by the name of Robin Hood,
Who was a thief and archer good.
Full twenty years, and somewhat more,
He robb'd the rich to feed the poor;
Therefore, his grave bedew with tears,
And offer for his soul your prayers.*

Sir GOSSELIN DENVILE, Highwayman and Murderer.

SIR Gosselin, was born of very honourable parents, at Northallerton in Yorkshire, whose father descended from a very ancient Norman family, who had several lands in the north of England bestowed on them by William the conqueror, which they enjoyed, until the reign of king Edward the first. When Sir Gosselin Denvile was born, who growing up, was sent to the university at Cambridge to be educated.

His father being a religious knight, designed his eldest son for the priesthood, as well as his brother, who was brought up with him. But his sons delighting more in gallantry, than religion, and preferring liberty before confinement in cloystered monasteries, very much troubled his father, who dying as soon as he was of age, left him an estate of 1200l. per annum, which he and his brother spent in luxury, in less than three years; who being afterwards very much reduced, could find out no other way of living, but to rob on the highway, sparing neither rich nor poor, clergy nor laity, insomuch

that in a very short time, their names became terrible in all the north. Their conduct in all their robberies, made them much frequented unto by others of their profession; so that in a little time they became so strong, that they bid defiance to the posse comitatus of the country; who with Gilbert Middleton, and Walter Selby, with their band of rogues under them, robbed the two cardinals who were come into England to make peace between the kings of England and Scotland, and to reconcile Thomas, earl of Leicester, to king Edward the second; but a little after this, a dispute arising between Sir Gosselin, and Gilbert Middleton, concerning dividing the prey, Middleton left the gang, and going to rob by himself, was taken and hanged: But still Sir Gosselin kept doing with his brother, breaking open houses, even in the middle of the day time, if they could find no business upon the road, killing all that opposed them. Sir Gosselin having killed nine or ten people with his own hands, when he might have got clear without it; so bloody a minded villain was he: Nay, the very churches, monasteries, and nunneries, could not be safe for him; where, after he had carried away all their plate and furniture, he would ravish the nuns, and burn the monasteries, as he did one in Westmoreland.

Sir Gosselin and his brother, with a gang of about 150 highwaymen, once meeting with one Edward Symphon, a monk, in a wood between Marlow and Henley upon Thames, first robbed him, and then set him up in a tree to preach to them; which he was forced to comply with, for fear of being killed; which discourse had such an effect upon Sir Gosselin, that he gave him his money again, and some of his own with it: which sermon is this day kept in the Bodlean library in Oxford, as an excellent piece of divinity.

By this time Sir Gosselin and his brother became
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so infamous, that great rewards were offered for taking of them, and guards were forced to lie upon the roads to protect passengers against them and their gang, who were now become above 200, all desperate young fellows, who putting themselves into the habits of fryers, committed many robberies all round the country; not sparing even king Edward the second, who seeing near Norwich a company of religious men, as he thought, coming to meet him, stopped to hear what they had to say, when Sir Gosselin stepped up to his Majesty, and told him, they were not come to talk with him about religion, but money, which he must and would have, or else he would put him to very hard penance, in spite of all the indulgencies he could procure from the Pope; who not having above forty men in his retinue, was forced to give him what money he had; after which they robbed his nobles. Upon which the king issued out a proclamation, promising 100 marks to any one who should take him dead or alive, and 500 for his brother, and 100 marks a piece for every one of his accomplices; which made people to watch very narrowly, and immediately fifty of his gang were taken and executed in less than six months. However, Sir Gosselin and his brother still robbed on, insomuch that the nobility and gentry were forced to leave their country seats, and come to London, for fear of being robbed and murdered.

One time Sir Gosselin and his brother, and gang, went to the bishop of Durham's palace, where rising the house from top to bottom, they bound the bishop and all his servants stark naked, hand to foot, and then let his liquors out in the cellar. But God's vengeance overtook him at last; for going one time to see an hostess, that he kept company with at a bye inn on the road to York, her husband for revenge, and knowing what reward was offered by the government to take him, acquainted the sheriff of the county

with it, who sent five or six hundred men to beset the house; notwithstanding before they could take him, they lost above 200 men; but at length being overcome, they brought Sir Gosselin and his brother Robert, and 23 of their comrades to York, where they were immediately hanged without any manner of process or trial.

Sir JOHN FALSTAFF, A Highwayman.

SIR John Falstaff, was born at Potton in Bedfordshire; but having a very small fortune to support his extravagancies, betook himself to the highways; and although Shakespear, to embellish his play of Henry the fourth, represents him as a very great coward, all historians agree, he was a man of courage and resolution; for he behaved himself so gallantly against the Yorkists, that Henry the fourth allowed him a pension of 400 marks per annum; which not being sufficient to support his licentious way of living, he betook himself to the highway; which he had not long followed, before he joined with Poins, Bardolf, Peto, Harvey, and Russel, who promised to stand by him to the last. Upon which they committed many robberies for 100 miles about, in Surry, Suffex, and Kent.

But his chief game was on Gad's Hill, in Kent, where one day meeting a farmer, and bidding him deliver; the same said he never carried any money about him, for fear of being robbed; upon which Sir John pulled a manual out of his pocket, and ordered him to join with him in prayers for some; with which the farmer seemed readily to comply, although very unwillingly in his heart; Sir John had not mumbled over and above three or four prayers, before he enquired of the countryman how he did; and what he had got by his prayers; who answered, not a far-thing;

thing; upon which, Sir John put his hand in his pocket, and pulled out a nine pence, saying, God was never unkind to the petition of a devout penitent; therefore he bid him pray once more, for he was very sure, that if he prayed sincerely, his prayers would be rewarded as well as his: And immediately Sir John pulls out a thirteen-pence half-penny piece; but still the farmer pretended he could find nothing in his; and indeed the sum of his prayers were not to be discovered; thereupon Sir John bid him try once more; but nothing coming on it, although Sir John then pulled out a noble: he upbraided him with want of devotion, or else he had cheated him, for he was very positive heaven did never let any one go away empty; and then putting his hand into the countryman's pockets, he took out of them 20 pieces of gold, saying, "What you hypocritical rogue! You would have
 "cheated me, and would not let me share with you,
 "though your companion: Is this the compact? Is
 "this the agreement we made before we went to
 "prayers? Good Lord! how few are the just upon
 "earth! Well, to punish you for your wickedness,
 "I shall keep what heaven has sent me in your
 "pocket. But however, that you may not want
 "upon the road, take what I have got by praying,
 "and when you get home, acquaint your neighbours
 "with what an honest gentleman you have met, who
 "gave you eight shillings and six-pence, although
 "you went about to cheat him of 20 broad pieces."

A little after this, Sir John, and some of his comrades, met the hangman coming from Kingston, whom they first robbed, and then hanged him, as a dangerous fellow to keep company withal; just after, our knight having notice of a rich merchant coming from the fair at Guilford, dressed himself in women's apparel, and lay down in the road, making a lamentable noise; which the merchant no sooner heard, but he offered his service, readily enquiring the cause of

so great complaint, from so fine a woman as Sir John appeared to be: Who told him very dismal stories of the unkindness of relations, and the many hardships she underwent by her cruel brother, which so worked upon the merchant, that he easily credited what was told him; and then began to offer his assistance, not without some tokens of love, unto which Sir John seemed to make some small resistance; saying, "Alas! Sir, What do you mean? What will you do to me? Pray forbear, I cannot indeed, away, I pray, I am as yet a maid, I beseech you let me alone, you'll hurt me: Pish, fie, I took you for another man: What, lose my honour, more dear than my life; away, 'tis in vain." However, the merchant endeavoured to comfort her with many fair promises, and at length drew her into the corner of a wood, which gave the supposed mistress an opportunity to bite him, saying, that since the unkind fates had so decreed, that she must forfeit her honour, she hoped she might not prostitute it to every body that came by; which words struck such an impression on the merchant, that he willingly carried her to a more reclusive place, where they were no sooner arrived but just going to take possession of his prey, than Sir John struck a ponyard through his arm, and then rifled him of two or three purses of gold, and rid off, leaving the merchant to make the best of a bad bargain.

A little after, Sir John, and one of his companions, meeting a couple of fryars belonging to Dartford in Kent, stripped them of their religious habits, against the will of his comrade, which done, away they trudged it to Lewisham to the curate's house, who believing them to be fryars, received them very kindly into his house; who getting up betimes came to the curate's chamber door, telling him they designed to say mass; he not suspecting any thing, let them in, who immediately knocked him down, and then

then gag'd him, and afterwards fell to rifling his trunks; and then taking the keys of the church, they went and carried away the gold chalice, which Sir John had first cast his eye upon, and all the ornaments of the church.

Another time Sir John, in his travels, met with a couple of the same profession, who took him for a chub, but he soon proved a tartar; for he not being used to give, but to take, made them soon sensible, that they had mistook their man; knocking one down, and giving the other an opportunity in the mean time to run away, which would not do with Sir John, and presently fetched him back; and after having robbed them of their ready ryno, he tied them neck and heels, and pinned these lines on a piece of paper to one of their breasts;

*All passengers, whate'er you be,
This rogue in grain behold;
For in his stead of robbing me,
I took from him his gold.*

Where having left him to the view of all comers and goers, 'till some people coming by whom he had just before robbed, unloosed him, and carried him before a magistrate, who committed him to goal, where he lay 'till he was tied up for good.

What made this knight so daring, was the encouragement he met with from the prince, who would often take a purse with him, only to see how it was, not sparing the king his father upon occasion. But when he came to be king Henry the fifth, he took up, and was one of the greatest princes that ever sat on the English throne, commanding all his old loose companions, to leave their ill courses, or quit his court.

Sir John valuing not the order of his royal master, still jogged on in his old way, about Gads-Hill, 'till he was at length sent to Maidstone goal for his pains, and as a just merit of all his rogueries, condemned at
the

the next assizes ; but the king pardoned him, on condition of transporting himself in a month, which broke his heart before the time was expired.

SAWNEY CUNNINGHAM, *Murderer and Highwayman.*

Sawney Cunningham, was born of a good family at Glasgow, in Scotland, but from his youth was given to looseness and theft, and being a gentleman born, he married a woman of 140 l. per annum, whom he had not long married, but he began to abuse her, and pawn or sell all she had, to spend upon lewd women ; which course of life lasted not above five or six years, before he had spent all her estate and fortune, which made her friends endeavour to part them, by reason of the ill usage she daily met with from him ; and although even her wearing cloaths were all sold, yet so constant was her love, that she was unwilling to part from him : But what was most admirable, although many of the richest of Glasgow courted her under all these hardships, yet she despised all their vows and protestations. All which she, for a long time, concealed from her husband ; but one night took an opportunity in bed to insinuate how constant her love had always been to him, and at the same time to inform him, how she was solicited by three or four persons to break her marriage vow, particularly by Mr. Hamilton, the lawyer. Sawney being thoroughly satisfied of his wife's honesty, after a great many vows and protestations of his amendment for the time to come, and at the same time pressing her with his present necessities, persuaded her to give way to Mr. Hamilton's addresses, provided he would come down with a round sum of money, and for the rest, faith he, let me alone.

Upon which Sawney's wife begun to caress the lawyer,

lawyer, who mightily pleased with his success, made every day nearer approaches upon her virtue, 'till at length she told him, it was not only her poverty, but rather her affection, that made her more and more uneasy without him, that set the lawyer so a-gog that he did not part with her without consent. And having promised her 100 l. the day and hour was agreed upon, which coming about, the lawyer met her at the place appointed, and being informed that her husband was gone to Aberdeen, and would not be at home in a fortnight, they both went to her house together: where the lawyer was no sooner got, but burning with desire, he immediately gave her two purses of gold, desiring to make the best of their way to bed, as fast as they could; where they were no sooner come, but the lawyer strait undressed himself, when Sawney jumpt from under the bed, and knocked his brains out with a great club, which troubled the woman very much, not imagining he would carry the joak on so far as to kill him; but Sawney bid her not trouble herself; for he would take care it should never be known; and so he takes the dead lawyer on his back, and carries him home, and lays him down in his own house of office, upon the seat, that people might imagine, when they found him, that he was killed there.

Now the day before, the lawyer had told a friend of his, of the affair with Sawney's wife, who rising at midnight, on account of the gripes, to go to the necessary house, he found the lawyer in before him, who, after a long while waiting, and finding he did not come out, he pull'd him by the sleeve; which made the corpse fall to the ground; at which the man being much affrighted, presently concludes that he had been killed by Sawney, whom he knew to be a desperate man on account of his wife; and so fearing he should be brought in a scrape, he carries the body back to the place from whence he came,
and

and placed it upright against Sawney's door, and so came home and went to bed. Sawney's wife, by chance, about half an hour after, had occasion to go out of doors to ease nature, which she had no sooner opened, but down tumbles the dead body into the house, which put her into such a fright, that she was soon rid of her looseness, and run strait to her husband, telling him the dead body was come back again; at which Sawney bid her not be troubled, but swore he would carry him where he should never come back, so up he takes him, and as he was going to throw him into a river, he heard a noise, which made him stand up close until they were passed him: But his fear soon turned into joy, for those that made the noise, were thieves, who had just robb'd a cheese-monger of two flitches of bacon, and were consulting where to go to get a glass of wine, and leave the bacon until they came back, which they put in an empty cellar, they by chance espy'd, which Sawney observing, he takes out the bacon and carries it home, putting the corpse in the room of the sack: In the meantime, the thieves being got merry, offered the landlord to sell him a parcel of bacon, who reply'd he was not used to buy a pig in a poke, wherefore he bid them let him see it, and then he did not know but he might: Upon which a couple of thieves, not dreaming of the exchange, went and fetch'd the sack, which they had no sooner opened, but out pops the lawyer's head; at which the vintner cry'd, "Oh! Villains, What have you done? You have killed Mr. Hamilton, and are so impudent to bring him here, to sell him for bacon." The six thieves were more astonish'd than he, and stood staring at one another, knowing not what to say, which made the vintner cry out the more, until he had them secured and committed to goal; where being found guilty of murder, as well as theft, they were hang'd shortly after at Glasgow.

Sawney nevertheless could not leave off his roguery, but betook himself to villanies on the high-way, in first robbing of passengers, and then killing them. But being too well known in the West, he shifts to Edinburgh, where he joins with a gang of his own profession, who chose him for their captain, who seemingly being a man of courage, always lodged at one of the best houses for entertainment in the city, where he insinuated himself with strangers, pretended he was one himself, by which means, he would sometimes entice them 2 or 3 miles out of town, to an entertainment, and not let them pay a farthing, but at their return, a party of his gang should be sure to rob them all, and him among the rest, although he had the greatest part of the booty.

One time Sawney, and two of his companions, meeting three citizens, challenged their horses, swearing they were lately stolen from them, and if not immediately returned, they must expect the consequence; who seeing it in vain to dispute, gave them their horses and money to boot, being glad to escape with their lives: Sawney being a bloody minded fellow.

But not long after, going to pay a visit to his uncle, who rebuking him for his wicked courses, stabb'd him to the heart: at which the servant coming into the chamber to see what was the matter, had her throat cut; which done, he robs the house of all the money and plate he could find, and then sets it on fire, thinking thereby to burn the corpse, the better to conceal the murder; however vengeance overtook him at last; for some of his companions being taken, impeach'd him, upon which being apprehended and committed to the tolbooth, so many witnesses came against him, that for all his tricks and shifts, he was condemned to be hanged; notwithstanding he marched to the gallows with the same intrepidity he had lived all his life-time.

THOMAS WITHRINGTON, *a Highwayman.*

THomas Withrington was the son of a gentleman at Carlisle in Cumberland, who left him a good estate, which procured him a rich wife, but she proving false to his bed, he in revenge, consumed all he had upon whores; and then betook himself to the highway, committing all the outrages imaginable for six or seven years, till he was taken in a robbery betwixt Acton and Uxbridge, and sent to Newgate, where he lived till he died.

At the same time there was one Jonathan Woodward, and James Philpot, two notorious house-breakers, who committed many robberies in Middlesex and Surry, for which they were condemned to be hanged; but received king James the first's royal mercy on account of his coming that year to the crown; but they not making good use of it, were again taken with Thomas Withrington, and sent to Newgate, where they were condemned, with eight others; but only these three, who were old offenders, were hanged. During their confinement in the condemned hole, they led most wicked lives, always swearing and cursing, and singing lewd songs, endeavouring to debauch the minds of the other malefactors, notwithstanding the care and pains of Mr. John Wilmot, the ordinary.

At the same time there was living one Mrs. Elizabeth Elliot, who having a son, that about two or three years before, was condemned to be hanged for the like practices, but receiving mercy, he became a good man; who in acknowledgment of this royal favour, left 259 pounds to the parish of St. Sepulchres, to find a man who should for ever, betwixt the hours of eleven and twelve at night, go under Newgate the night before the prisoners are to die, and
after

after ringing a bell, put them in mind of their approaching end, and the bell next day to toll for them; and when the cart comes to the church wall to stop, then the bell-man again is to ring his bell, and exhort them to repentance, which was first performed to these three malefactors. The doing of it is continued to this very day.

WILLIAM TRACEY, *a Highwayman.*

William Tracey was the younger son of a gentleman in Norfolk, of 900*l.* per annum, and was brought up at King's College in Cambridge, but not living within the bounds of 120*l.* per ann. which his father left him, he would often ride out and take a purse, till he narrowly escaped, by attempting on a person that knew him, of being taken himself; for fear of which he retired to Cheshire, and served a farmer in quality of a shepherd; where, being a very handsome fellow, and a good Physician, he debauched most of the women and maids in the country, among whom there was a brown lass that Tracey much admired, but for a long time could do no good with her, till one time telling her he could play upon a better instrument than the violin, with which she seemed so much pleased, if she would meet him in a cave, where he was used to lye; to which the girl readily agreed; who coming accordingly, he said, "Sweetheart, you will have a great deal of pleasure, but you must take some pains yourself;" and then began to kiss and smuggle her till the girl fell into a swoon, but being infinitely delighted therewith, when he grew weary, asked him, "if he had done already, for it was the finest music she ever met with in all her life." After this the girl went daily to have another tune of the violin, thinking she should never have her belly full; till she told one of her companions,

notwithstanding her promise of secrecy, what brave sport she had with Tracey in the cave, who being desirous to participate, went along with her to the cave, where the brown lass desired him to play the same tune with her companion he had done before with her; at which Tracey seemed at first a little backward, rebuking her for divulging a secret which she promised to keep; but at length agreed, on condition the brown girl retired in the mean time; where he played the same tune over again, much to the satisfaction of the damsel; after which, the brown lass returning, asked her companion, "If she ever met with such fine music before?" who answered, "she found nothing new in it, for her father's groom had done as much as that a year before:" Say you so, said the brown girl, "but this shepherd is an handsome man, and I could never endure those clowns to kiss me;" saith the other, "I beg your pardon, but take care you don't repent it in nine months time;" which advice the brown lass took. Yet Tracey never wanted a harp to play upon for all that; till at last he was become the town bull of the country, among whom was his master's wife, who fawned upon him like a spaniel, but he never could endure her; however he agreed, she should come to bed to him one night after her husband was asleep; upon which Tracey desired some herdsmen who lay in the next room, to come and bear him company, for that he was mightily troubled with a spirit; which affrighted the poor fellows, till he told them he believed it was the maid-servant they had the other day, who came to affright him; to prevent which, saith he, pray get some rods and whip her soundly, that she may never come again; which rejoiced the rusticks as much as if they had been invited to a wedding, who had not staid long in his chamber before the wife came up, whom Tracey hearing, ordered the fellows to make ready their weapons: And as soon as she entered the room,

dom, they took up her smock, and flogged her to some purpose, till at length she was forced to cry out murder, which awakened her husband, who not knowing where the noise was, went down stairs to see what was the matter, in the mean time she got into bed; and her husband finding no body below, came up stairs to Tracey's room, where the two fellows thinking another spirit was come, begun to belabour him, as they had before his wife, who knocked one of them down with his fist, which blow being so very hard, they took him for a hobgoblin instead of a woman; and for fear hid themselves under the bed, upon which the master calling out Tracey, he told him there was spirits haunted the room, and advised him to go away as fast as he could, which he did, pitying the poor fellow, whilst his wife laughed in her sleeve, to think her husband had fared no better than herself. At length Tracey was believed to be a magician, and that he held communion with spirits, especially after he had puzzled a priest, they swore the devil was his school-master, which brought all the wenchies in the country to him to know their fortunes, by which he got a great deal of money; but for all this Tracey grew weary of the country, and resolved for London, where he was no sooner got, but by his fawning ways, he cheated abundance of people out of their money, though at last he was cheated himself by a friend of 80 l. which made him swear, "All the world was a cheat, and he was a fool that had no hand in it." This made him resolve to go upon the highway to pick up his losses; where meeting with a Cambridge scholar, who had a large portmanteau behind him, with old cloaths, and a gammon of bacon, he took it from him, and gave him 4 l. out of his pocket in exchange, the scholar begging, and saying there was 60 l. in it, which was all he could get in the world to pay his debts, and take his degrees; which he no sooner opened,

opened, than he found he had been outwitted, and cursed himself for his charity; a little after this, he robbed Ben Johnson, but attempting to rob the Duke of Buckingham, who was killed by Felton, he was taken, and hanged at Winchester, in the 38th year of his age, 1634.

ISAAC ATKINSON, *Highwayman and Murderer.*

ISAAC ATKINSON was a gentleman's son, born at Farrington in Berkshire, and at 16 years of age, was sent to Brazen Nose College in Oxford, where he soon got better acquainted with loose and idle company, than with his books; as his father experienced by putting money in all his books, which he found six months after untouched, much to the mortification of his son, who little imagined he had in his study what he so much wanted in his pockets. Upon which his father took him home, but he not caring to be under confinement, soon left him to seek his fortune, upon which he came to London, but by his extravagancies, having soon spent his money, he turned foot-pad, and committed several robberies in the country, and at length robbed his father of 200 guineas, and stole his horse out of the stable to make more haste to London; with whom riding through Uxbridge on a Sunday, he alighted and went to church, where the parson preached upon these words, "That the day of the Lord cometh as a thief in the night:" He robbed him a-going home, saying, he did not break the scripture; for "he robbed him as a thief in the day."

After this, meeting Mr. Noy, the king's attorney-general, he told him he had a writ of *Capias ad Computandum* against him for his money; and having a spight against the lawyers, he robbed above 150 of them in the circuits, from whom he took 3000l.

But

But at length the devil owing him a shame, he went to rob an old woman, who throwing her money over the hedge, rid away; which he alighting to take up, hung his horse upon a gate, which broke loose to run after her mare, till she got into Brentford, where telling how she was assaulted, upon a pursuit he was taken at Turnham Green, and committed to Newgate, where he behaved himself very insolently, stabbing the ordinary in doing his duty at the gallows, in the 26th year of his age, 1640.

PATRICK FLEEMING, an Irish Murderer and Highwayman.

PATRICK FLEEMING was born at Achlone in Ireland, of very poor parents, who being grown up, the Countess of Kildare took him at 13 for her foot-boy; but he being very unlucky, and not minding his business, was soon turned off; after that he got to serve the Marquis of Antrim, who keeping a Romish priest in his house, who lay in a dark cell, to whom he carried a young calf, and put his sauble in his mouth to suck, and wrote upon a board by him, "Woe to you WHOREMONGERS;" who seeing the hand-writing upon the wall, and the calf standing by him, roared out like Perillos in Phalaris's bull; which the maids hearing, and seeing the calf sucking the priest in such a manner, ran away screaming, whilst the priest was bawling out for his holy water to lay the supposed dæmon; upon which several of the young ladies, and the whole house, came to see what was the matter; the calf still following at his breech, and the friar all the while crossing himself; upon which one of the servants, having more courage than the rest, took him off, when finding what it was, turned all their fear into laughter. However they could not ima-

gine how the hand-writing came, till Patrick told it to a fellow servant, who told his Lord, for which Patrick was turned off; but not before he took an opportunity to rob his Lord of 400 pounds in money and plate; with which he fled into Connaught, where he hid himself in a cave for a fortnight, till the hue and cry was over, and then came to Dublin; where for six years he committed more robberies than ever was known before, for which he had like twice to have been hanged; after which he left the city, and set up his tent by the bog of Allen, where he grew so impudent that he would tell passengers, that he was chief lord of that road, and that they must pay tribute to Patrick Fleeming. In the morning he robbed 125 men on the mount of Barrymore; nay, such was his insolence, that he would tell the quality, that he was better bred and born than any of them, and therefore they must come down to support his grandeur. He robbed the Primate and Bishop of Rapho, as they were riding together in a coach; and another time the Lady Baltimore of 100 l. a diamond ring, and a watch; and not content therewith, took her son, a child of four years old, which she was obliged to ransom in 24 hours for 300 l. more, or else he swore he would kill him. Not long after, robbing the Archbishop of Tuam of 1000 l. he fled to the province of Munster, where he committed his pranks as bad as ever, till he was apprehended for robbing a nobleman of 250 l. and committed to the goal in Cork; from whence with much difficulty, he escaped up the chimney; after which he followed his villanies so long, that he murdered five men, two women, and a boy of fourteen years old; besides cutting off Sir Dondurg O'Brian's nose and ears, because he would not deliver without resistance. But at last, upon the coming out of a proclamation of 100 l. reward to take him dead or alive; the landlord of the house near Mancoth where he frequented, acquainted the

Sheriff that he might take him every night in the week; who surrounded the house with a strong guard, alarmed Patrick and his associates, who taking up their pistols and carbines, were prevented by the landlady's privately filling the barrels with water, which rendered them useless, who being all taken, he and 14 of his gang, were hanged at Dublin, on Wednesday the 14th of April, 1650, and afterwards he was hanged in chains, not far from the city.

Capt. JAMES HIND, Murderer and Highwayman.

CAPT. JAMES HIND, was a sadler's son at Chip-ping-Norton in Oxfordshire, who put his son apprentice to a butcher in the same town, at the age of fifteen. But his master being a very sorry fellow, James, by the indulgence of his mother, who gave him 5 l. to carry him London, before he had served two years, run away from his master, and up he comes to town to seek his fortune, where he had not been long, before getting drunk one night, he was taken up by the watch, and sent to the Poultry Compter; where getting acquainted with one Thomas Allen, a notorious highwayman in those days, they agreed to go upon the highway as soon as they could get out; which accordingly they did soon after, upon Shooters-Hill; where Hind alone robbed a gentleman and his man of 15 l. Allen all the while standing at a distance to see how he behaved; which being the first fact, Hind for luck sake returned the gentleman 20 s. to carry him on his journey, which generosity, as well as his courage, pleased Allen well enough, who saw all at a distance.

Sometime after. Capt. Hind meeting with Hugh Peters in Edfield Chace. Now, faith he, thou lump of divinity, I must beg of you to lend me a little money, or I will cure you of all your king-killing

tricks, you rascal, upon which Peters began to mumble out some texts of scripture, asking him, " If he " could say his commandments," adding besides, it is said by Solomon, " Rob not the poor, because he " is poor." To whom Hind answered, " O thou hypocrite ! If thou hadst obeyed God's commands as " you ought, you would never have wrested the " scripture so far in a wrong sense when you took this " text : " Bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron ; " to aggravate the miseries " of your royal king, whom you villainously murdered before his own palace," which words put Hugh Peters, with all his impudence, to a stand ; yet still going on with his old cant against stealing, it made Hind rebuke him severely, saying, " Sir, pray " no reflections on my profession ; " doth not Solomon plainly say, " Do not despise a thief." Your money presently, or I will send you to the devil before your time, which so frightened Hugh Peters, that he immediately gave Hind 30 broad pieces of gold, but Hind not being satisfied with that, said, Sir, this disaster has befallen you because you did not observe that place in the scripture, which saith, " Provide neither " gold, nor silver, nor brass in your purses for your " journey," and therefore, Sir, to be plain with you, you must strip, and doff your coat and cloak too, for do not the scriptures say, " He that takes " away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also," and accordingly he stripped him of both ; which made Hugh Peters the next holding forth exclaim bitterly against theft, on the words in the Canticles, " I " have put off my coat, how shall I put it on ? " At which words a cavalier happening to be by, cried out, " Upon my word Sir, I can't tell, unless Capt. " Hind was here ; " which ready reply, put the whole congregation into such a fit of laughter, that Hugh Peters was forced to leave his chattering-box, and come down.

Another time, Hind meeting a gentleman's coach betwixt Petersfield and Portsmouth, filled with ladies, robbed them of 3000*l.* which was the portion of one of the young ladies going to be married; but alas! her fortune being lost, she lost her husband too; for her lover loving money more than her, would not have her without both together, and not long after, Hind and his comrade Tom Allen, setting upon Old Noll, with seven attendants, were so overpowered, that Hind having much ado to make his escape, was obliged to leave his partner behind him, who was taken and hanged. Nevertheless this did not baffle Hind, who being a true royalist, never spared any of his enemies, and so meeting with that celebrated villain serjeant Bradshaw, he stopped his coach betwixt Sherborn and Shaftesbury in Dorsetshire, and demanded his money, who thinking to fright Hind, asked him, if he knew who he was, "Ay," saith Hind, "and I fear you not, nor never a king-killing rogue alive, therefore deliver straight, or I'll this moment send you out of the world without any benefit of clergy." At which words, the serjeant's conscience flying into his face, for the murder of his sovereign, gave Hind about 30*s.* in silver; he not being satisfied with that sort of metal, swore he'd shoot him through the head if he did not find other coin for him; upon which he gave him a purse full of Jacobus's; at the sight of which, saith Hind, "Marry, Sir, this is the metal which wins my heart for ever: Oh! precious gold, I love thee as much as Bradshaw Pryn, and other such villains, who would for the sake of it, sell our Redeemer again, were he upon earth: Nay, this is what (kissing the purse) makes traytors behold nothing but innocency in the blackest malefactors; in short, it makes wise men fools, and fools wise men, and both of them knaves;" and then pulling out his pistol said, "You and your crew have hither run on

"Jehu-like; therefore it is time now to stop your "career;" then shooting all the six horses in the coach, he rid off, to look for another prey.

Thus having run on for nine or ten years, an intimate acquaintance betrayed him at his lodgings against St. Dunstan's church in Fleet-street, where, from thence being carried before the Speaker of the House of Commons, who then lived in Chancery-lane, he was, after a long examination, committed to Newgate, where no person, of what rank or degree soever, was admitted to speak with him.

On Friday, the 12th of December, 1651, he was tried at the Old Bailey, where nothing could be proved against him; from whence he was carried to Reading in Berkshire, where he was arraigned before Judge Warberton the March following, for killing one George Sympton at Knoll, a small village in that country, for which he was found guilty; but the next day, an act of oblivion coming out for all offences, except against the state, he was in great hopes of being pardoned, till by order of the council, he was removed by a writ of Habeas Corpus to Worcester goal, where a bill of high treason being preferred against him, he was condemned to be hanged, drawn, and quartered; which was accordingly done, on Friday the 24th of September, 1652, aged 34 years. At the place of execution, he confessed most of the robberies he had committed, which he said were chiefly upon the republican party, he having always an aversion to them, and their principles, sadly lamenting his unhappiness in not living to see the return of his royal master. After the execution, his head was set on the bridge over the river Severn, and his quarters on the gates of the city; where they all remained, till time and weather had reduced them to nothing; except his head, which was privately took down and buried within a week after it was set up.

*GILDER ROY, Murderer, Ravisher, Incendiary,
and Highwayman.*

THIS villain was descended of an ancient family, and born in Perthshire, in the Highlands of Scotland, whose father dying just as he came of age, left him 80 marks a year, which he squandered away in less than a year and a half, and then lived upon his mother, till she found no hopes of reclaiming him; when with-holding her hand, he burst one night into her bed-chamber, and cut her throat from ear to ear, and then ravished his own sister, and the maid, and afterwards robbing the house, set it on fire, and burnt them both in it.

This unparallel'd piece of villainy soon made a noise over all the kingdom, upon which a proclamation was issued out, promising a hundred pounds reward to take him dead or alive; which made him fly into France, where he picked cardinal Richlieu's pocket as he was saying mass at St. Dennis's in Paris; which the king perceiving, Gilder Roy made motions to the king, not to take any notice, and he should see good sport; upon which the king let him alone; and after prayers, going to the cardinal, he asked him if he had any money about him, who missing his purse, fell into a great surprise; but the king knowing which way it went, fell a laughing; till being tired with laughter, he was willing the cardinal should know what was become of it: for the king, thinking the thief to be an honest man, was willing the cardinal should have his money again; but Gilder Roy had more wit in his anger, than to come near them; which the cardinal finding, turned all his laughter against the king, which made him swear it was the first time that ever a thief had made him his confederate. Upon this, flying out of France into

Spain, he went upon a day of public entertainment to the Duke of Medina Cæli's house, where seeing several pieces of plate in a trunk, ready for the servants to attend their lords with; he dressed himself in a Spanish habit, like the steward of the house, and desiring the servants to sit off the trunk, carried it away.

By this time Gilder Roy thinking all the noise was over about him in his own country, resolved to go to Scotland again, where he soon became as notorious a highwayman, as ever was in the country before: He first robbed the Earl of Linlithgow of a gold watch, a diamond ring, and 80 pieces of gold; by which he became so terrible, that people were afraid to travel: And when he wanted money, he would go into Athol, Loguabe, Angeni, Mar, Baquehame, Murrey, Sutherland, and all over the north, and drive away their cattle, unless they paid him contribution; which they did quarterly.

One time, Oliver Cromwell embarking at Donaghadey in the north of Ireland, landed at Port-Patrick in Scotland; which Gilder Roy hearing of, met him and his two serjeants on the road to Glasgow, bidding him stand and deliver; where after the change of some pistols, Gilder Roy made off, and they pursued him, when Gilder turning short about, shot Oliver's horse; which falling down, broke Oliver's leg; and then he killed one of the servants, and gave the other quarters; which done, finding Oliver lame, he tied his legs under an ass's belly, and sent them both to seek their fortune.

Three of his companions being taken, and sent to Glasgow goal, were ordered to be hanged in chains; which Gilder Roy resenting, he vowed revenge one time or other; and a little after, meeting the judge upon the road to Aberdeen, he stript his coachman and two footmen, and tied them neck and heels, and threw them into a pond; and then robbed the judge, and killed his four horses, and carried him to the
tree

tree where his companions hanged (which in Scotland is like a turn stile) where upon the fourth beam, he hanged the judge, saying, " By my sol, mon, as
 " this structure, erected to break peoples craigs, is
 " not uniform without another, I'll e'en hang
 " you upon the vacant beam." So at length his villanies grew so intollerable, that he gloried not only in robbing, but in murdering men, ravishing women, and burning houses; but a proclamation coming out, with a reward of 1000 marks, to take him dead or alive, one Peg Cunningham, a strumpet with whom he kept company, betrayed him; who finding himself surrounded with 50 men, run into her bed-chamber, and then ript up the harlot's guts, and then killed 8 of his adversaries before they could take him; but at last being overcome, he was taken and carried to Edinburgh castle, where he was kept in irons 3 days, without victuals or drink, and then hanged without any process, on a gibbet 30 feet high, in April, 1658, aged 34 years; and afterwards hanged on another 40 feet high, in the road betwixt Leith and Edinburgh.

MUL-SACK, *the Chimney Sweeper,*
Alias

JOHN COTTINGTON, *a Murderer and Highwayman.*

THIS notorious fellow, was the son of one Mr. Cottington, an haberdasher of small wares in Cheapside, who had 15 daughters and four sons, the youngest of which was this John, whose father failing in the world, became so poor at last that he was buried by the parish, and his son John was put out by them to a Chimney Sweeper, whom he served about five years, and then run away, thinking he had

learnt enough of his trade to live upon. Some years after, over a cup of mull'd sack, at the Devil tavern in Fleet-street, a match was made between him and an Hermaphrodite; but finding he was imposed upon, he took to all manner of ill courses, and spent the money he got thereby, upon the five celebrated woman shavers in Drury-lane; who being all hanged or banished, he next got acquainted with a merchant's wife in Mark-lane, who at first was a very handsome woman, but at length very much withered, on account of her loose way of life, when she began to think of her past follies, and beg her husband's pardon, who forgiving her, she begged to see her 12 children before she died, when taking the eldest by the hand, she told him "that was his own, the next " a knight's, another such a merchant's, and that, " such a nobleman's, and that, such a doctor's, and " so on, till she came to the last, which she said " was Mul-Sack's;" which confession, to be sure, did not very much please the husband.

Mul-sack having now lost his benefactress, turns next pick-pocket; and at his first beginning, he got a rich gold watch, set with diamonds, from the lady Fairfax, the Rump General's wife; who used to go to hear one Jacombs, at a lecture on Ludgate-Hill; he dressed himself like an officer, whilst one of his comrades pulls out a pin out of another coach wheel; which falling down, the lady could not alight at the coach door, upon which Mul-sack steps up to her, and offers his service to hand her in the church; in doing of which he snipt in two the chain, and carried it off; which she never missed, till sermon was over.

There was at that time, a fine set of pick-pockets, as ever was known; nay, the money that Mul-sack got thereby is almost incredible; but afterward he being detected in picking the pocket of Oliver Cromwell, he had like to have been hanged; but getting clear, he took up the trade of robbing on the highway; which
he

he followed with one Tom Cheney, who were so audacious as to attempt to rob colonel Hewson at the head of his regiment, a-marching into Hounslow, but being pursued by some troopers, after a sharp engagement, killed 18 of them, Cheney was taken and carried to Newgate, till the sessions, and then hanged at Tyburn. After that Mul-sack got acquainted with one Horne, with whom he robbed Oliver Cromwell as he was going over Hounslow-Heath to Windsor; but a close pursuit following, Horne was taken and hanged, and Mul-sack had the good luck to escape once more. After which Mul-sack resolved to rob all alone, and having an antipathy against the Rump, he laid a design to rob the carriage which was going to Oxford to pay the army, under a convoy of soldiers; but understanding by his spies, it was well guarded, he took half a dozen assistants, and way-laid it at the foot of Shot-overs Hill near Oxford, where they rose from an ambuscade in the twilight, and fell with sword and pistol on the troopers, who not knowing their number, fled away in confusion; while his party was following the pursuit, Mul-sack took away the money, and spent it in as short a time as he had got it: He went always well habited, and very often could command 1000 l. Another time, understanding a receiver at Reading was to send up 6000 l. he got into the house over night, and robbed him of all the money; which made such a noise, that Mul-sack was way-laid, and apprehended, and sent to Reading, from whence at the assizes, he was carried to Abington, where not wanting for money, he got such a jury empannelled, that the judge could not hang him: terrifying the judge, by bidding him come off the bench, swearing he intended to murder him by presumption; so that the simple fellows brought him in not guilty.

Mul-sack had not been long at liberty, before he killed one John Bridges, to have the free access to
his

his wife, with whom he had kept company about four years, for which he fled beyond sea, and at Calen robbed king Charles II. of as much plate as was worth 1500*l.* after which flying into England, he promised to give Oliver Cromwell some papers, which he took away with the plate; but not making good his promise, he was sent to Newgate, and receiving sentence of death, was hanged in Smithfield rounds, in April, 1659, aged 45 years.

SAWNEY DUGLAS, *a Highwayman.*

SAWNEY DUGLAS was born at Port Patrick, in the shire of Galloway in Scotland, in 1641, who being a friend to the Covenant, lifted himself under Oliver Cromwell, and was at the siege of Dundee; which place being stormed, he often bragged, that he murdered with his own hands, 29 men, women and children, whom he could have saved. But after the restoration, Sawney, who never was any higher than a serjeant, lost his staff, and came for England, where being reduced very poor, and he being a sturdy fellow, resolved to turn highwayman; but wanting a horse, he was put to a nonplus, till meeting a gentleman's servant with a case of pistols, he pretended to talk with him about the change of the times, till coming in a proper place, he knocked the man off his horse, with a crab tree stick, and followed the blow so close that he stunned him, and then mounting the gelding, rid away: Being thus equipt, he went upon new adventures, and meeting near Maidenhead thicket, with Mr. Thurston, the mayor of Thornbury, he said, "By my sol mon, you must stand and deliver, or else I shall be very rude." At which the mayor made a great many excuses, but all to no purpose, for Sawney took 18*l.* from him, who desiring but ten shillings to carry him home, quoth Sawney,

"If

“ If I’se give thee but a babee, may the deel set his
 “ foot in my a—se, and run away with the slipper.”
 After this meeting with General Monk’s lady on
 Hounslow Heath, he attacked her Grace ; who know-
 ing him to be a Scot by his speech, said, “ My hus-
 “ band, General Monk, was very much beloved in
 “ your country, for his good deeds there, and there-
 “ fore I hope you will, for his sake, shew me some
 “ respect :” Quoth Sawney, “ The muckle deel stop
 “ hemp in my guts, if I’se shew thee any respect for
 “ thy mon’s sake, who was a false loon for bringing
 “ in the king ;” so taking away the value of 200 l.
 from her, in money and jewels, he rid off with great
 satisfaction ; which he sold for 140 l. with which
 money he set up for a gentleman, and took lodgings
 at an apothecary’s in Tuttle street, Westminster,
 whose daughter he courted : but she being in love
 with another, gave him a flat denial ; for which
 Sawney was resolved to be revenged, and so robbing
 her, went to his old trade again.

Sawney’s money being almost gone, by presents
 to his mistress, he committed many bold robberies
 in the north of England, in company with Du Vall ;
 but at last attempting to rob the Earl of Sandwich,
 he shot his horse under him, and then his servant
 seized him, and carried him to Newgate ; where the
 night before he was to suffer death, quoth he, “ The
 “ deel blow my bladder full of peeble stones, if this
 “ mon may not as well sing psalms to a dead horse,
 “ as prate thus to me !” And next day when he re-
 peated his verses, at St. Sepulchre’s church, quoth
 he, “ This is the strangest country I’se e’er was in,
 “ that a mon can’t go to the gallows in peace ; I’se
 “ swear, if I’se am damn’d, it is because I am hang’d
 “ after this superstitious way ;” but what was more
 irreligious, he carried the ballad of Chevy-chase in his
 hand to Tyburn, singing it all the way ; and when
 he came there, he would make no confession ; where
 the

the executioner begging Sawney to forgive him, quoth he; " May I'se be damn'd if e'er I forgive any " ill fac'd loon, that goes to break my craig, which " is the way ne'er to be my own mon again." After which the cart drew away, on Friday the 10th of December, 1664, aged 53, and he was buried in Tyburn road.

D U V A L L, *a notorious Highwayman.*

D U V A L L was born at Dumfront, in Normandy, the son of a miller, who gave him as good education as he was able; he brought him up a Roman catholick; yet we may believe he died of no religion; for being once very sick, a priest came to visit him, who bringing him the host, Du Vall " told " him it was our saviour's, because he came to him " as he went to Jerusalem."

At 14 years of age, his parents were forced to let him go to Rouen, to seek his fortune; where meeting with post horses going empty to Paris, he had leave to ride one of them gratis; who upon the road, meeting with some English gentlemen, they defrayed his charges; he had not been long at Paris, before he was admitted at the intercession of the English gentlemen to run of errands, and assist in the *Espirit* of the Rue de Bouchiere; in which place he continued till the restoration of king Charles, when a person of quality entertained him as his laquary, and brought him over hither.

Du Vall's natural inclination to gaming, and all manner of vice, soon brought him to want; upon which he betook himself to the highway; where he became so infamous, that in a proclamation for taking highwaymen, he was the first that was mentioned. His robberies were many, amongst which by the following artifice, he robbed a knight and his lady

lady in a coach, whose coachman taking him for a highwayman, gave notice to his master; upon which, the lady, to shew her courage, took a flageolet, and play'd very well on it: which Du Vall hearing, he takes his, and plays by the coach side, and then tells the knight, " That his lady played very well, and he " doubted not, but that she could dance well, begging leave to dance with her upon the heath;" which the knight agreeing to, Du Vall hands the lady out of the coach, and then fell to it, where Du Vall performed to admiration in his jack boots; which being over, Du Vall waits on the lady to the coach, and as the knight was getting in, he said, " Sir, you have forgot to pay the musick," " no, I " have not," said the knight, and so gave him 100 l. bag, which he received with a bon grace, and said, " Sir, since you have been so liberal, I excuse you " the other three, which I know you have in the " coach," and then giving him the word for fear he should meet any more of the gang, civilly takes his leave.

Another time Du Vall meets with a coach on Black-heath full of ladies, with a young child who had a silver sucking bottle, whom he robbed of their money, watches, rings, and even of the child's sucking bottle, which he would not for a long time restore, till one of his companions persuaded him.

Just after Du Vall, being in company with some players at Oxford, the master invited him to supper, but the victuals not being presently brought up, the actor, to divert his guest, begun to speak some verses in a tragedy, and when they sat down to supper: when, just as the wench was bringing up some custards, the player, in a poetick flight, starts up and saith,

*' Oh! fly, my queen, from this devouring bear;
' Let it suffice, be me alone to tear.*

Oh!

*Oh! save thyself, the bloody Bear's Jaws fly;
 Why shouldst thou, whilst thou may'st escape him die;
 Oh! haste be gone, or thy Death too is nigh.* }

The maid being at the stair-head, concludes that some bear was got into the chamber, a worrying him, and that he spoke to her to save herself, made but one leap down stairs, tumbling head over heels, broke all the custards in pieces; and lying with her cloaths over her head, bawled out for help, fancying the Bear had her by the breech, but being taken up, and ask'd what was the matter; 'O saith she, for the love of God ask no questions, but arm, arm, and run up quickly to help the gentleman, who is by this time torn in pieces by a monstrous bear;' upon this, taking what weapons they could get, they run up stairs, and rush'd in upon the players and Du Vall, who not knowing the meaning of it till they all cried out, 'where's the bear,' the player told them it was a mistake, he was only saying some verses, but in the midst of the hurly burly, Du Vall took the opportunity of carrying off a bag of 40*l.* which lay upon the player's trunk; and mounted his horse, and rid away.

A little after this, he lighted upon another bargain as profitable as the other; for coming to the Crown Inn, at Beaconsfield, he found it was at the time of their wake; where alighting, he observed a country farmer, with 100*l.* bag under his arm, go into a room to see the young men and maids dance; upon which Du Vall asked the landlord to go in and see the country diversion; which being granted, he perceived there was in the room a chimney with a large funnel; so coming out, he communicated his design to the ostler; who was, for two Guineas, to be let down the chimney by a rope; a great dog with a cow's hyde on his back, horns and all; with which the dog running about the room, put the company
 into

into such confusion, that happy was he that could get out first; among whom, the farmer being one of the readiest, run away, forgetting his bag of money, all crying out the devil, the devil, which Du Vall observing, stept in, and took the money, and then mounting his horse, made the best of his way to London.

Another time meeting with Esq; Royer, master of the buck hounds to king Charles II. hunting in Windsor Forest, in a private thicket by himself, bid him deliver; who to save his life, gave him a purse of 50 guineas; then tying him neck and heels, he rid away; where the Esq; lay, till the forrester accidentally coming by, loosed him; then making the best of his way to Windsor, he was met by Sir Stephen Fox, who asking him what sport, replied in anger 'I have had such sport by a son of a whore, that he made me pay damned dear for it; for after he had robbed me of 50 guineas, he tied me neck and heels.'

But a proclamation coming out, promising a great reward, made Du Vall retire to Paris, where after making great boast of his valour, and amours in England, his elbow itched to be at his old game, and going in a scholar's habit to the king's confessor, he pretended to be a mighty Alchymist, and that he had found out the philosopher's stone, which the old jesuit believed, after he had tried some sham experiments; which he promising to discover, was taken into the house, where he had not been long, before he went into the jesuit's chamber, where he usually slept after dinner, and finding his mouth open he gag'd and bound him, and then robbed him of his money and plate; upon which he came strait to England, but his reign proved but short, for before he had committed any notorious fact, he was taken drunk at the Hole in the Wall, in Shandois street, committed to Newgate, arraigned, convicted, and on Friday the 21st day of January, 1669, was executed in the 27th year of his age, notwithstanding

standing a great company of ladies, and persons of the first rank, interceded for his pardon: afterwards he was conveyed to the Tangier tavern in St. Giles's, where he lay in state all that night, as if he had been a nobleman, till the judges sent to disturb this pageantry. In his pocket was found the following speech, written in a fair hand; which, 'tis supposed, he designed to have spoken to the spectators.

DU VALL'S SPEECH.

I SHOULD be very ungrateful (which, amongst persons of honour, is a greater crime than that for which I die) not to acknowledge my obligations to the fair English ladies, who have not abandoned me in distress: From experience of your love, I know many of you could desire to die with me, could you be assured of enjoying your beloved Du Vall in the other world. You could not have erected fairer pillars of honour to me, than you have done, had I been Hercules, and could have gotten 50 children in a night. All those gentlemen who died in the times of the usurpation, for serving their kings, died unlamented in comparison of me. Nevertheless, ladies, it does not grieve me, that your intercession could not save my life, for you being so kind, I shall die with pleasure, my confessor having assured me of happiness. And had I lived, my whole life in gratitude must have been devoted to you; which would have been but short, for had you been sound, I should have died of a consumption, if otherwise, of the pox.

He was magnificently buried, with many ladies in mourning attending, in Covent Garden church, where is carved on a marble stone over him, the following EPITAPH.

Hers

*Here lies Du Vall, Reader if Male thou art,
 Look to thy Purse : If Female to thy Heart :
 Much havock hath he made of both. For all
 Men he made stand, and Women he made fall ;
 The second conqueror of the Norman Race,
 Knights to his Arms did yield, and Ladies to his Face ;
 Old Tyburn's Glory, England's blustering Thief,
 Du Vall the Ladies Joy, Du Vall the Ladies Grief.*

THOMAS WILMOT, a Murderer and Highwayman.

THOMAS WILMOT, was the eldest son of John Wilmot, Esq; born at Ipswich, in the county of Suffolk, whose father dying, left him in possession of about six hundred pounds a year, which he soon spent in debauchery, upon mere jilts, which never loved him. He could speak the French, Dutch, Spanish and Italian tongues very well. But after he had ruined himself by being one of Cupid's novices, he had no other way left but going on the highway, where his presumption was so great. that he would often rob 2 or 3 together by himself. Meeting one time a gentleman between Chelmsford and Colchester, he bid him stand and deliver, who answering he had no money, Tom made him stand the search, when finding nothing, he took his coat, and riding along he heard something jingle in his pocket, when searching, he found 18 guineas and a crown piece, in a steel tobacco-box. Another time he robb'd 3 gentlewomen between Darking in Surry, and Petworth in Suffex, of 80l. but seeing a diamond ring on one of their fingers, and it not coming off easy, he cut off her finger, swearing, that since that sex had ruined him, he would spare none of them.

By this time Wilmot was become so great a reprobate, that he had an aversion to every thing that was good,

good, who meeting one day with Mrs. Blood, in the Lincoln stage-coach, she begged of him to be civil to whom he replied, "As the falsehood of women
 " has been the cause of my misfortune, you being one
 " of that perfidious sex, must expect no favour at
 " my hands, therefore deliver presently, or else, Ma-
 " dam Blood, there will come Blood of it indeed,"
 who offering him half a crown, quoth he, "you
 " saucy b—ch since no less than a crown would serve
 " your husband, I'd have you to know I will not be
 " put off with the half." So upon searching her he
 found about 15 guineas, which he carried off.

Sometime after this he met betwixt Allington and Oxford, with Molly, the famous council for rogues and whores, from whom he took **three** pounds, without consulting Cook upon Littleton, and then shooting his horse he rid away, **making** the best of a bad bargain. Committing once a great robbery on Newmarket-Heath, he was obliged upon a close pursuit of the hue and cry, to cross over the country, and so got into Cheshire, where having soon wasted his ready ryno, in gaming and debauchery, he rid one evening to a gentleman's seat in Shropshire, there hearing a merry-making, he desired to speak with the master, who coming to know his business, he told him, being a stranger in those parts, he would beg the favour of a lodging for a night, which the gentleman was very sorry he could not possibly oblige him in, on account of many friends lying there, it being his wedding night, unless he would lie in a room that was haunted, which he was ashamed to offer him, he appeared so much like a gentleman. This Wilmot, not believing much in spirits, gladly accepted of, and told the gentleman, that he believed he could lay this spirit for ever by his art, upon which being led into the company in the parlour, after supper they all persuaded him against it, some laughing to think what sport they should have
 with

with him in the morning, but they had little reason, for they had paid for their mirth. They afterwards adjourned to cards, but Tom had other fish to fry; and pretending weariness, was lighted up to bed, where a crotchet came into his noddle, to disturb their mirth; so dressing himself like a ghost in a sheet, with a razor and basin, he went down stairs, whom the servants seeing, cried out immediately, "Oh! the ghost, the ghost!" which Wilmot seconded, by crying, "Will you be shaved?" Upon which they all started up without any regard to their money that lay on the table, and tumbled over one another, as if the devil had been to have taken the hindmost; whom he followed, crying out, "Will you be shaved?" in a dismal tone. But the coast being clear, Tom took the money, and went quietly to bed again. The next morning he gave a dreadful account of the ghost. "A pox of the Ghost," saith one of the company, that he could not let our money alone; to whom the gentleman replied, perhaps some of your fathers owed him for trimming, and now he is come to you for quarteridge: Upon this they all fell a laughing, and Tom being breakfasted took his leave, and quickly accounted himself to the highway again; but robbing a nobleman, was forced to fly for it into Switzerland, where breaking into a house in the night time, he murdered the man, his wife, three children, and the maid, after which he came to England again, where robbing the Duke of Buckinghamshire in Northamptonshire of 200 guineas, he was apprehended for it, and condemned and hanged at Northampton, on Saturday the 30th of April, 1670, Aged 38 years.

THOMAS WATERS, *a Highwayman.*

TOM WATERS was born of very honest parents at Henly upon Thames in Oxfordshire, whose father

ther dying when he was young, his uncle put him apprentice to a Notary Publick behind the Royal Exchange, but before he had served half his time, he run away, and entered himself into the Earl of Dover's troop of guards, which he being soon weary of, took to robbing on the highways, whose first exploit was upon a parcel of Gypsies, whom he robbed of above 60 pounds worth of silver spoons, silver brandy tasters, and gold rings, which they had pilferred from silly maids. But Oh! what a Holo-loo did they set up, which made the people run to see what was the matter, whom Tom meeting, said "the Gypsies had picked his pocket, and he could not get his money again without whipping them." Truly, replied the country folks, "you did very well, for there is not such a pack of thieves in hell, as these Gypsies be," which gave him an opportunity to ride off, before the Gypsies could get to the people. Another time meeting with an hostler coming to London, with 40 pounds in his pocket, who went formerly to betray him in an inn, where he lived at Doncaster, in Yorkshire, he bid him stand and deliver, who begging heartily to keep it, Tom, replied, "yes, when you are damn'd; where was your tender heart when you went about to hang me: Go and get more money, you son of a whore, the same way you got this:" So shooting the hostler's horse under him, he left him to walk up to London at his leisure. Afterwards Tom overtaking Ralph Delavat, a Vice Admiral, on the road betwixt Petersfield and Portsmouth, quoth he, "Well overtook; brother Tar, what faith is thine, a starboard or larboard faith?" Sir Ralph looking earnestly on the fellow, said, why, what makes you enquire after my faith? Tom replied, because I have been told, that a fore wind is generally the substance of a seaman's creed, and fresh water the burden of his prayers. Quoth Sir Raiph, when you are a father confessor, I shall tell

tell you my belief. Said Tom again, I must, Sir, be as angry as you please, beg of you to tell me, whether you don't think you shall be robbed before you reach your journey's end? Sir Ralph replied he believed not. Why then, said Tom, you and I are of different opinions, for unless you this moment deliver your money you are a dead man. At which Sir Ralph being a little startled, not knowing whether it was best to venture his life against a villain, or else his money, delivered him 90 guineas, and a gold watch: which Tom kindly accepted of, and made the best of his way from him.

On the same day betwixt Guildford and Godalmin, Tom meeting with the famous hermaphrodite, who lived in Moorfields, going to Portsmouth, said he, thou double refined monster, half rogue, half whore, stand and deliver, or else never expect to go home alive, who begging very hard that he would not so unman himself, as to rob a woman; Tom answered, a woman you bitch, you are both man and woman; in robbing you, I rob two persons; therefore I command you to deliver presently, which she was forced to comply with giving him 20 pounds, but swore if she ever met with him, she'd hang him; that is the least of my fear, quoth Tom, for thou being neither man nor woman, half rogue and half bitchington, canst never lay a bill against me.

Thus he reigned for the space of five years, but being sent to Newgate for robbing one John Hosey, a Bristol carrier, on Hounslow-Heath, of above 1400 pounds in money and plate, he was condemned, and conveyed to Tyburn in a coach, where he was hanged on Friday the 17th of July, 1672, and in the 26th year of his age, and died extremely resolute.

Capt. DUDLEY, Murderer and Highwayman.

RICHARD DUDLEY, was a gentleman, descended from a good family in Northamptonshire, but his father in the time of the civil wars, being ruined on account of his loyalty to the king, left him little or no estate, yet for his father's sake, king Charles the second gave him a captain's commission in a regiment of foot, in which post he behaved himself valiantly at Tangier, but very severe, for ordering his serjeant to beat a man for not standing regularly in his line who not beating him enough as he thought, took the halbert out of his hand, and said, When I command you to knock down a man, knock him down thus cleaving his skull in two. Upon the demolishing Tangier, Capt. Dudley came into England, but by reason of his extravagancies not being able to live upon his pay, he made an exchange for the highway; and being committed to the compter for robbing the Duke of Monmouth, near Harrow i'th' Hill, he soon broke out of that prison, and then meeting with the Earl of Rochester coming from Woodstock with a chaplain and two footmen, he robbed them of 100l. for which the chaplain beginning to catechise him for following such practices, he answered, he did not believe it any sin, because he kept close to the text, "To feed the poor, and the rich to send empty away."

After this, Dudley meeting with Capt. Richardson, the keeper of Newgate, betwixt London and Tunbridge, in whose clutches he had been three or four times, he commanded him to stand and deliver: Upon which Richardson began to threaten him, whom he told, he expected no favour from his hands, charging him to make no words about his money, for have it he would, or his life, which word made

Capt.

Capt. Richardson submit, so he rid home betwixt Dudley and the Waters, as well purged as a man could desire.

This daring robber committed several robberies along with Swiftneck, before the king made the latter a captain in Ireland, where he married a great fortune, and lived afterwards very honestly.

But at last England was too hot for Dudley, who robbing General Monk, he ordered strict search to be made after him, upon which he was forced to fly into France, from whence going to Rome he was reduced to very great necessities: where wearing the habit of a Pilgrim, and pretending he came from visiting the sepulchre at Jerusalem, he desired to be admitted to the Pope for his benediction, but truly to get money out him, which he usually gave Pilgrims coming from that Holy place: Now Dudley being told by a Cardinal that he could have no admission, unless he had brought some reliques from thence, he answered, he had one at his lodgings: Upon which a strange whim came into his head, for hearing that an old fat Hostess, who was lately hanged for poisoning one of her guests, had been delivered for an Anatomy, he procured the hairy circle of her Merkin, from a Surgeon's man for half a crown, which he combed out, and told the Cardinal, he had got St. Peter's Beard, which cost him a great deal of money, the Cardinal admiring the relique, and kissing it, said, "It is worth a kingdom," who introducing him presently to his holiness with great joy, told him, he had got St. Peter's Skull already, but never heard his Beard was preserved; to which Dudley gave such plausible reasons, that the Pope first kissed, and then fell down and worshipped the Merkin, and put it up in the repository of rarities, to be adored by superstitious votaries; giving Dudley 1000 Ducats, who fearing the cheat might be discovered, left Rome, and travelled to Spain, where he embarked

ed on board an English ship for England, out of which he had been two years.

Not long after his arrival meeting with a justice of the peace, betwixt Midhurst and Horsham in the county of Suffex, he bid him stand and deliver : who making a stout resistance, he shot Dudley's horse under him, who at the same time being wounded in his arm, was obliged to surrender at discretion ; then Dudley taking out of his pocket 28 guineas, a gold watch, and a silver tobacco box, set him upon an ass, saying, since your worship has broken the peace in committing murder, let one ass carry another.

At last Dudley attempting to rob the Duke of Lauderdale on Hounslow-heath, was conquered in the enterprize, and committed to Newgate ; and at his trial above 80 indictments were preferred against him, unto the which pleading guilty, he was (though great intercession was made for him) hanged on Wednesday the 22d of February 1681, aged 46 years.

Captain U R A T Z, Highwayman, and Murderer of Thomas Thynne, Esq; in the Pall-Mall.

HE was the youngest son of a gentleman in Pomerania, having but a small fortune, and being a sturdy man, turned highwayman ; he robbed John Sobieski, king of Poland, and the duke of Lorrain, at the siege of Vienna, going privately to take a view of the Turks army. He committed also some robberies in Hungary, by which having got money enough, he bought him a commission in the emperor's army, where he came acquainted with Count Coningsmark, and after came with him to England ; by whom he was, with one Stern, a lieutenant, and George Baroski, alias Boralzki, employed to kill Esquire Thynne, who was the Count's rival ; which they did in his coach, going up St. James's street, on Sunday,

unday, February the 12th, 1681, Barolzi shooting
 m with a blunderbuss, who being all three taken
 e next day, were by Chief Justice Bridgman com-
 mitted to Newgate, and afterwards condemned by
 y Lord Chief Justice Pemberton, and hanged in the
 ll mall, on Friday the 10th of March 1681. Stern
 d Boroski being very penitent; but the Cap-
 m, by the accounts of doctor Aurnet and doctor
 ernet, who often visited him, was much like our
 odern free-thinkers, believing in a God, but
 ought he was too good to condemn any gentleman.
 uring his confinement, he was very resolute: nay,
 en the rope was put about his neck, he seemed
 concerned, bidding them draw away the cart when
 ey pleased. Boroski was afterwards hanged up in
 ains at the end of Bearbinder-lane, between Mile-
 d and Bow, near the east side of London.

WILLIAM NEVISSON, *a Murderer and
 Highwayman.*

2 S arts and sciences improve, so doth villany, as
 A we plainly find in the life of William Nevisson,
 n at Pomfret, in Yorkshire, in the year 1639 of
 althy and honest parents, who kept him to school
 about 14, where he behaved himself very orderly.
 t stealing a silver spoon from his father, he had
 a whipt by his master, for which he swore re-
 ge, let the event be what it would, and accord-
 ly he first picked his father's pocket of his keys,
 then his closet of money; and considering his
 after had a good horse, he borrowed him, and so
 horsed without his master's bidding: And be-
 se his master drew blood of his posteriors, he no
 ner got to London, but he cut the horse's throat
 make him amends.

When he came to London, he changed his name
 C 2 and

and his habit, and went to service at a brewer's where he behaved himself pretty well for two or three years, till he found an opportunity to play the old game over again; which he easily did, by the negligence of his master's cashier, who being in liquor one night, fell asleep in the compting house, which the youngster observing, stripped him of all his cash, amounting to about 200 pounds, and so bought a brush for Holland, where getting acquainted with a burgher's daughter, whom he perswaded to rob her father of his jewels and money; in which being detected, he was put in prison, and had certainly swung for it, had not he found means to escape; from whence after many difficulties, he got into Flanders, and listed himself in the English service, under the Duke of York, at the siege of Dunkirk, where he behaved himself handsomely, while in the service; but not liking it very much, he resolved once more for Old England, to try his fortune.

Now that he might be sure of a sweet life, and a short one, he equipt himself with horse and arms, and made it his business to bid passengers stand and deliver, which he carried on very successfully a long time by himself, not caring to trust his life in the hands of others, who by favour or misfortune, might at length be drawn in to accuse him. One day ranging about to seek whom he might devour, he met with two countrymen, who advised him not to go forward, for they met three highwaymen, who about half a mile off had robbed them of 40l. upon which Navisson bid them come back along with him, and his life to a farthing, he'd soon make them return their money again; who rid along with him till they had sight of the three highwaymen, when he ordered them to stay behind, whilst he went up and talked with them, saying, sir, by your garb and colour of your horse you should be one of them I look after, and if so, my business is to tell you, that you borrowed of two friends

friends of mine 40*l.* which you must refund: how, with the highwayman 40*l.* sure the fellow is mad? so mad, saith Nevisson, that your life must pay for it, if you trifle, clapping a pistol to his breast, swearing that his life was at his mercy, if he did not deliver that moment; which the rogue was compelled to do, and yield his horse and pistols to boot; upon which Nevisson rode off in quest of the other two, who taking him for their companion, were very angry that he should engage himself with any body else; to whom Nevisson answered, You are mistaken gentlemen, in your man, he is taken, and so will you be if you immediately give not up the prize of the day, at which, one of them let fly at him, but missing, Nevisson shot him through the shoulder; and then turning to the other, he begged for quarter, which they had upon delivering up all their money, which was 50 pounds; with which he went back to the countrymen and gave them their 40 pounds, charging them for the future to look better after their money, and not to lose it so cowardly.

In all his pranks, he was alway civil to the women, charitable to the poor; and being a true royalist, never hurt any of that party. One time meeting with an old sequestrator on the road, he stopt his coach, and demanded part of the money he had extorted from the poor widows and orphans, or else he swore, —: Which put the old man into such a fright, that he readily offered him 60 broad pieces of gold, if he would but spare his life: but this not doing, Nevisson bid him, he must gang along with him on the postilion's horse, which he desired the three ladies in the coach to spare for half an hour; which very much against his will he was forced to comply with, fearing every minute he was to lose his life; but he saved it by drawing a bill upon a goldsmith for 500*l.* payable in London, which Nevisson received before the sequestrator could send orders to the contrary.

In the year 1661, having robbed a rich grazier of 450 l. he determined to go back to Pomfret and live honestly with his friends, which he did till after his father's death, and then returned to his old courses again, committing such robberies that made his name a terror to passengers: insomuch that the graziers and carriers were forced to come down every quarter, or else they were sure to be rifled for the failure thereof.

Committing some robberies in Leicestershire, he was there taken, and committed to the county goal where he was narrowly watched, yet by a stratagem he got clear, which was as followeth: feigning himself sick, he got leave for three or four friends to visit him: and one of them was a physician, who gave out that he was sick of a pestilential fever; and that unless he had more air, he would infect the whole goal: hereupon the goal keeper caused his fetters to be taken off, and moved him into a more open room, to lie by himself, which was all that they wanted. Hereupon it was noised abroad, that he had got the plague, and that it was very dangerous to go near him, which so frightened the jailor and his servants that they never came near him, but let him alone to do what they would with him: Upon which his friends brought in a painter, who made all over his breast blue plague spots, and also several marks in his hands, face and body, as is usual to such that die of that distemper; and then giving him a sleepy dose, reported he was dead: Upon which a jury was called, who, upon viewing spots, without more to do, brought in their verdict, that he died of the plague; and thereupon he was put into a coffin, and carried off.

Being thus discharged, he fell to his old trade of robbing again, and meeting several carriers, he demanded his arrears, for his late imprisonment had cost him a great deal of money, which they must make good, who being strangely surprized, swore that his

ghost

ghost walked, and taken up his former employment. But the cheat being found out at last, there was a reward of 20 l. set upon his head; which made him the more cautious: yet he was taken, about three years after, in Yorkshire, and condemned for several robberies in that county; which, by the intercession of the sheriff, was changed into transportation, which he never performed, but having his liberty, fell to his old trade again, infesting the roads so much, that a reward was promised to any one that should bring him in; which made many lay wait for him, especially two brothers named Fletchers, one of whom Nevilson shooting dead, got off: from whence going into a little village about 13 miles from York, he was taken by Capt. Hardcastle, and sent to York goal where in a week's time he found his prison, sentence, execution and grave: for he was not tried upon a new indictment, but suffered according to his former sentence, not transporting himself within the time limited: Altho' he pleaded, that he had engaged to go to Tangier, but could not get a ship, but all would not do, and so according to his former sentence, he was hanged at York, May 17. 1684, Aged 45 years.

THOMAS RUMBOLD, *a Highwayman.*

THOMAS RUMBOLD was born at Ipswich, in the county of Suffolk, of honest parents, and by them put apprentice to a Bricklayer, from whom he ran away in two or three years time, and betook himself to the highway, where once upon a time, he waylaid Doctor Calamy, a famous preacher in Kent, by the following stratagem: Planting himself in the field by the road-side where the Doctor was to pass, he spread a cloth, and laid several handfuls of gold upon it; then takes a box and dice, and falls a playing as if the Devil was in him, by himself; swearing there

was 500 l. gone; which the doctor hearing, goes to see if the man was mad, and asked him who he was at play with, With the D— faith Tom; quoth the Doctor, “ And how will you send the money to him; “ By his ambassadors,” faith Rumbold; “ and therefore you being an ambassador extraordinary, must “ take it.” And accordingly he gave the doctor 600 guineas, who calling at the next town to bait, Rumbold rid before, and put himself in the same posture in another field by the town; when the Doctor coming by, he cried out, “ What, lost again?” No, replied Rumbold, “ Won by G—, I’ll play this hand “ out, and then leave off; so 800 l. more, Sir, won, “ I’ll leave off while I am well.” “ But who have “ you won it of,” faith the doctor; “ Of him that I “ left the 500 l. with,” faith the other; “ Before “ you went to dinner. But how will you come by “ it,” says the Doctor; “ From his ambassadors,” faith the other: So riding up to him with sword and pistol, he robbed him of above 1400 l. With this booty he bought him a place in Oxford’s horse, but did not leave off taking a purse by the bye, for the carrying on of which the better, he kept in fee most of the hostlers about town: by one of them being informed that some passengers were going the next morning to Reading, he way-laid them at Maiden-Head thicket; but they turning about to Windsor, Rumbold missed his prey; however, resolving to be doing, a little after he met his Colonel, the Earl of Oxford, with only a groom, and clapping his hair in his mouth to disguise himself, he bid him stand and deliver, swearing if he did not he was a dead man. But my lord told him, “ If he must have it he must “ take it;” who putting his hands in his coat pockets could find nothing but a box and dice; but searching into his breeches, he found a gold watch and six guineas, with which he rid away to an inn in Buckinghamshire; where hearing how the hostler was

was used to cheat the horses of their corn, he privately hid himself under the manger: The hostler no sooner had given the horse his corn, but he sweeps it into a canvas bag under the manger; which when he had done, Rumbold came out, and calling to pay, asked the hostler, what corn he had given his mare; who replied, "All he ordered him;" Quoth Rumbold, "Don't tell me a lie, for I shall ask my mare presently:" Which made the Inn-keeper enquire, "if the mare could speak?" yes, saith Rumbold: 'Tis (replied the landlord) impossible; not at all, quoth Rumbold, for when I was at the University at Leyden, I studied magick; and afterwards marrying a scolding wife, I transformed her into a mare; which being brought to him, she laid her mouth to his ear, through custom, as the pidgeon did to Mahomet's. Why Sir, saith he, I told you the hostler had cheated her, for she saith, he swept the corn into a bag in the corner of the manger; when both going into the stable found it so, for which the host begged a thousand pardons, and turned the hostler away. But his own wife being a scold, he begged of Rumbold to turn his wife into a mare also, and he would give him fifty guineas: which he undertook with this caution, that whatever he saw him do with his wife, he should not speak, for that would spoil the operation, so bringing the woman, Rumbold with a piece of chalk drew a round circle, in which placing the woman he made her unstrip to the skin, and then putting her upon her hands and knees, he got upon her backwards, at the sight of which, the husband cried out d——me Sir, what are you going to cuckold me before my face: why (quoth Rumbold) see, you've broke the power of my charm by untimely speaking: However the landlord had rather lose his money, than have his wife transformed by grafting a pair of horns on his head.

Not long after, meeting six officers of his own regiment,

giment, he put his mask on, and robbed them of 150 l. but being known, the next day he was called out of the troop to be sent to the goal; but saying, it would be an honour for a man to be hanged for robbing half a dozen officers, he was let go for fear they should be branded with cowardice.

He had got 600 l. which he put into a friend's hand, who running away with it, he still continued in his wicked ways, till he was taken and sent to Newgate, and afterwards condemned and hanged, without any shew of repentance, in 1685, aged 46 years.

JONATHAN SYMPSON *a Highwayman.*

JONATHAN SYMPSON was born at Launcester Cornwall, and at 14 put apprentice to a linnen-draper at Bristol, whom he served faithfully, and then his friends gave him 1500 l. to set him up; with which he was likely to do very well, till he married a merchant's daughter against her free consent, with whom he had 2000 l. but she continued still carousing with her old sweetheart, till Sympson one day resolved to watch her waters, pretended to go a journey for a fortnight; but returning the same day, disturbed his wife and her spark in the midst of her jollity; which put her to her shifts how to hide her gallant; at last she clapt him into a great sea chest which was in the room; so Sympson finding no body, sent for the gallant's wife, and made merry with the good cheer, and then let out his brother cuckold, telling him he was now even with him. Upon which he sold off what he had and turned as great a rake as the worst of them, spending in a little time above 500 l. in debauchery and gaming, and then betook himself to the highway, for which he was committed to Newgate, and condemned; but his friends got him a reprieve

rieve just after the cart drew away; who being cut low, the sheriff's officer told him, saying, he supposed he knew something of it before he was hanged; upon which he swore, he dreamt no more of it, than of his dying day. But coming back to Newgate, the turnkey would not receive him without a new commitment; hereupon Sympson said, I believe I am one of the unfortunatest dogs alive, for both Tyburn and Newgate have this day refused me; but still I'll try what may be done, for I'll rob the whole country, but I will one or t'other; accordingly he was as good as his words, for in less than six weeks after, he committed 40 robberies, all within the county of Middlesex.

In the time of the hard frost, he was used to rob in the water between Fulham and Kingston; a little after, meeting with a knight upon the road, he stopt him; and the knight gave him a purse of counters, which Sympson took for gold, and rid away; but meeting the same knight a month after, upon Bagshot Heath, he told him he thought he had made a mistake; and so giving him his counters again, he robbed him of a gold watch and snuff box, and 100 guineas.

Another time, overtaking the Lord Delamere's coach, on Dunmore Heath, with a gentleman and four or five footmen, he first made himself familiar with the coachman, and then with the company, saying he had a sum of money about him, and he was glad of their company; and also there was a cup of good drink at a house a little before, and he would ride on and get a tankard ready against they came; but instead of going to the house, he went to a wood, where he tyed his horse up to a tree, and then meeting the coach, said, "He was ruined and undone, for a couple of rogues had robbed him of above 400 pounds." The Lord pitying his case, ordered his servants to ride after them; which they doing, Symp-

son told his Lordship his time was but short, and therefore he must deliver quickly; whom he robbed of 350 guineas, and then made to his horse, and rid away.

Not long after this exploit, he robbed nineteen Welch drovers, betwixt London and Barnet of 280 pounds, and in the reign of James the II. he robbed the Duke of Berwick of a gold watch, two diamond rings, and above 400 pounds, as he was riding with one footman over Hounslow Heath, and went the same night, and lost it all at play; next day he met with a poor old butter woman, whom he swore he would get with child, and bring a charge upon the parish, unless she would quietly deliver her money; whereupon she gave him 50 shillings. But as he was coming to London, near Acton, he stopt two captains, whom he commanded to stand and deliver; upon which an obstinate fight ensued, by which he was wounded both in his arms and legs, and his horse shot under him; and at length, by the help of some people coming up, taken and carried to Newgate, where he then found friends to take him in, till he was hanged at Tyburn on Wednesday the 8th of September, 1686, aged 32 years.

The GOLDEN FARMER a Murderer and Highwayman.

THE Golden Farmer was so called from his paying his landlord always in gold: but his true name was William Davis, born at Wrexham, in Derbyshire; from whence in his youth, he removed to Sudbury, in Gloucestershire, where he married the daughter of a rich innkeeper, by whom he had eighteen children; and continued robbing on the highways 42 years, without any suspicion. One day meeting three or four stage coaches going to Salisbury, he robbed all in the

the first, but a woman that was a quaker, who positively denied that she had any money, upon which, he begged her pardon, and said he would go and visit the other coaches, and then return, hoping to find her in a better humour; which having done, he found his yea and nay customer still upon denial; but taking her out of the coach, he said, "You canting B—ch, if you dally with me at this rate, you will provoke my spirit to be very rude with you;" which so frightened the quaker, that she gave him a purse of guineas, and so they parted as good friends as they met.

Another time he met with the Duchefs of Albemarle, on Salisbury Plain, whom he found much more refractory than the quaker had been, for after he had been at the trouble of wounding her servants, she would not part with a farthing, whereupon he pulled three diamond rings off her finger, and a gold watch, saying, "You B—— incarnate, you'd rather read your face in a glass every morning, and blot out pale and put in red, than give an honest man a farthing to keep him from being hanged," and then made off; when a little after, meeting with Sir Thomas Day, a justice of peace of Bristol, he told him he had like to have been robbed of 40 l. which would have been his ruin: Truly, saith Sir Thomas, that would have been very hard, but the county must have paid it again, if it had been done between sun and sun; a little after, coming to a convenient place, he shot Sir Thomas's man's horse under him, and then presented a pistol to Sir Thomas's breast, and bid him deliver; who giving him about 60 pounds in gold and silver, he bid him not be troubled, for it would be no loss to him, it being done between sun and sun, the county must refund.

One Mr. Hart, a young gentleman, who had more money than brains, riding over Finchley Common, where the Golden Farmer had been three or four hours

hours looking out for prey, he rid up to him, and clapping his dagger over his shoulder, saith, "Where
 " a pox kave you been, to make a man wait for you
 " all this morning, come, deliver what you have and
 " be damned, and then go to hell for orders." The gentleman being a little surprized, would fain have excused himself by the old common cant, of having no money, which the Farmer not believing, he, upon search, found 100 guineas in his pocket, and a gold watch, which he carried off without any other ceremony, than giving him another slap with his hanger upon the shoulder, and charging him to take care how he told lies again.

Another time he paid his landlord about 80l. for rent, and after meeting him upon the road in a disguise, as he was going home, he made shift to borrow it of him again, who fetching a deep sigh, told him, he had not above two shillings in the world, therefore he hoped he was more a gentleman than to take that little; which he knowing to be false, charged him to open his budget or else he should be foul about his house; which made the old man beg and pray that he would have some compassion on him; d—n you, quoth the Farmer, I'll have no more compassion on you, than you have of your poor tenants, therefore deliver, or I'll shoot you through the head; so he took his money without giving him any receipt, as his landlord had done to him.

Not long after, overtaking an old rich grazier on Putney heath, in a very poor habit, he told him there was three or four persons behind, whom he suspected, and therefore desired he would carry half a score guineas for him, till he was out of danger, to whom the old man answered, that he had 50 guineas tied up in the lappet of his shirt, and he would put them to the rest; so riding along till the coast was clear, saith the Farmer, I believe, Sir, no body will take the pains to rob us to day, therefore I think I had

had as good take the trouble to rob you myself; so instead of delivering your purse, pray give me the lap-pet of your shirt; which after he had cut off, he rid away to seek another booty.

Another time lying at the Red-Lion-inn at Ux-bridge, he fell in company with one squire Brough-ton, a barrister of the Middle Temple, whom he told he was coming to London to advise with a law-yer, therefore he should be obliged, if he could help him to one; who thinking he had met with a good client, offered his own service; upon which the Far-mer told him, several of his neighbour's cattle broke into his ground, and did much damage, which the Barrister said was very actionable as being *Damage Sefant*: After which coming to London together, the Farmer asked him if he might be so bold as to enquire what was that he called *Trover & Conversion*, he told him it was an action that a man had against another that converts his goods to his own use; very well, Sir, saith the Farmer, then if I should find any money about you it is only actionable: No, saith the Lawyer, that is death; why then, saith the Farmer, I must venture it for once and not use it, therefore deliver, or this pistol shall prevent you ever reading Cook upon Littleton again, which made the Lawyer expostulate with him, whether he thought there was a heaven or hell? Why, you son of a whore, saith the Farmer, how can you talk so, who think the only way to heaven is thro' Westminster-hall; come, come, down with your dust this moment, for I have other business to mind, than to wait of your a—se all day, so putting a pistol to his breast, he robbed him of fifty guineas and a gold watch.

One time overtaking a Tinker upon Blackheath, he said to him, your life is a continual pilgrimage: Ay master, saith the Tinker, needs must when the devil drives; quoth the Farmer, I suppose you march all over England with your bag and baggage: Not
so

so far as you ride, faith the other, God knows, I take a great deal of pains for a small livelihood. Yes, faith the Farmer, thou art a great enemy to idleness, for in mending one hole thou makest three: come, open your wallet, and let me share of your profits. Which words made the Tinker beg heartily, but all to no purpose; for he took seven pounds out of his budget.

Thus having run a long course of wickedness, he was at length discovered in Salisbury Court, where he killed a butcher that was endeavouring to stop him a running away; but being at length taken, he was committed to Newgate; and shortly after executed at the end of Salisbury Court in Fleet-street, the 20th of December, 1689; and afterwards hanged in chains on Bag-shot-Heath, in the 64th year of his age.

WILLIAM BEW, *a Highwayman.*

WILLIAM BEW was brother to that notorious highwayman Captain Bew, who was killed by Fig, the thief-taker, at the White Hart at Knightbridge. The two brothers lying one night at Mr. Stone's at the Dolphin Inn in Dolphin-Lane in Bristol, over-heard the landlord's wife tell him, she believed she was with child; which very much disturbed the husband, continually revolving in his mind the charges of lying-in, and bringing up a child, and then considering that a boy was less charge than a girl, he told his wife, "He would have her bring him a boy:" she answered, "That was not in her power. Quoth the husband, "It shall be as I tell you, I say you shall be brought to bed of a boy:" upon which they fell asleep. And the next day the landlord going to Wells to receive 100*l*. Will. Bew and his brother, lay in wait for him as he came

came back, and robbed him of all his money: upon which the old man went home, and broke his heart for grief.

Another time, Will. and his brother meeting a handsome girl upon the road, Will. pretended to court her in a very amorous dialogue; but finding all in vain, he told her, his business was her money, and that she must and should deliver; which the young lady readily complied with, rather than be a prostitute to such a villain, and so gave him fifty guineas, but he not content therewith, took from her also a gold watch, and a pearl necklace.

When Bew first turned highwayman, he committed a rape and robbery upon the road, for which he was forced to fly to Paris; where he went to bed to one of the strumpet's at a bawdy-house, but wanting a chamber-pot, his mistress directed him to one upon a chair, where he was no sooner entered, but a trap-door let him down into a vault, where he was all over reverence: upon which he called for a light, but nobody came near him. The whore, in the meantime, running away with his breeches, in which were about 100 pistoles. Getting out at length by himself into the street, he made a noise at the door, but all in vain, for no body would let him in; upon which, he made the best of his way to his lodging, but seeing two men coming by, whom he thought to be the watch, he stepped aside, till they were past him; but they happening to come to hide their instruments, spying Bew in a corner, wondered how he came in that condition, who telling them the whole matter, they seemed to pity his condition, saying, "If he would join with them, he should soon repair his losses:" Bew imagining that he could not be in a worse condition, resolved to undertake it, be it what will. Now it was to rob the Archbishop's tomb at St. Dennis in Paris, of the rich vestments he was buried in the night before; unto which sacrilegious attempt,

tempt, he freely joined, and so they marched towards the church : but Will's shirt smelling so strong, they agreed to let him down into the well to wash himself, and fastening the rope about his middle, they let him down, when the watch coming to draw water, they ran away ; and the watch drawing up Will, were so terribly affrighted, that they fled away, leaving their staves behind them. But Will. being got out, followed his comrades to the church, who obliged him to enter, or else they swore they would kill him : upon which he went down, and gave them all the rich garments with the cross and mitre, but kept the ring himself ; which provoked the fellows to let down the stone upon the tomb, and leave him there buried alive. A little after, some others came into the church upon the same purpose, who coming down into the vault, Will. caught hold of one of their legs, which made the fellow believe the devil had hold of him, and so they ran away faster than they came : by this means Will. getting clear, he made the best of his way to his lodgings ; and selling the ruby ring, he bought him new cloaths, and came straight for England.

Where he a long time pursued his wicked courses, but at last being apprehended at the Red-Lion-Inn at Brentford, he was committed to Newgate, and shortly afterwards condemned and executed at Tyburn, on Wednesday the 17th of April, 1689.

OLD MOB, a notorious Highwayman.

HIS right name was Thomas Simpson, born at Rumsey in Hampshire, where he had a wife and five children, beside grand children, at the time of his death.

Old Mob had not been long a collector on the king's highway, before he met with Sir, Bartholomew Shower betwixt

betwixt Honiton and Exeter, who having not money enough about him to satisfy this insatiable robber, he compelled him to give him a bill upon a goldsmith at Exeter for 150 l. and having gagged and bound him, he rid post to Exeter to receive the money; which being done, he came back, and told Sir Bartholomew, he had brought a *habeas corpus* to remove him; and so untying him made him gad it along to Exeter on foot, which is about three miles.

Another time, meeting with a proctor who had formerly excommunicated him for calling a woman whore; he bid him stand and deliver, or he would have no more mercy on him, than he had upon peoples souls, that come under his clutches; the proctor contested as much for his money as he did for his client; but Old Mob being too hard for him, took his fine embroidered purse, and fifteen guineas in it. The proctor begged hard for his purse, because it was given him by a friend, but Old Mob swore he would have both, or else he would have his life, to which the proctor was forced to submit.

One time Old Mob overtaking Gadbury the Astrologer, on the road betwixt Winchester and London, he saluted him with his old compliment of stand and deliver; which made Gadbury beg and pray, and plead poverty; to whom Old Mob replied, you lying son of a whore, how can you be poor, who hold twelve houses by lease, and pay them yearly rent of your time and study, and let them out again at yearly rent to the Stationer's company per annum; no, no, plead no such thing to me, deliver, or this pistol shall prove as fatal to you, as that raging star which threatens our climate with death and diseases in the dog-days. Which words seemed more terrible to Gadbury than a blazing star, and put him into such a fright, that he delivered his money without consulting the planets whether it was lucky to do so; but withal told him, that highwaymen were like lotteries;

teries; a man may draw twenty before he could find one fit to hang; to which Old Mob very mannerly answered, that he ought to give the loser leave to speak, and then made the best of his way to look out for more prey.

Just after meeting with a stage coach going to the Bath, with only one gentlewoman in it; she begged very heartily saying, she was a poor widow and had lately lost her husband. D—n you, quoth Mob, is the loss of your husband any argument that I must lose my booty? come, come, deliver quietly, the end of a woman's husband begins in tears, and the end of her tears is another husband. Upon which, the gentlewoman gave him about 50 guineas, which he took without making many words. Seeing Cornelius a Tilhorn riding that way, to whom, after paying the usual compliment, he told him, As he got money easy, he hoped he would not make many words. Lightly come, lightly go. Which pill working very hard with the doctor, Old Mob said, you double refined son of a whore, who kill more than the plague; make haste and deliver, or you shall find, that tho' your Orvietan can expel poison, it is no proof against gun powder. So he took from him 25 guineas, and a gold medal, presented him by the king, for taking poison in his presence.

Once Mob meeting with the Duchess of Portsmouth near Newmarket, he bid her stand; who not being so ready to give, as he to take, asked him if he knew her; Yes, saith he, "you whore in grain, I rob one "whore to supply another. "Touch me, saith she, "Sirrah, if you dare." "I dare if I die, saith Mob, "you B——h, as you have no commodity about you "but what is French, it is lawful to make a seizure;" so falling on her in earnest, she quickly cried out for quarters; which he granted, upon her delivering up 200 guineas, a rich necklace, a gold watch, and some diamond rings.

Another

Another time being at Abington, he bought of an old corn factor, as much corn as he paid him 50 pounds for; with which money the countryman going home, he putting a pistol to his breast, charged him to deliver again, who asked him if it was fair to take his money and goods too. Tell me no more of justice, faith Mob, no man in the world knows any thing of her; deliver or I'll send a brace of balls through your head. Which words frightened the farmer so much, that he gave him the money he received for the corn, and as much more to keep it company.

Not long after, meeting with the lord chief justice Jefferies, a going to his country-house, he bid him stand and deliver; who asking him whether he knew him; yes, Sir, faith Mob, and I ought to charge you with a constable, for you once put me in great danger of my life, for which I will be even with you; whereupon his Lordship gave him about 50 l.

At last, Old Mob was apprehended in Tuthill-street in Westminster, and had 32 indictments preferred against him at the Old Bailey; of all which he was found guilty, and hanged at Tyburn, on Friday the 30th of May, 1690.

THOMAS ROWLAND, a Highwayman.

HE was born at Ware in Hertfordshire, and put apprentice to a Bricklayer, but he had no sooner served his time, but he betook himself to all manner of evil courses, to support which he stole a horse out of the Duke of Buckingham's stables at Bodmington in Gloucestershire, with which he committed many robberies, for the space of 18 years, always in woman's apparel. But at last being apprehended for robbing a person on Hounslow-Heath of lace, to the value of 1200 l. he was condemned, after which he behaved himself very insolently, whilst under condemnation,

condemnation, carnally knowing a whore of his acquaintance in the press yard the night before he died and glorying in the fact at the place of execution, which was at Tyburn, on Friday the 24th of October, 1690, Aged 40 years.

FRANK OSBORN, *a Highwayman.*

FRANK OSBORN, descended from a substantial family at Colchester in Essex, who put him out as an apprentice to a goldsmith, whom he served very faithfully seven years, and then was set up; but taking soon to ill courses, he in less than two years run out, and then to make his creditors easy, betook himself to the highway: Where meeting with the Earl of Albemarle near Harwich, with four footmen, a coachman, postilion, and two gentlemen on horseback, he, with another, attempting to rob the coach; the attendants thinking it a dishonour to let their lord be robbed by two men, and they all stand by unconcerned, let go at the rogues, as their lord also did with a blunderbuss, but the highwaymen shooting the two horsemen's horses dead, and wounding three of the servants, they rid up to the lord, and gave him very ill language, threatening to shoot him through the head unless he instantly delivered; upon which he gave them 130 guineas, a gold watch, a diamond ring, and a gold snuff-box: But whilst they were busy in rifling a trunk, six or seven officers coming up, caused them to make the best of their way off, and crossing the Manningtree river, one of them was drowned; but Frank got safe into Suffolk, and went strait for London.

Another time, Osborn meeting with the Earl of Clare, he addressed him in a courteous manner, saying, he heard he was a very kind lord, and begged his charity. But the Earl being not to be tongue-padded

and out of his money, bid him very angrily be gone. Noth Frank, I am not, my lord, such a mean spirit-fellow as you take me for, if you won't give by force, you shall deliver by foul means; so taking 400 pounds out of his coach, he rid away: in his villany he lived five years, without being suspected by his neighbours; but at length he, with three others, setting upon a nobleman on Hounslow Heath, he was taken, his companions making their escape, whom he could never discover. And being committed to Newgate, and condemned for this attempt, he under condemnation, seemed unconcerned; and would often say, he was sorry he disgraced so honourable a profession as he was of. On Friday the 12th of September, he was executed, with five others, at Tyburn, 1620, in the 29th year of his age.

THOMAS COX, *a Highwayman.*

THOMAS COX was the youngest son of a gentleman living at Blandford in Dorsetshire, who soon spent his fortune in rioting and extravagancies, and then came to London; where falling into a gang of highwaymen, he joined with them in many robberies, for which he was tried thrice at Gloucester, Worcester, and Winchester, but acquitted. At the last of which places, a gentlewoman of a fortune of 1500 pounds, fell in love with him, and married him; which he spent in less than two years, and then took to his evil courses again. When one time meeting with Killegrew the jester, betwixt Somerton and Shipham-mallet, he commanded him to stand and deliver, Killegrew asked him whether he was in jest or earnest, Cox swore he was in earnest, for though you live by robbing, I can't; and then taking from him 25 guineas, he rid away.

Another time Cox and his companions, meeting a person

person of quality, betwixt London and St. Albans, bid him stand; but the servants making a stout resistance many wounds were received on both sides, but the rogues getting the better, Cox demanded his money to which the lord replied, that it was an ill way of living, and not at all agreeable to scripture; quoth Cox, I fulfil the scripture better than you, "For I feed the poor, and send the rich empty away." After this, he compelled his lordship to give him 110 guineas, a gold watch and a diamond ring.

One time meeting with Mr. Hithcock of New Inn betwixt Midhurst and Petworth, in Sussex, he commanded him to stand and deliver; but the lawyer begged and prayed that he would have compassion. Aye, saith Cox, as much as you have of your clients deliver quickly, or this pistol shall give your *Quietus est*; which words frightening the lawyer, he gave him 350 guineas; but saying he had not a farthing to carry him home, Cox gave him a guinea, charging him to be honest for the future, and God would bless him. At which rebuke, the attorney started like an owl out of an ivy bush, when the devil took upon him to preach.

Another time Cox meeting in a coach, Madam Box, an infamous bawd, living in Fountain-court in the Strand, who had been at Litchfield to receive a legacy of 50 pounds. He bid her stand and deliver, which she refused, swearing she would certainly hang him, if he durst rob her. "Yon double pox," "salivated b——h," quoth Cox, "You deserve hanging more than me, for ruining both body and soul of many a poor man and woman, whom you procure to work iniquity for your own profit, there is no body your friend but the Justice's clerk, who for a bribe may work peace with his master. Come deliver your money, or else your life must be a sacrifice to my fury." At which she delivered her money, calling him a thousand names, and he paid her

er in her own coin, and for her sauciness stript her
 mark naked, to put her in mind, " That as she came
 naked into the world, she must go naked out."

Not long after this, Cox was committed to Ilchester
 goal, for a robbery committed near Chard, in So-
 mersetshire, where he had not been long before he
 broke out thro' the goaler's apartment, from whence
 he took a silver tankard, and stealing a horse out of
 his stable, rid away to Coventry; where meeting
 with two of his own calling, whom he overheard in
 the next room, snacking a booty of 120 l. upon this
 he was resolved to have a trial of skill with them in
 the morning; and so rising early, the others also
 thinking him a prey, because he was well dressed,
 they were soon up with him, commanding him to
 stand. Cox made many excuses to no purpose, but at
 last told them he was one of their trade; and since,
 quoth he, two of a trade cannot agree, I will make
 bold to do by you, as you would have done by me.
 Whereupon a bloody fight ensued, but Cox killing one,
 and wounding the other's horse, he took the money,
 verifying the proverb, " Rob Peter to pay Paul."

One time, Cox meeting with an old grazier with
 above 300 l. in gold and silver, he borrowed it with-
 out setting any time for payment; but when he found
 it very heavy, he caned the old man for giving him a
 greater weight than he was able to carry, " Why a
 murrain on you," quoth the grazier, " Give it me
 again, I shall not think much to carry it. Nor I
 neither," saith Cox, " but you old surfeited son of
 a whore, I hate to be put upon."

The last robbery that Cox committed was upon
 ounslow heath, on a farmer, who seeing him just
 after in London, cried " Stop-Thief," upon which
 he was taken in St. Clement's church-yard, and car-
 ried to Newgate; where he lived very extravagantly
 in the press yard, before and after his trial, till he
 was hanged at Tyburn, on Wednesday the 3d of

June, 1691, aged 26 years. And just before the cart drew away, he kicked Mr. Smith the ordinat and the hangman out of the cart.

JOHN WITHRINGTON, a Highwayman.

JACK was the youngest of five brothers, who were all hanged in the country, excepting him, who made his exit at Hyde-park corner. He was born at Blandford, in Dorsetshire, and put apprentice to a Tanner at Shaftsbury in the same county, but he ran away from his master before he had served half his time, and entered himself in the Earl of Oxford's regiment; but after Monmouth's rebellion, he was turned out of the troop, for challenging his captain when he became a bully and gamester, by which in a little time he got a great deal of money: Notwithstanding he was always poor, which put him upon many sharpening tricks at play; by which he was reported a common sharper, so that no body would play with him. Upon which he went upon the highway where meeting with a rich farmer, he robbed him of 40 pounds; who asking him, if that was not a downright robbery, robbery, (replied Withrington) so let it be; who is there now a-days does not rob! but as money ill gotten is usually as ill spent, this booty not lasting long, he went out to seek for more prey when meeting Mr. Edward Clarke gentleman usher to the Duchess of Mazarine, betwixt Chaudleigh and Ashburton, in Devonshire, he bid him stand and deliver, who making some resistance, in the scuffle Withrington's mask flew off, and his antagonist knowing his person, he said, Jack, you and I have been old acquaintance, I hope you will not rob me. "Indeed " I shall faith Withrington, for you get your money

" easier

“easier than I do,” so taking eight guineas from him, he left him to shift for himself.

In less than a year and a half, he was so notorious, that he was the common talk of the country; who courting a rich widow that kept the Swan-Inn in Wine-street in Bristol, he made use of an old bawd of her acquaintance to carry it on; and when things were just brought to bear, a gentlewoman unluckily discovered him to be a highwayman, which broke off the match, and put Jack to his shifts again: who, with another of his profession, meeting with Mr. Thompson, a taylor in Hertfordshire, they robbed him of 30 pounds, and then dismounting him, left him till they should fetch more to bear him company. But the taylor getting loose, mounted his horse, and rid for his life, and they after him, till they brought him back: when, mistrusting he had more money, they searched him from head to foot, who all the while swore he had not a farthing left; but at length finding 40 guineas, sewed in his waistcoat, saith Jack, well, this is a sad world we live in, when one christian cannot believe another.

Another time, meeting a gentleman and his wife betwixt St. Albans and Dunstable, Jack begged their charity; but they not answering his request, he swore since they would give him no money, he would take his wife, so forcing her into an adjacent copse, after he had done his business, he brought her to her husband, from whom he took ten guineas, saying it was no more than his due, for he was not obliged to do this drudgery for nothing. But after robbing a nobleman on Hounslow-heath of 250 guineas, upon a hue and cry, he was taken at Malmesbury in Wiltshire, and from thence removed to Newgate, and condemned for this fact. When going up Holborn-hill, he told the Sheriff he owed some money at the Three-cups-inn, for which he was afraid to be arrested; and therefore begged to be carried another way, who saying he

would bail him, he rid contentedly on, and was hanged the 1st of April, in the year 1691.

WILLIAM MACQUEER, *a Murderer and Highwayman.*

HE was the son of an Irish priest, living at Athenrea, in the county of Galloway in Ireland, from whence coming into England, he soon got into a gang of thieves, among whom he went by abundance of names, as Macqueer, alias Baily, alias Irish Teague, his first attempt was at a house-breaking at Brentford in Essex, where he with three other rogues broke into a gentleman's house, and binding all the people, took away four diamond rings, a great quantity of plate, and 600 pounds in money: Afterwards he broke into chancellor Jeffery's house at Westminster, and stole the purse and mace, which he made his comrade carry on his shoulder before him thro' the Park; which he put in the closet at his lodgings, but dropping some of the jewels from the purse in the chamber, gave a suspicion to the landlord, who breaking open the closet door, found the purse and mace, which he restored to the chancellor; of which Macqueer, hearing, never came near his landlord, till a quarter of a year after, when he broke open his house, and robbed him of money and goods to the value of 80 pounds. Upon which Teague scorning to be a house breaker any longer, resolved to try his fortune on the highway; stealing a horse from counsellor Thursby in Burly street, in the Strand, and a pair of pistols from Robert Williams a goldsmith in George-yard, Westminster, with which accoutrements being compleatly equipt, his first attack was upon Alexander Oldish, a diminutive son of the Muses, both in wit and stature, who was used to visit a doxy near Hammer Smith, for a bit for his cat, and being pot valiant, in a haughty voice,

voice, asked him how he durst presume to stop any son of the Muses in the highway, which was not only an affront to him, but to Apollo, and the sacred nine. At whom Teague staring, said, "A sot of the Muses be you; by my shalvation, I thought you were born of some strange bitch or other, by shaint Patrick, I do not care a turd for you, nor Pollo, nor e'er a son of a whore alive; therefore deliver your money, or this pistol shall send you to hell." Who, after a great many flourishes with his sword, gave him three-pence half-penny, it being all the money he had, which not satisfying, he took away the poet's sword, whereupon poor Oldish fell into a fit of sickness, that had like to have cost him his life.

Another time, Macquээр meeting the lady Overqueque coming from the Bath, he commanded her ladyship to deliver what money she had, and he would repay her next meeting; nay, saith Teague, (who could neither write nor read) if you won't take my word, I will give you my bond. The lady answered, here is never a scrivener. By my shalvation, saith Teague, I will make one myself. The lady replied, This is not lending but robbing, Teague answered, I am a stranger, madam, in this country, and do not know the difference between borrowing and robbing; but if you call this robbing, why then I must make bold to rob you; sho, madam, deliver quickly, or else I shall, arra by my shoul, be fery unruly. Whereupon presenting his pistols, the lady gave him a purse of gold, a gold watch, and two diamond rings.

After which meeting a lieutenant in the army, near Uxbridge, he bid him stand and deliver, or he was a dead man; who being surprized, told him, that he never knew a highwayman rob one in his coat, because they hazarded their lives for defence of their country. "By my shalvation," saith Teague, "I make no respect of persons; beside, you gentle-

“ men are more defenders of womens honour, than
 “ your country’s good, so your tongue shall be no se-
 “ curity for your purse.” Upon which he gave him
 six pounds, and out of it, Teague gave him ten shil-
 lings to bear his charges. But after, meeting captain
 Shooter on Hounslow Heath, he demanded his mo-
 ney, who making a stout resistance, a bloody battle
 ensued; but at last Teague shot him through the
 head, and stript him of 50 guineas, and a watch.

But the devil owing him a shame he was condemn-
 ed and hanged at Tyburn, with William Sherward
 his companion, and eight others, on Friday the 1st
 of May, 1691.

*William Jones, alias Goodwin, a Murderer and High-
 wayman; John Barber, a Murderer: Mustapha
 Peccowatchlet, a Turkish Highwayman; Jemmy Le-
 onard, a Highwayman; Luke Page, a Highway-
 man; Tom Randal, a Murderer; John Shooter a
 Highwayman; and William Holliday, a Murderer
 and Highwayman.*

ALL these persons were very great offenders, espe-
 cially Jones, alias Goodwin, who was born at
 Weston Sudbridge, near Cambden, in Gloucestershire,
 where he was kept at school till 16 years old, and
 where had like to have killed his master Mr. Taylor,
 with a bullet, upon a breaking up time; after which
 his father put him two years to another master, one
 Mr. Bedford, and then took him home, because he
 had a desire to settle himself, having an estate left by
 his grandfather; when soon after he abandoned him-
 self to whoring, and all manner of vices, killing a
 man that was drinking with him, upon which he
 took his horse and rid away, betaking himself to rob
 on the highway, to bear his extravagant expences,
 when he wanted money. He robbed the Worcester
 and

Midgnorth coaches, and committed several robberies upon Sawney-downs by Winchester. He went often on the foot-pad, and one time broke open a farmer's house about five miles from Blackwater, taking thence 50 l. in gold and silver. At length he was apprehended for robbing Mr. Salter, and committed to Newgate: When condemned he was advised by Mr. Smith the ordinary, to prepare for death; to whom he replied, let every tub stand upon its own bottom, for he would be sure to stand firm upon his. And being conveyed in a coach to Tyburn, on Wednesday the 26th of July 1693, he was there executed. Aged 36 years.

On the same day, and for the same fact, was hanged Jack Barber, born at Chard in Somersetshire, aged 34 years; from whence coming to London, he went to service, and lived with doctor Bourne, at the Two Twins in Moorfields. Where for a little time he behaved himself pretty well, but associating himself with loose company in the fields, he went with them on the foot-pad, and was in two robberies, where he did murder, the one at a gardiner's near Fulham, and the other at Everly near Blackwater. Under confinement, and at the place of execution, he was very insolent, saying, "God bless all my friends, and let my enemies be hanged as I am." Jones, when the cap was pulled over his face, cried out, "Lord have mercy upon me." "Never fear," saith Barber, "let's have some prayers, and another merry Psalm, and then for it; I find the king has resolved to hang all of our profession, and I doubt not but a great many more will come after us."

Mustapha Paccowatchlet, a Turk, born at Adrianople; although he could speak no English, had committed several robberies; and was at length for burglary on the body of Anthony Bufin, hanged at Tyburn, on Wednesday the 30th of May, 1694, aged 36 years. Also James Leonard, who being disband-

ed after the reduction of Ireland, committed several robberies, for which he was hanged the 15th of October 1694. Luke Page, being condemned at Kingston for a robbery committed by him at Guildford in Surry. As he was going to be hanged a country fellow asked if his p— stood, of which he seemed to take no notice; but being required at the gallows to make a full discovery, he impeached several, and amongst the rest, this countryman; for which a reprieve coming, he was afterwards made an evidence who swore so hard against the countryman, that he was condemned to die: when going to the tree, Page stepped up to him, and asked him if his p— stood: to which the man made no answer, but was hanged quietly. But Page did not long survive him, for committing a robbery on Hounslow heath, he was committed to Newgate, and when under sentence of death Mr. Smith the ordinary asking him what business he was brought up to, he smiling replied, that of getting money on the highway. He continued foolish to the last, trifling away his minutes even at Tyburn, where he was hanged on the 6th of Nov. 1695, aged 28 years. As was the same day, Tom Randal, who was hanged in chains at Stone-bridge by Kingsland, for killing Robert Stephens, a quaker, who all the time he was under confinement, proved a very obstinate rogue.

Whilst this fellow was under sentence of death, he, with some others, contrived to have seized upon the waiters; and if they made any resistance, to cut their throats, and make themselves masters of the prison, till the king should grant a general pardon. In which conspiracy was John Shorter, a highwayman, who did not only confess his crime, but owned that he knew of the murder of one Lorimer in Newgate, but was prevailed upon by Takefield and Hart, not to discover it, and also said, that Hart carried a bloody knife in his pocket three days: And that he verily believed,

ieved, as he was at prayers in the chapel the day before he died, he saw Lorimer's ghost. William Holliday was also hanged at the same time for the highway, who was born in sweet St. Giles's, who entering very young in the ragged regiment of blackguards, for his sharpness was soon taken notice of by the superiors of his tattered fraternity: Amongst whom, being chosen high-steward in a mock trial of the viscount Stafford, he caused a poor boy to be hanged in jest, which proved in earnest. A little after, on account of his courage, he was by the blackguards chosen their captain; in which post, on account of his great authority he prescribed laws to the whole body.

1. That none of his company should presume to wear shirts, upon pain of being cashier'd.
2. That none should lye in any other places than stables, empty houses, and under bulks.
3. That they should eat nothing but what they begged, and that they should game away all the money they got by cleaning boots, among one another, for the good of the fraternity.
4. That they should neither learn to read nor write, that he might have them the better under his command.
5. That they should every morning appear by nine on the parade, to receive the necessary orders.
6. That none should presume to follow the court, but such as he ordered on that party.
7. That if any one gave them shoes and stockings he should convert them into money to play.
8. That they should steal nothing they could not come at, for fear of bringing a scandal upon the company.
9. That they should not endeavour to clear themselves of vermin, by killing or eating them.
10. That they should cant better than the Newgate

birds, pick pockets without bungling, out-lie a quaker, out-swear a lord at a gaming-table, and brazen out all their villanies beyond an Irishman.

Over whom he presided till he was 20, when he surrendered his commission, and turned highwayman, till the hangman provided for him, as long as he lived.

JACOB HALSEY, *Quaker and Highwayman.*

JACOB HALSEY was born at Bedford, whose parents were Quakers, and it is remarkable that he sucked, till he was three years old, which made him love pap till he was a big boy: When once the maid was making pap for him, she was called away, who leaving the skillet upon the hearth, went to see what was the matter; in the mean time a monkey, who had observed how the children were fed, begun to feed young Halsey: and then taking him out of bed, went to dress him putting his legs in his sleeves, and his arms into his stockings, which made Yea and Nay cry out to some tune; the maid returning a little after, and finding little master in such a pickle, was fore affrighted, and asking kim who had muffled him so, he said it was a little boy as ill favoured as the devil; for he took the monkey who had a green coat on, to be a boy: Nor was he so much mistaken as a Welchman, who seeing a monkey in a goldsmith's shop, gave him a guinea to change, who put it into the counter, but made no return: Or countryman, who being sent with a basket of fruit to a lord's house, met two monkeys, to whom giving the fruit, enquired how the lord their father did, who being a very ugly person, made the jest so much the better. But to return to the maid, she really believed some spirit had

had played him this trick; and when she had done her business, went to prayers as fast as possible. But when Halsey grew up, he became a famous preacher, giving out that the ——— opened to him in visions; whereupon an arch wag got up a-top of the house one night, and cried out, Jacob! who saith, here I am, oh! what is thy will? quoth he, go to the steeple house, and break all the windows, which he presently did; but being taken in the fact, he was committed to Bedford goal, where it cost him above 400 l. before he could get clear of it.

He was almost a year in goal, and being a facetious sort of a fellow, he would eat and drink, and lie with any body, but he became intimate with one above all the rest, to whom they were used to trust one another's secrets, who let him into all the pranks of the fraternity; who asking him if they never feared hanging. No, saith he, we often pick a pocket at the execution of our comrade. When Halsey was at liberty, and understanding how he was imposed upon by a false voice, he becoming the ridicule of all the country, resolved to go abroad, and revenge himself on all church people though it was with the hazard of his neck: So metamorphosing his cropt hair into a perriwig, his hiving hat into one cock'd, and his diminutive cravat into a ranting necklace. Yet he could not forbear robbing in the language of the lambs; for one day meeting with an usurer of Bedford, near St. Albans, he said, friend, I am not like one of the prophane ones, who rob men in those terrible words, stand and deliver; but open thy pursestrings strait, and lend me thy money. The usurer not liking this mild way of parting with his money, begun to expostulate with him; whereupon shooting his horse, and taking about 60 l. from him; his spirit being moved, he bound his arms round an elm-tree, where he left him to contemplate on his wicked course of life.

Another time, Jacob overtaking a country curate betwixt Abington and Oxford, he said, friend, I take thee to be some Philistine going to spoil an Israelite for tythes, but I shall spoil thee first; therefore deliver thy mammon to the righteous, or I shall send thee to the bottomless pit; the parson made several hums, but finding the quaker would not be said nay, he gave him 30 l. and then they parted as good friends as they met.

Another time, he met with one Morgan, a beadle of St. Clement Danes, who had been a courting with some friend in the country, but losing his way, was returning home with a couple of quarter staves on his shoulder; to whom he said, dearly beloved, be not afraid, I only want your money, who answered, had I any other weapons than these two sticks, I would not part with it, Mr. Yea and Nay, so quietly: why then, saith Jacob, I'll try thy manhood, and taking one of these staves, he so well played his part, that he overcame the beadle, but not without some dry drubs. After which, he said, I see thou canst exercise thy long staff pretty well, but I'll prevent thee from using thy short one to-night; then taking his generation tool by the fore-skin, he nailed it to a tree, and so took 14 shillings from him.

Another time, Jacob meeting on the road near Harwich, a pretty young gentlewoman, he took her aside, and said, my pretty lamb, an insurrection of an unruly member obliges me to make use of you upon an extraordinary occasion, therefore I must mount thy alluring body, to the end I may come in unto thee; where laying the evil spirit, he dismissed her without taking any thing from her.

In short, he was at length as much talked of as ever Harris, who robbed on the black mare. But was at length apprehended in attempting to rob the Earl of Westmoreland, near Watringbury in Kent; from whence being carried to Maidstone, he was condemned

condemned in April, 1691; and at the place of execution he made the following speech:

JACOB HALSEY'S SPEECH.

BRETHREN, I see a great many of you, to behold the light extinguished in this tabernacle of my body, which formerly was wont to shine very bright. O the frailty of the flesh, which too often has prevailed against the spirit, though I had a great portion of it, nay a double one, when I remained among the chosen people; but after I fell, I forsook the many pretty damsels amongst our flock, and went into carnal ones: However, since I have tried others, let me tell you, it is a pleasant sin to play with the female sex, let their religion be what it will. Ah, brethren, that stubborn piece of flesh has no forecast at all; but let that stand there. A man that is born of a woman, has but a short time to stay upon her, and indeed my time is so short in this wicked world, that I shall never get upon another as long as I live; unless it is sweet WILLIAM'S goodness to save me from the danger, which this bit of hemp threatens me with; it is the straitest cravat I ever wore: but I know I may hold forth long enough, e're he send me a reprieve; therefore not to detain you any longer, I bid you farewell,

WHITNEY, *a Highwayman.*

WHITNEY was born at Stevenage in Hertfordshire, and there bound apprentice to a Butcher, where he served his time out; but being of a roving disposition, he soon took to the highway, and committed several robberies: meeting once with one Mr. Warren, lecturer of Greenwich, after he had robbed him, he said it was long time since he heard a sermon, and there-

therefore commanded him to give him one; which the minister for fear of his life, complied with, saying his text was THEFT, which not being to be divided into Sentences, he was obliged to divide it into Letters, T, H, E, F, T. Now T, saith he is Theological, H, is Historical, E, is Exegetical, F, is Figurative, and T, is Tropological. Now the Theological part of my text, is according to the effects that it works, which are two; *First*, in this world; *Secondly*, in the world to come. Now the effects that it works are, T, Tribulation, H, Hatred, E, Envy, F, Fear, and T, Torment; for what greater tribulation can befall a man, than to be debarred from liberty. Again, ye have T, Theft, the subject, H, Hatred, of all men, as well as E, Envy, of the Jailors; next, ye are always in F, Fear, of being apprehended; and then nothing but T, Torment, ensues. And then as for the Historical part of my text, History tells us, that the Emperor Frederick III. condemned all thieves to the gallies. The Exegetical part, is when you pursue your evil courses. The Figurative is, that tho' you seem to be a gentleman, yet you are a rogue. And the Tropological part is, in drawing a word from its proper signification, to another sense, as in calling you most famous thieves. I desire your attention; "Let him that steals, steal no more;" or else, T, Take care, H, Hanging, E, Ends not, F, Felony, T, at Tyburn. Which sermon pleased him so well, that he gave him his ten pounds again, and ten shillings for preaching it, and then rid away seeking whom he might devour.

Another time, Whitney and his gang, meeting a gentleman on Bagshot Heath, they bid him stand. The gentleman said, I was just going to say the same to you. Why, said Whitney, are you a gentleman thief? he replied, yes, Sir, but I have had very bad luck to day: for I have been riding up and down all this morning; and have met with never a prize.

size. Then wishing him better luck they parted : but at night happening to hear the gentleman at an inn tell another, how he had bit the highwaymen of 100 pounds, which he had about him, they were mad with themselves for being too credulous ; but resolved in the morning to watch his waters ; so going out first, they laid an ambuscade for the gentleman, who presently fell into it. Whitney commanded him to stand, he repeated the former words again : Whitney replied, it is an old saying, " Two of a trade cannot agree," therefore deliver, or I will send a brace of balls through your head, upon which the gentleman gave him 120 guineas. When Whitney taking his leave of him, desired him to acquaint his friend, that " I was going to say the same " to you," would not save his bacon, for he should know him from a black sheep another time.

One time, Whitney and his gang meeting with one Mr. Hull an old usurer on Hounslow Heath, he ordered him to stand and deliver : Hereupon the old man pleaded poverty, and told them what a wicked thing it would be to rob a poor old man. Quoth Whitney, you old rogue, do you pretend to read lectures of morality to honest men ? you dog in a doublet, do you pretend to catechise better christians than yourself ? we will deal by you, as you do by all other men, undo you if we can. Then taking from him eighteen pounds, it put him in such a rage, that he swore he should see them ride up Holborn Hill backwards ; hereupon Whitney pulling Hull off his horse, put him on again with his face towards the tail, and said, " Now you son of a whore, we will see what a figure you make, when you ride backward.

Not long after, Whitney, and one more of his gang, meeting with Esquire Long, on Newmarket Heath, Whitney saluted him with, " d—n me, you " son of a whore, stand and deliver ;" at which his comrade cried, " Can't you rob a gentleman without
 " calling

“ calling him names.” However, Whitney took from him 100 pounds, who desired Whitney to give him something out of it to carry him on his journey; whereupon Whitney opening the bag, bid him take some, who took as much as he could hold; at which Whitney cried, “ Why, Sir, you have no conscience “ at all in you.”

After this, Whitney kept the George-Inn in Cheston in Hertfordshire, but that not doing, he came to London to rob for good and all. One morning standing well dressed at a mercer's door on Ludgate Hill, waiting for a friend that was coming to him, a couple of misses asked him, if he had any fashionable silks; he answered he had not, but in a day or two he should have some; and then, if they pleased to tell him where they lived, he would bring patterns. They replied, they newly came out of the country, and knew not the name of the street, but if he pleased to go with them they would shew him. With which Whitney readily agreed; and conducting them to the door, he pretended to take his leave; but they cried, “ Nay Sir, you shall walk in, and take a glass of “ wine since you have taken this trouble upon you;” Where they shewed him a very fine chamber, well furnished, who had no sooner drunk a glass or two, but there came in a very fine collation of cold meats; which being over, one of them withdrew and left Whitney with the other; who, after some discourse begun to talk very amorous to him, offering to teach him a soft love lesson, which he was willing to learn, but feared he should pay too dear for it, knowing she expected a silk gown and petticoat, which he knew not how to come by; however at last, he consented to be her humble servant, and be ruled by her every way, and being hot-headed with liquors, in a brava-do pulled out a handful of money, which sweetened his mistress's conceit, who took him into a bed-chamber, where they enjoyed one another to satisfaction:
after

After which he took his leave, promising to send her many rich presents. Then going to a mercer in Ludgate-street, he told him, a lady that the mercer knew, had sent him for some silks, which was sent by a youth, from whom Whitney took the silks, and gave him the slip thro' a back door in a house where he married him, with which he went to his mistresses, where he revelled for some time: but at length being cloyed, he bid them adieu, and sent a letter to the mercer, to let him know where his silk was: who finding it in their custody, they were committed to Bridewell, in Tuttlefields, where their backs paid for their pride, by that once famous liſtor Mr. Reading, but many a bitter curſe did they beſtow on Whitney for his pains.

The SPEECH of Sir S—l L—l, Kt. Recorder of London, made to Whitney, and other prisoners, before he paſſed ſentence of death on them.

I Am heartily ſorry for this ſorrowful occaſion, which obliges me to perform the office of paſſing ſentence of death upon you, for the notorious crimes which ye have committed. But ſo exorbitant have ye been, in all manner of wickedneſs, that juſtice has long ago cried out to cut you out of the land of the living, as being a common nuſance to all mankind. I take no pride in deſtroying my fellow-creatures; but when your intolerable enormities are no longer to be born with, it is an indiſpenſible duty incumbent upon me, to pronounce judgment againſt you, after you have been fairly and juſtly caſt by your country: 'Tis true ſome of you are greater offenders than others: and in particular, you Mr. Whitney; for conſidering how many poor horſes you have killed on the road, “ Doſt thou not think the blood of thoſe dumb creatures will, at the laſt day, riſe up in judgment
“ againſt

“ against thee?” Yes, to be sure they will; and therefore of all the criminals here, you deserve the least mercy: Indeed, it is a most lamentable thing to think on’t! that so many poor horses that thought no-body any harm, should be untimely cut off in the prime of their age; therefore as thou hast shed so much innocent blood, to maintain thyself in irregular courses; it is my advice to instruct you, and the rest to prepare yourselves for another world, and so proceed to declare your fatal doom: which is, That all of you convicted for your lives, return to the place from whence you came, and from thence be carried to the place of execution, where ye shall be hanged by the necks, till ye are dead: And the Lord have mercy upon your souls.

Whitney was betrayed by a strumpet, one madam Cozens, and taken in a hosier’s shop in Bishopsgate-street, and when carried to Tyburn, a reprieve overtook him, but he was hanged in Smithfields-rounds, the Friday following, 1693.

WILLIAM JOYCE, *a Highwayman.*

HE was the son of an honest farmer, born at Nantwich in Cheshire, and brought up to his father’s business: but having a mind at twenty years of age to see London, never having been ten miles from home in his life, his father gave him 25 guineas to come up: of which he might have taken his farewell, as well as of his son.

The very first day he came to London, taking a walk in Moorfields, to see the lunaticks in Bedlam, he met with a couple of strumpets, who carried him to a vaulting school, where sweet William soon got as drunk and as poor as a beggar, for he lost all his money, but the girls coaxing him up that he should have

ve it all again, at length lulled him asleep, and then left him to pay the reckoning, which was about When he awaked, the old bawd seemed to threaten to send him to goal for cheating her, which made poor Will look very simple; upon this, her husband began to sweeten him, and said he would lend him as much money as he had lost, if he would draw a note upon his father, which he accepted of, and soon lost it with a couple of sharpers, they introduced into his company, which Joyce's father hearing of, sent up 40*l.* to pay his debts, and 10*l.* to bring him home: But, alas, he was so taken up with his new acquaintance, that in three days more, he had not one farthing left to bless himself withal, and no farther credit, so he bid them adieu: and then walks about the town to seek his fortune, where at length he roved to the water-side, when seeing a waterman take a large trunk aboard, to carry to Fulham, he asked if he would take him in a passenger, but when they were got about Chelsea-reach, Joyce gave the waterman such a blow that he stunned him, and repeating it, knocked him down, bound him, and stopped his mouth with his handkerchief; and when rowing the boat to Barn-elms, he broke open the trunk, wherein he found 100 *pounds* in silver, 20 *guineas* in a green purse, a gold watch, and a silver box, in which was four diamond rings, besides cloaths.

With this booty he lived in all manner of extravagancies, till he had almost consumed it all; when meeting at Chatham with one Thomas Corbet, a reformado on board the Royal-oak who he understood had about 50 *guineas* about him, and that he was to ride post to London next morning, he was resolved to make himself master of his money that night, and in order thereto, he invited him to go along with him to supper to one captain Moseley's, and to drink a bowl of punch; who knowing there was such a captain,

captain, and Joyce seeming a man of fashion, he agreed to go along with him, but before they had got half way, Joyce putting a pistol to his breast, demanded his money, and then tied him neck and heels.

Not long after this Joyce meeting with one William Webster, an Attorney, on Black-heath, whom he bid stand and deliver; At which Webster begun to beg and pray that he would not rob him this vacation time; quoth Joyce, what the plague is that time? Sir, replied Webster, the worst of times in all the year; quoth Joyce, what is that to me? deliver or you are a dead man, upon which he gave him thirteen pence half-penny, which was his all, which so incensed Joyce, that he first caned him, and then broke his sword, which was worth about a shilling more.

Another time, Joyce meeting with one John Hicks on Putney-heath, he commanded him to stand and deliver; upon which a sharp engagement ensued, but there happening no damage on either side, Joyce said, for his courage, if he durst put confidence in him, he would treat him with a glass of wine at Putney; Hicks gave his word he would not, away they went, and among other discourse, Joyce asked Hicks what employment he followed? who answered, that he had formerly been a boatswain to the Neverwag; faith Joyce, I never heard of that ship; ah dear, Sir, faith Hicks, that's a wonder for she is older than any ship in the navy. Where doth she lye, faith Joyce; in Newgate-street, faith the other, I hope, Sir, you never were on board her, have you no post in any ship now? yes, said Hicks, and a very large one, which lieth at anchor in Southwark, under Capt. Darby, by direction of Sir John Bennet: Why then, faith Joyce, I suppose you are a bailiff, which I take to be a very dangerous calling: Ay, faith Hicks, dangerous enough, but not so dangerous as troublesome,

me, for sometimes I am more plagued to take a man for ten shillings, than another for an hundred pound. I was above three weeks in taking a damn'd shoe-maker for fifteen-pence, till one day breaking some earthen ware which stood without his chamber-door, the shoe-maker crying cat, whore, opened the door and was taken. Another time, I was as much plagued to take a glazier, for such another sum due on a skittle ground in the Strand, dangling after him a fortnight without success; but taking two or three loaves under my arm, one day, I went to his lodgings, and asked who that bread was for; upon which the glazier whip'd up to take it; but before he could take hold of it I took him. However let me tell you, I was once met with by one Hinton a taylor, whom I had been hunting for above six weeks in vain; and one day getting a livery, I took a gentleman's coat over my arm, pretending I brought it from Mr. ——— his customer: who not liking my voice bid me put my finger through the hole, and lift up the patch, which I had no sooner done, but he clapped his red hot goose against it, and had almost burnt my finger off, as you may see; although the surgeon had two guineas of me. Quoth Joyce, a sad dog, he came up with you; Sir, have you no more of these stories, I vow they are very diverting: Yes, saith the other, above a hundred; I'll tell you one that seems to be of more dangerous consequence, and yet I came off without any damage; a certain gentleman being above 8000 l. in debt took sanctuary in the Temple: of which money he owed 1700 l. to a mercer, who offered me 100 l. to take him: I watching one day, hired a boat with two companions in it, and taking him up in my arms, threw him over the wall into the boat and leaped after him, otherwise my body had been pricked full of eye-holes, for there were above twenty drawn swords after me. Thus they passed time away for an hour or two, and then they parted,

Joyce

Joyce paying the reckoning. But e'er he went for meeting with one William Roberts a goldsmith, living in George-yard, in Westminster, and Samuel Winfield, living in Southwark, he took from them four pounds towards his expences.

Afterwards he went to Bristol, where marrying a citizen's daughter, with whom he had 500 l. he was according to the custom of the city, made free, and pretended he was a Linnen-draper, and had 1500 l. of his own, he took a great house next to an eminent goldsmith in the high-street, which being done, he took some of his accomplices with him by night into the empty house, and forcing a hole through the party wall, cleared the goldsmith's shop of all the plate which carrying off in hampers on a couple of horses, he and two others were stopped by the watch at Laiford's gate and committed to Newgate, and being condemned for this fact, they were hanged in July, 1696. Notwithstanding great intercession was made for Joyce, who said, if he had known he should have been taken so soon, he would have cut the throat of the goldsmith, his wife, and children, that they might not have been spectators of his untimely end.

THOMAS JONES, a Highwayman.

TOM JONES was a butcher's son at Newcastle upon Tyne, in the county of Northumberland, who brought him up to the same trade, but he being naturally prone to wickedness, committed all manner of irregularities before he was twenty-two years old; and being much in debt, he was resolved to try his fortune upon the highway, and that he might make a good beginning, he robbed his father of fourscore pounds and a good horse, with which he rid cross the country with an unimaginable swiftness, fearing that every body that saw him was a constable to take him:

him: But when he got into Staffordshire, he met a stage-coach with several passengers, who making a great resistance, he was obliged to discharge several pistols, before he could make them surrender at discretion. One of which had a monkey tied upon the coach-box, which being frightened at the noise of the pistols, broke his chain, and run scampering about the fields, with such swiftness, that the owner was obliged to proceed on his journey without his companion. At night, pug seeing a country-fellow coming over a stile, he jump't upon his shoulders, and stuck there as close as birdlime; the fellow supposing it had been the Devil, run home with him on his back, terribly frightened, saying to his wife, ah my dear, you have often wished for the Devil to fetch me away, and now you see he has got me fast. The Monkey grinning all the while, his wife said, you shall not bring the Devil here, for you have been his own: Upon which he went to the parson, who said, it is certainly a Devil, but I desire no conversation with him. The countryman all in a sweat, said, that your conscience, to take tythes of your parishners. and let them go to the devil: Why truly, faith the parson, it is against my will, but since he will have you, he must, I think: so shut the door upon him. At length a countryman coming by, a little wiser than the rest, 'ticed, with a few apples, Pug from his shoulders, and for his pains had the Devil to keep for his own use.

Another time, one Mr. Storey, an attorney of Clifford's inn, having been drinking very hard at a friend's house, alighted to untruss a point, tying his horse to a tree; when Jones accidentally coming by, commanded Storey to deliver his money, who saying, truly I am brimful, therefore take care what you do, or if you stir me but a little, I shall run over: Don't tell me, faith Jones, of being full of liquor, are you full of money? for 'tis money I want: upon which he

he spewed full in his face, which set Jones a swearing and cursing, saying, you external son of a who what, have you blinded me? Then giving Store pockets a vomit, he took six pounds from him, and rode away.

Not long after, Jones meeting with one Samuel Price, a Quaker; he commanded him to stand and deliver: who being very poor, upon Jones taking him by the collar, cried at whose suit? at my own saith Jones. Friend, saith he, I do not know thee. You shall find, saith Jones, I know you: so clapping a pistol to his breast, the Quaker cried out, friend if thou carriest me to goal, I shall be ruined; therefore take these fourteen guineas, which is all I have for civility. Jones perceiving the Quaker's mistake took the money, and said, I'd have you to know I am no rogue of a bailiff, but an honest highwayman so farewell.

Jones being like to be apprehended for robbing a coach on Hounslow Heath, resolved to leave it off: but his money being spent in rioting, he soon took to it again: When meeting the Lord Wharton and his lady in a coach, he robbed them of the value of 500 pounds. But afterwards robbing and ravishing a farmer's wife in Cornwall, he was apprehended, and hanged for the same at Lancaster, the 25th of April 1702.

RICHARD BAUF, *an Irish Murderer, and Highwayman.*

DICK BAUF was born in Ireland, and his parents were travellers, much like to our pedlars, who between begging, cheating, and thieving made shift to get an hempen necklace, which eased them of their troubles, and which was given them by their son Dick because he was a party concerned in robbing a lone house

use, and murdering most of the family. But this was Dick's comfort, tho' his father and mother told him, before all the good company at the gallows, they had rather be hanged by him than any body else, because they did not doubt but he would use them kindly as he expected shortly to be used himself; which being the dying words of his parents, made him very careful to tie the ends of the ropes fast, to put an end to his father and mother. Which done, Dick proposed to go to service, but no body being willing to receive him, on account of the exaltation of his parents, he took himself to picking of pockets, and being so often anabaptized in a horse-pond he got to a gang of Satyrs, who steal all sorts of cattle that come in their way. But this not answering, he became a Cygaret, whose business is to cut off the skirt of a coat or gown at churches, or publick assemblies. Which not doing, he entered into a gang of Grumets, who either by scaling a wall, or by a rope ladder, rob houses. But one time Bauf having been upon an exploit, after he had thrown to his companions the rings out of the window, to the value of 150 l. they pulled away the rope, and left him behind them; upon which, Dick takes a cord off a bedstead, and let himself down, and then went to the place of rendezvous, telling them they were all discovered, and the people were at the door whom they robbed. They ran away helter skelter, and left the money and plate behind them; which Dick took care of for himself. Next he got into a crew of Woolcombers, whose business is to snatch cloaks, hats, or perukes, in the night. But at last being catch'd and burnt in the end at Galway, he was resolved to rob on the highway; and being well mounted, the four provinces were scarce large enough to supply him with occasions. For being like death, he spared none, young or old. One day meeting with the earl of Donnegal, between Ballshannon and Sligo, he robbed him of

150 guineas, and made him draw a bill upon a goldsmith at Dublin, for sixty pounds, to ransom his coach horses from being killed.

He was so notorious for robbing on the mount Barnsmoor, that a guard house was built, by order of the government, in the middle of it, to secure passengers from being robbed by him; and a company of soldiers sent thither every day, either from Colrain, Londonderry, or Belfast.

Upon which, Bauf shifted his quarters, and resided about Lorras, where meeting one day with general Ingoldsby, he commanded him to stand and deliver; who refusing to obey his orders, an engagement began betwixt them, wherein the general having his horse shot under him, and the groom killed, Bauf took eighty guineas, and a diamond ring, and a gold watch from him, and rid away.

By this time he was become so notorious, that a reward of 500 pounds by proclamation, was offered to take him, which encouraged several people to look out in parties for him: Which he having notice of, and meeting nine or ten of them single, he drove them into a barn, and then setting fire to it, burnt them all to ashes.

After this he fled to Donaghadee, a sea-port in the north of Ireland, where he took shipping, and landed at Port-Patrick in Scotland, where meeting with a handsome landlady, he gave occasion to her husband to be jealous, who in revenge seized him, and sent him over to Ireland again, who was brought pinioned through all the county of Dublin, and committed there to Newgate; shortly after, he was tried and condemned. When under condemnation he offered five thousand pounds to save his life, but the government were not to be bribed; die he must, and hanged he was at Dublin, on Friday the 15th of May 1702, aged 29 years, and then hanged in chains.

on the mount of Barnsmoor, in the province of Ulster.

JOHN WITHERS, *a Murderer and Highwayman.*

JACK WITHERS was born at Litchfield in Staffordshire, and served an apprenticeship to his father, who was a butcher. But when his time was out he came to London, and soon got into a gang of thieves, by whose help he at length got into Newgate, from whence he was sent into Flanders for a soldier, where going to a church at Ghent, and seeing the people cast money into a box under the Virgin Mary, it made his fingers itch to be doing; but being detected in the attempt, he was dragged before a cardinal, who called him all the sacrilegious villains in the world; at which Jack begging his eminence to hear him, told him, "That being brought up a Heretick, as he was at prayers, the Virgin Mary told him, if he would turn Catholick, and be her votary, he should never want, pointing to him to supply his necessities out of that box, which he had thankfully done." Upon which the Cardinal cried out "A Miracle, a Miracle!" and ordered Jack to be carried back to the church in solemn procession to the high altar, whilst Ave-Maries were sung by the priests.

Another time going to a church at Antwerp, he saw a priest put a crucifix of value into a sepulchre, on Ascension day; which Jack took away whilst they were making their procession; and when the priest came back, at repeating these words, "He is not here, for he is risen;" he found his graven god was gone indeed.

A little after, Jack running away from his colours, returned into England, where he took to the high-

way, and one day meeting an old usurer, he commanded him to stand and deliver, who, according to custom, pleading poverty, begged of him to take but half; at which Withers swore he would not abate him a farthing of cent. per cent. upon which, putting on his spectacles upon his nose, he lugged out his money, and gave it to him, who asking him why he could not give him his money without putting on his spectacles, he replied, I hope, Sir, you will give me the liberty of seeing to whom I give my money.

Another time, as Jack and two of his comrades had been all night a raking in the fields near Marybone, in the morning they observed a gentleman walking all alone, seemingly in all the distress imaginable, by casting up his eyes, and displaying his arms, which happened to be Vanburggen a player, getting his part; whom they taking to be in despair, watched to see what he would do with himself; which Vanburggen seeing, went into another field by a pond, whom they ran after, for fear he should drown himself: who repeating some verses out of Theodosius, or the Force of Love: Jack cried out, make haste by G— 'tis even as we thought, the poor gentleman is going to kill himself for love. Which Vanburggen hearing, said, gentlemen, you are mistaken, I am only getting my part: Saith Withers, I wish we had known that; but since you have given all this trouble, to make us amends, we shall make bold to take what money you have.

Afterwards Withers, and one William Edwards, attempted to rob a Lord near Beaconsfield in Buckinghamshire, who shooting Withers's horse under him, his companion was forced to carry him off; but being closely pursued, they were compelled to quit their horse, and made to a wood; the next morning taking about eight shillings from a penny post-man, Withers against the will of his comrade ripped his guts open with a knife, and filling his belly
full

full of stones, threw him into a pond. But they being for another robbery both apprehended, sent to Newgate, and from thence removed to Norfolk, where they were condemned; and at the place of execution at Thetford, Saturday the 16th of April 1703, Withers confessed the murder.

JOHN OVET, *Murderer and Highwayman.*

JOHN OVET was born at Nottingham, and bred up there a shoemaker, where he lived four or five years after his time was out; but being a lusty fellow, and of a bold daring resolution, he took a fancy to translate himself into a gentleman; and to maintain his dignity, to rob on the highway. And equipping himself with all things necessary for that purpose, he rid towards London, and on the road he met almost with his match, for robbing a gentleman of 20 pounds, he told him, if he had not set upon him unawares, he should never have had the money: Jack said, I have ventured my life once already; but if you think you have not had fair play, I will venture it again; so throwing down the bag of money, let it they went, but Jack had the fortune to kill his adversary on the spot.

Not long after, he killed another man in a quarrel at Leicester, but flying from justice he cheated the hangman of his due then; and still continued in his wicked courses; for one day meeting Mr. Rogers's pack horses, coming from Leominster in Herefordshire, to London, he privately drove one of them out of the road, and opening the pack, took out of it in gold and silver to the value of 300 l. which the poor carrier was forced to make good.

Another time, drinking at the Star inn in the Strand, he heard a soap-boiler consulting with a carrier to put 100 pounds in a barrel of soap, who

going out in the morning, Ovet came up with him before night, and stopping the waggon, threw out the soap-barrel in which the money was, and carried it away.

Another time, Ovet meeting with the Worcester stage coach in which were several young gentlewomen, he robbed them all; but one of them being very handsome, he fell in love with her, and promised to send her the twenty pounds he robbed her of, if she would tell him where to send to her; who telling him, Ovet sent her the following letter.

MADAM,

THESE few lines are to acquaint you, though I lately had the cruelty to rob you of 20 guineas, yet you committed a greater robbery at the same time, in robbing me of my heart; on which you may behold yourself enthron'd, and all my faculties paying their homage to your unparallel'd beauty: Be pleas'd to send your answer to Mr. Walker at the Bell at Thornbury in Gloucestershire: And give me leave to subscribe myself your most humble Servant to command for ever.

JOHN OVET.

The GENTLEWOMAN's Answer.

SIR,

YOURS I received, with as great dissatisfaction as when you robb'd me, and admire at your impudence in offering yourself to me for a husband, when I am sensible it would not be long e're you made your spouse an hempen widow: You have already broke word in not sending what you villainously took from me: But not valuing that, let me tell you, you are the only man I hate, and please myself with the hopes of quickly reading your dying speech: Who am yours never to command,

D. C.

At

At last being as unsuccessful in his villainy, as in his love, he committed a robbery in Leicestershire, where his comrade being killed in the attempt, he was closely pursued by the country, and apprehended, and sent to goal: And at the assizes at Leicester he was condemned; after which he seemed to have no remorse of conscience for killing the two men. Being brought to the gallows on Wednesday the 5th of May, he was hanged in the 32d year of his age.

Capt. EVAN EVANS, a Highwayman.

THIS criminal was an inn-keeper's son at Brecknock, in Brecknockshire, in South Wales, whose father put him a clerk to any Attorney, with whom he staid but a little time; for a great many rogues frequenting his father's house, he had learnt their way in his infancy, and soon commenced so noted a practitioner on the highway, that no grazier or traveller could pass without being his client.

The captain being once conducted by a guard towards Shrewsbury goal, seeing a Pheasant perching upon a tree, desired one of the fellows, who had a bowling piece, to lend it him, that he might shoot it, which he readily complied with; who had no sooner got it into his hands, but he swore a whole volley of oaths, that he would fire upon them if they did not disperse presently; which being done, he mounted one of their horses, and rid away.

The country being too hot for him, he then came to London, where he soon got to be clerk to Sir Edmund Andrews, governor of Guernsey, with whom he continued three or four years; but not getting money enough in that station to supply his extravagancies, he returned to London, and took a lodging in the Three-heats-tongues, in Nicholas-lane, where passing for a Guernsey merchant, took his younger

brother William Evans, as a servant, giving him livery; under the colour of which, he committed several robberies about London; one was on Esquire Harvey of Essex between Mile-end and Bow, in the day-time, whom he robbed of a diamond ring, and a considerable sum of money. Another, not far from Hampstead, on one Gambol, a writing-master, living in Exeter-street, behind Exeter-Exchange, in the Strand, who walking with his wife in the country for the air, he commanded them to deliver up who refusing, he violently took from them about forty shillings; and for their obstinacy stripped all their cloaths off, and then tying them belly to belly to a tree, rid off.

Another time, Captain Evans, and his brother, with two others, stopped a member of parliament on Bagshot-heath, with three other gentlemen in the coach, and four horsemen well mounted, besides three footmen, a coachman, and a postilion; who being jealous that they were highwaymen that were riding up to them, made ready and presented, upon which a bloody fight ensued for above a quarter of an hour, but no hurt done, only the horse on which Will. rode was shot under him: Captain Evans and his party being still desperate, they drew their swords, when Evans disarmed the parliament man, but returned him his sword again, contenting himself with what money they pleased to collect among themselves.

Not long after, Captain Evans meeting by Kilburn-warren, one Wargen, a bricklayer, who for his bulk might be deemed a Coloss, whom he commanded to stand, and upon searching his breeches, he found in them a silver watch, and 18 shillings, which converting to his own use, he rid off in quest of better prey.

As he was travelling Portsmouth road in Surry, he met a parcel of constables conducting about 30 poor fellows,

fellows, whom they had impressed for the service, into Portsmouth garrison; whom he and his brother attacking, set all the prisoners at liberty; and then binding the constables, robbed them of all their twenty shillings, and so rid off.

Another time, Captain Evans meeting on Finchley-Common with one Cornish an informer, he saluted him with the unwelcome words of stand and deliver; at which he trembled like an aspen leaf, begged and prayed, saying he was ruined for ever: what a plague, are you a Spaniard, quoth Evans, what you carry all your riches about you? no, saith Cornish, I am a poor honest man that belongs to the chamberlain of London; said Evans, d—n you and the chamberlain too, I thought you had belonged to some inn, and might have helped me in my way of business; come, deliver; but finding only five pence in his pocket, he threw it over the hedge, and caned him for making all that pother for nothing.

Sending his brother to way-lay the Chester coach, he got in company with a Scotchman, whom the next morning they robbed of seven guineas, and a watch, but at Will's intercession, they returned him all again; yet this Scotchman hanged them both, at the assizes at Hertford, 1708, the Captain aged 22 years, and Will. 19.

WILLIAM HOLLOWAY, a Highwayman and Murderer.

HE was born at Newcastle-under-line in Staffordshire, and was brought up to husbandry, which being too laborious for his idle inclinations, he came to London; where falling into company like himself, no villainy was too difficult for him to undertake. He went once to a nobleman's house in Pall-Mall, with an apron before him like a scourer, and going

going into one of the offices where the footmen were used to hang their livery coats, which had plate buttons; he huddled up as many as he could carry, but going out at the gate, the porter stopt him, and enquired where he was going with these coats, he said, to scour them. Stay, saith the porter, and take mine: So he laid down his pack, and unbundled it, saying, it would make his load very heavy; however he made shift to carry them all off.

Another time, he goes to the countess of Arlington's at Somerset-house, and took a rich coverlet off the table in the parlour; but coming away with it the Countess coming home, met him with it at the door, and asked him what he had got there? he answered, a rich coverlet for a table; she bid him open it, which he did; but she saying it was old fashioned, and she had one like it already, he walked off with it very contentedly.

Another time, there being a great stop of coaches in Fleet-street, Holloway stept up to a gentleman in a coach, and pretending to have earnest business with him, while they were talking, one of his companions stole one of the seats, and the gentleman turning about, Holloway snatched away the other; which so surprized the gentleman, seeing his two seats gone, he calls to the coachman, saying, "Hast thou got the horses there?" quoth Tom, "Yes Sir." "Art thou sure of it?" saith the master, "Why, yes," saith the coachman; "For I've got the reins in my hand." "Then keep them," saith the gentleman, "For I've lost both the seats; and if thou dost not take care, thou'll lose my horses too."

Not long after, Holloway met Mr. Emes of Hemlock-court, in a calash between Turnham Green and Hamersmith, and observing that both the master and the man had been drinking very hard, and were a-
sleep,

sleep, he stopt the horse, and rifled Mr. Emes's pocket of a watch and two guineas: but still finding them in a deep sleep, he tied the coachman's legs together, and then pulled the pin out of the axle tree of the calash, and set the horse a going; when presently the booby-hutch tumbled down: which awakened Mr. Emes in a great consternation, whilst Holloway lay snug on the other side of the hedge a laughing, the reins being cut, and the horse running on, it had like to have broke their necks.

By this time Holloway being become a professed villain, he was resolved to leave pilfering, and turn highwayman, and getting accoutred for this purpose, the first action he went upon, was betwixt Farington and Abingdon in Berkshire, where meeting with a farmer, he asked him the time of the day, who told him about twelve: Why then, quoth he, it is high time to ask you one favour, that is, to lend me the tool you received just now at the Inn; which if you will not do by fair, you must by foul means. The farmer refusing, Holloway shot his horse under him, which made the farmer lend him his money without any note.

Another time, Holloway meeting with a gentleman, who had just got clear of a parcel of rogues, he told him there were rogues upon the road: saith Holloway, I have but three guineas, which I'll put in my mouth. And, saith the other, I've put mine in the rolls of my stockings. Which Holloway soon after made shift to borrow of him, and so rid off.

But at length his Devil failing him, he was committed to Newgate for a robbery on Hounslow Heath and condemned. But a pardon coming out, he had not patience to stay to plead it, but broke out of Newgate, when coming in bravado a year after, at the time of sitting, to the sessions house in the Old Bailey, some of the turnkeys offered to seize him, upon which he killed Richard Spurling, in the face of the

court, for which he was secured, with one Mrs. Housden, as an accessory, and both condemned and hanged before Newgate, in Sept. 1712, and afterwards hanged in chains at Holloway, in the road to Highgate.

EDWARD WICKS, *a Highwayman.*

HIS father kept an inn at Coventry, and when his son grew up, got him to be an exciseman: But that profession being too honest for him, he was resolved to turn highwayman, where he was very successful once or twice; but the third time had like to have paid for all, when he was sent to the Marshalsea, for a robbery committed near Croydon in Surry. But his friends (this being the first time) giving his adversary 60 guineas for 30 shillings he took from him, the matter was made up. After which, he kept company with one Joe Johnson, alias Sanders, with whom he set upon a stage-coach between Hounslow and Colebrook in which were four gentlemen, who suspecting them to be highwaymen, shot Joe, and lodged seven or eight bullets in his body, and afterwards took him, and sent him to Newgate, where he was charged by Mr. Woolly, for robbing him on the highway, and afterwards hanged at Tyburn, on Wednesday the 7th of Feb. 1712-13. Aged 22 years. But Wicks escaped.

A little after, he put into a bye house, kept by a poor old woman, who was a crying, and very sorrowful, for fear of her landlord's seizing her goods, whom he bid be contented, and he would make things easy; who understanding the landlord was a coming, changed his habit, and accosted him after this manner, "Sir, I understand my sister is behind with you for rent, I beg your forbearance a little, till she can pay you." The landlord replied, "That if
" he

“ he was not paid now, he would stay no longer, but turn her out of doors.” Upon which Ned said, “ Come let’s see a receipt, and I’ll pay it:” Which he accordingly did, and then the landlord went about his business, and Ned after him in another dress. When coming to a convenient place, he presented him with a whole volley of oaths, bidding him stand and deliver; which so affrighted the old man, that he gave him all the money he had received, and as much more. Which done, Wicks returned back to the old woman, where a little after, the landlord came after him, complaining of his hard fate in losing his money; at which Wicks having got on his disguise, said, I told you, Sir, there was great robbing abroad, but you would not take my advice. Which words afforded the old man but little comfort.

A little after, Ned going along Drury-lane, one madam Toly, a noted jilt made a sham stumble by him, at which, he catching her by the arm to keep her from falling; she returned him a thousand thanks for his civility, and invited him to her lodgings: who feigned himself dumb, but by signs seemed to accept of it, where he was no sooner got, but making a sign for pen, ink and paper, he gave the maid a guinea to buy a fowl for supper, and a couple of bottles of wine; and in the mean time desired in writing, to know of madam what was the price of a night’s lodging, who signified to him 2 guineas, which he gave her, and after supper they went lovingly to bed together. But in the middle of the night, Wicks clapt a pistol to her breast, and swore a whole volley of oaths, saying, if she did not return his two guineas, she was a dead woman. She being surprized to hear her cully use his tongue, and at the same time durst not use her own; after robbing her of what she had, and gagging, and tying her neck and wheels, he left her in a deep study how to get more.

Another

Another time, meeting with the late lord Mohun between Windfor and Colebrook, he commanded him to deliver his money; the lord told him, he must fight for it. Ay, saith Wicks, with all my heart, tho' you murdered Mumford, and captain Coot, yet I am not to be frightened with that. But his lordship thinking better in his anger, gave him his money and a thousand curses with it.

Afterwards meeting with an exciseman on Finchley Common he poured out a volley of oaths, bidding him deliver, saith the exciseman, if there is a devil certainly thou art one. It may be so, saith Wicks, but I find an exciseman is not so good a bait as people say to catch him. No replied the other, the hangman is the only bait to catch such devils as you.

Not long after, he was committed to Newgate, and afterwards sent down to Warwick for a robbery committed in that county, and there hanged on Saturday the 29th of August 1713, aged 29 years, not taking warning by his comrade Avery a Bricklayer, who was hanged at Tyburn, the 31st of Jan. 1712, before him.

WILLIAM GETTINGS, a Highway-
man.

HE was the son of a grazier at Walhope in Herefordshire, who, when he was 16 years of age, came up to London, where he behaved himself very honestly in several services, five or six years, till getting into ill company, they brought him at length to a shameful death. At his first setting out, he went by the name of Smith, and followed House-breaking, Shop-lifting, and the Smoble. One evening going into the house of a doctor of physick in Well Close, he took down a rich bed; but in bringing it down stairs, he was discovered by tumbling down with it;
upon

upon which, the doctor and his son running to see what noise it was; he asked the doctor if his name was not so and so. What then, saith the doctor? why then, saith he, Mr. Hugh Hen and Penhenribus ordered me to bring these goods hither, which have almost broke my back. Mr. Hugh Hen and Penhenribus, quoth the doctor, pray who's he? I know no such a person. I can't help that, saith Gettings, but the gentleman ordered me to leave them here. I don't care for that, saith the doctor, I'll not take in peoples goods, unless I knew them. Pray saith Gettings, let me leave them here, for I am quite weary. No, saith the doctor, take them away, or I'll throw them out of my house. Quoth Gettings, I am sure the gentleman will be very angry. I dont care, replied the doctor, for his anger, nor yours neither. Very well, quoth Gettings, I beg of you then, and your son, to help me up with them on my back again. Ah, with all my heart, replied the doctor. Which done he went away with them, and immediately after, the doctor's wife came home from market, and going into the room, missed the bed, who running to her husband, asked him why he had taken down the bed: He said, sure wife, you have been spending the market penny, or else you would never rave after the manner you do. I am sure the bed is taken out of the room up one pair of stairs, and pray husband, what have you done with it? I suppose you have given it to some of your whores. At which he running up stairs, found his bed gone indeed; but durst not tell his wife, that he had a hand in helping it away.

Notwithstanding this success, Gettings was resolved to try his fortune on the highway; who one day meeting with William Fuller; the Coney-wood-cutter, that pretended to discover the pretender's father and mother, between Lewisham and Bromley in Kent, he commanded him to stand and deliver, who having but two-pence half-penny, said, "The world

“ was

“ was come to a fine pass, that one rogue (like the
 “ fish in the sea) must prey upon another.” After this
 he committed several robberies about Chelsea, Houn-
 slow heath, Reading, and Putney, with better success.
 And seeing one day, Sir James Bateman in his garden
 at Tooting walking, he told the gardener at the back-
 door, he had a curiosity to see the gardens, who let-
 ting him in, he gave the gardner his horse to hold,
 and walking up to Sir James at the other end of the
 garden, he begged the knight's pardon for his pre-
 sumption, who told him he was very welcome, and
 then took him into the wilderness, to shew it him;
 where he clapt a pistol to his breast, and said, your
 worship has got a very fine diamond ring on your
 finger, which I must have, and also your watch;
 and then stripping him of his money, he tied him,
 and afterwards went to the gardener, and giving him
 a shilling, he took his horse, and said his master
 wanted to speak with him in the grove.

He went once purposely from London into the
 country, to rob a friend's and relation's house; which
 he easily did, being acquainted with all the parts of
 the house. But at last, robbing esquire Harrisson and
 his lady of a purse of gold, and some silver, as they
 were riding in a calash towards Fulham, he was ta-
 ken by the lord Bolingbrook, after he had killed one
 of his servants, and committed to Newgate, and at
 the sessions was condemned for this fact, and hanged
 at Tyburn the 25th day of September, 1613, in the
 22d year of his age: and with him were hanged at
 the same time, George Hollinsby, Thomas Turner,
 John Joyner, Sarah Clifford Alias Atkins, Jane White
 alias Wells alias Dyer, and John Heath alias James
 How, who was a notorious rogue and blasphemer.

THOMAS GRAY, a *Highwayman*.

HE was one of Jack Adams's parish, and as great a rogue as the other was a fool, being from a child addicted to pilfering; his father put him apprentice to a taylor, but before his time was out, he frequented Beveridge's masquerading school in Short's Gardens, where he got acquainted with such a pack of rogues, that rake hell, and scum the devil, ye cannot meet with their fellows. And being in love with one Pat King a noted strumpet, he feared nothing to support her in her pride. At length becoming so ominously audacious that every fact he committed he ventured neck or nothing. Once robbing a poor cots pedlar of his pack, he was for it committed to Gloucester goal, which in a week's time he set on fire, and run away by the light.

Afterwards he committed several robberies in company with one Edmund Eames, and William Biggs. But at last being apprehended for robbing Mrs. Baxter near Hampstead, of three shillings, he was committed to Newgate; where, after sentence of death was passed on him, he told the ordinary, because he would not give him the sacrament, he would kill him if he durst come to pray with him in the cart at Tyburn, where he was hanged the 16th of March, 1713, Aged 30 years; as also Edmund Eames, who was born at Dunstable in Bedfordshire, who was hanged on his birth-day, being 32 years old.

EDWARD BONNET, a *Highwayman*.

ED BONNET was born in the isle of Ely, and at fifteen put an apprentice to a grocer at Potten Bedfordshire, whom he faithfully served, and afterwards

terwards married, and got money apace, but lighting into a gang of highwaymen, he took their courses, so that he committed above three hundred robberies in Cambridgeshire.

One time meeting a young Cantabrigian, who had more money than wit, with a doxy in a calash, belonging to bawdy Barnwell, he took six pounds from him; and because he put him to some trouble in doing of it, he made them both strip stark naked; and then tying them together, he drove them into Cambridge, for which the young student was expelled the university, and the strumpet sent to the house of correction.

Afterwards, he met with a taylor and his son who had formely arrested him for five pounds he owed them: and being resolved to be revenged on them he commanded them to deliver, robbing them of thirty pounds.

After this Bonnet meeting betwixt Cambridge and Ely, with Mr. Piggot, an Anabaptist preacher in Little Wild street, he commanded him to stand and deliver; who dropt a great many devout sayings, to divert him from his intended purpose: Zounds, faith Ned, pray Sir, keep your breath to cool your porridge; so taking from him a watch, with eight or nine guineas, he mounted him with his face towards the horse's tail, and tied his legs under the belly, and so left him to read a lecture upon Job.

Another time, he and his associates, meeting with a nobleman and his retinue, ordered them to stand and deliver; who smiling, said, it was beneath a gentleman to offer any such thing: but Ned swore it was not; and so they went to it in good earnest: But the nobleman being overpowered in number, was obliged to deliver a purse full of gold, a gold snuff box, a gold watch, and a diamond ring: After which, he took them into a by-place, and tied them all neck and heels together, saying he would presently bring them company,

any, in which he was as good as his word : for in an hour's time, he made the nobleman, and his four servants, just a dozen : To whom he said, there are now 12 of you, all good men and true, who may give in your verdict as you please, when we are gone, for we cannot stay to challenge any of you.

Afterwards going to a bye-place to make merry between Stanford and Grantham, one Mr. Randal a cawterer in the Strand, was obliged to put in there, on account of the rain, who finding the landlord to be his name-fake, asked him to drink with him, to whom came Ned with a trull in his company, and sat down with them, claiming acquaintance with Mr. Randal, who begged his pardon, saying, he did not know him : Lord Sir, said he, am I so mightily altered ? pray, Sir, do me the favour to sup with us to night, and I doubt not but to rub up your memory ? which Randal was obliged to comply with, not knowing well how to get off : for which, they afterwards put the reckoning upon him, which he paid for quietness sake, being glad of an opportunity to go to bed ; where he had not been long, before they broke open the door, and gagged and bound him, and then took away his cloaths, with 40 guineas in his breeches.

Another time, a gentleman in Cambridgeshire who had just like to have been robbed before, overtook and sung of a psalm, who thereon taking him to be an honest man, desired his company : but Ned robbed him for all that, and left him nothing but the time to divert him.

At length, Zachary Clare, a baker's son at Hackney, being apprehended, and committed to Cambridge Jail : who to save his own bacon, impeached Ned Bennett, who being taken up in Old-street, was sent to Newgate, and from thence removed to Cambridge, where he was executed on Saturday the 28th of March, 1713.

THOMAS DORBEL, *Murderer, Ravisher, and Highwayman.*

HE was born at Shaftsbury in Dorsetshire, and put apprentice to a glover at Blandford, but running away from his master, before he had served half his time, he came up to London; and went upon the highway at the age of seventeen, though in the first attempt he had like to have been nipt in the bud for meeting with a Welchman, and demanding his money, he said, hur has no money of hur own, but has threescore pounds of hur master's which hur can't part with: Quoth Tom, you shall not cant me of this, money I want, and money I will have: hereupon the Welchman gave him the money, saying what will hur give hur none of hur own, pray shoot hur through the coat, that hur master may see hur was robbed; which Tom doing, cuts splatter a nail, saith Taffy, this is a pretty pounce; pray give hur another pounce for hur money; which he did, by St. Davy, saith the Welchman this is a better pounce than the other; pray give hur another: Quoth Tom, I have no more; then, saith Taffy, hur has one pounce left for hur; and if hur will not give hur money, hur will pounce hur through the body.

After this Tom was pretty successful in his villany for about five years. Once he undertook, for 500 l. to save a gentleman that was condemned; hereupon, when just as the judge was about to pass sentence, he cried out to the bench, that he committed that robbery: upon which the gentleman was cleared; and when they came to try him, the evidence not presuming to swear against him, they having sworn so positive against the other, he was acquitted also.

Afterwards, Tom attacked in Salisbury Plain the duke of Norfolk, who taking him, carried him to
Salisbury

Salisbury goal, where he was condemned; but for money got a reprieve, and at length his liberty; after this, he went to serve a lady in Ormond-street, who having a niece coming out of the country, sent Tom to meet her, whom he first robbed of her gold watch, diamond ring, and jewels, and then tied her neck and heels, and debauched her; which being discovered, he was took upon pursuit the Wednesday following, at Hammermith, just after he had robbed a gentleman of three guineas, and committed to Newgate: From whence he was carried to Bristol, where he received sentence of death, for this horrid crime: The young lady dying a little after, for which he shewed no remorse of conscience, yet he was hanged on Saturday the 23d of March, 1714, in the 45th year of his age: He died very impenitently: After he was executed on St. Michael's Hill, he was cut down, and hanged in chains, in the road without Lifford's Gate.

JAMES BUTLER, a Murderer and Highwayman.

JAMES BUTLER was born at Kilkenny in Ireland, who first listed himself in my lord Galway's regiment, and then deserted to the Spaniards: But not liking a soldier's life long, he also gave the Spaniards the go by; travelling into Andalusia, where he set up for a mountebank, easing every body of troublesome wives, if they brought them to him: And so far exceeding our famous doctor Thornhill, that he offered to be his Merry Andrew if he would teach him his Irish assurance; but being soon discovered, he went to Venice, where he set up for a conjurer; which not answering, he joined with a company of banditti, where meeting with a fat lusty frier mendicant, they robbed him of 20,000 l. which he was going to carry

carry to Modena, for the late king James's Queen. But not having his proportion of the booty, he let them, and went to Florence; where going to see a man executed, he singled out a young gentleman with whom having some confabulation, he said "Thou man was a fool to suffer himself to be taken." At which words, the gentleman finding him to be a man of resolution, carried him to a tavern, and offered him 500 pieces of gold, to murder an uncle of his, that he might enjoy the estate, whereupon Butler goes to one of the banditti, and agreed with him concerning the manner of the murder; who going with him at 11 o'clock at night to the old man's house, they murdered him. Which done, they received the money, and then murdered the young man, for fear he should discover him, and for the same reason, he killed the banditti afterwards.

Having thus committed three murders, he flies to Paris, and got into Cartouche's gang, where having notice of a young gentleman of Champagne, who came to Paris on purpose for his studies, he accosted him, pretending to be a scholar also, and then taking him to the college of Navarre, in the walks he robbed him. But beginning to be too notorious in France, he went into Holland, where near Rotterdam, overtaking a genteel young woman, he begun to make love to her; but she seeming a little coy at first, upon his further application, agreed to pass for his wife, and lie with him that night, upon promise not to meddle with her without her consent: which he swore he would not. So not being able to reach the Hague, they lay at an inn upon the road, where after supper, the lady retired with her landlady into the bed-chamber, and left her pretended husband to keep company with the host, who drank pretty merrily together, the one for joy of his expected pleasures, and the other for sake of his own interest: and afterwards going to bed, he found his mistress, accord-

According to his own heart's desire, with whom he spent most part of the night in carouses and sweet embraces, till at last, being fatigued with the abundance of her love, and a little overwhelmed with wine, he fell asleep; when his supposed wife got up, and calling for her husband's portmanteau, under pretence of taking some linen out of it, she took out of it about 300 pieces of gold, and then ordering the hostler to saddle her husband's horse to pay a visit, she rid away. When Butler awaked he called up his landlord, who told him, his lady was a very early woman, for she was rid out three or four hours ago. And then looking into his portmanteau, he found he was out-tricked, but could not much blame himself, because he had lived by tricking. The biter being thus bit, he sold his lady's horse, and paid his reckoning, and with the remainder of his money, made the best of his way to England, where poverty creeping upon him apace, he had the impudence, with two others, to stop a coach at Kings-gate in Gray's-inn-lane; but a vigorous resistance being made, they fled off as fast they could. However. Butler was taken, and committed to Newgate, but it being only an assault, he was fined 100 l, for which he lay in prison a year, in which time he had a child by one Meverly, a debtor; But at length procuring his liberty, he fell to his old courses on the highway, in company with one Nodes, an Upholsterer's son by Fleet-ditch: who being both taken at Holloway, were committed to Newgate, and hanged at Tyburn in the year 1716: Butler in the 28th year of his age, and the other in his 26th, and Butler was buried in St. Andrew's church-yard, at the charge of lewd women, who also kept him in prison.

NICHOLAS HORNER, *a Highwayman.*

HORNER was a younger son to the parson of Hinton in Devonshire, who put him a clerk to an attorney in Lyon's-inn, whom he left before he had served three years and went on the highway: but being taken in the first fact, was, by the intercession of very good friends, permitted to be transported for seven years; which time being expired, he returned to England, and received 500*l.* that was left him by his father; which he soon spent in gaming and debauchery, and then went to the highway again, where meeting with an old man that had a scolding young wife, advised him to take the bull's pizzle and anoint her back well with it, and it would certainly prevent her clipper-clapper talking so fast; for which advice the old man was very thankful; but that would not do, for Horner demanded a fee, and a very large one too, for he took 100*l.* bag from him; which made the old man swear, that his wife should pay dearly for the receipt of the bull's pizzle.

Another time, he met a gentleman on Hounslow-heath, from whom he took six guineas; who told him he loved money very well, to venture his neck for it. Quoth Horner, I follow the way of the world, who love money more than honesty. And next day, he met a young couple in Maidenhead-thicket, a going to be married; whom he robbed of 20 guineas, and which was worse, of the gold ring; which the young woman bidding them take one anothers word, for marriage was an apprenticeship during life.

Not long after, attempting to rob a couple of gentlemen in Devonshire, he was taken, and committed to Southgate in Exeter, and was hanged on Friday the 3d of April, 1619, aged 32 years.

WILLIAM

VILLIAM THROGMORTON, *a Highwayman.*

HE was the son of an oilman in Covent-garden, who dying, left him in his business; but he frequenting the gaming table more than his shop, in a year and a half run out all that he had. At last, he enlisted himself into colonel Colt's regiment; out of which, he was drawn for the West-Indies, and put on board a ship at Plymouth, where my lord Cuts was going to review the men, as he was going out of the ship, he took hold of the lappet of my lord's coat, and swore he should not go till he was paid his arrears; for which he was tried by a court martial; but the whole ship's crew standing by him, he was pardoned; and then the officers going ashore to take leave of his lordship, he being set centry at the captain's cabin door, robbed it of about 800 guineas, and by the favour of a dark night, swam to the shore with it. Which being soon spent in whoring and gaming, he took a lodging at one Mrs. Packer's, who kept a cook's shop in Dolphin-Lane in Bristol; with whom he run above 50 l. in debt, and to make her friends he robbed her, and then went further a field to seek his fortune. And just after, meeting alderman Thurston, he robbed him of 25 guineas, and taking his horse, he rid away.

Having committed abundance of robberies in the country, he came up to London; to screen himself from justice; where going in a chair to St. James's he went among the quality to a ball, one night and pocketed many of their pockets, and got away unsuspected.

After this, buying him a good horse, he met with a person of quality, within a mile of Blandford in Dorsetshire; who making great resistance, shot his
F horse

horse under him, and wounded him in the thigh so that not being able to make his escape, he was apprehended, and carried before a magistrate, who committed him to Dorchester goal, where lying till the Lent Assizes, he was tried and condemned, and on Saturday the 18th of April, 1719, was hanged at Dorchester, aged 52 years.

The Life of BENJAMIN CHILD, who was executed for robbing the Bristol Mails.

AS the world increaseth in iniquity, so it doth in invention, which more fully appears in the life and actions of Benjamin Child; who, altho' he had good and honest parents, and was educated in the self denying principles of the Dissenters, yet, at his first setting out in the world, could not forbear distraction. (I wish he may be the last of that sect that is guilty of it.) His parents lived very comfortably in the world; and although they had not much money to give him, yet they gave him a liberal education, which recommended him with the interest of some of their teachers, to a clerk's place in an office where he had not been long, before this broken hearted covenanter appeared bare faced, and begun to insinuate lies and scandals against his superiors; which he not being able to make good, was soon ordered to be dismissed by the lords of the treasury. This put him to his shifts, (because none of his acquaintance, or even own relations would look upon him) to find out ways how he might advance himself in some other parts, having lost himself irreparably in London: But having neither money nor friends to equip him for an expedition, he thought it better to have a good horse under him, let the consequence be what it will; and so hired one at White-Chapel, which

which he sold again at Hampstead for eight pounds, and then made the best of his way towards the west, with the money in his pocket; where he had not been long, before, by his genteel carriage, and handsome way of address, he obtained the friendship of an old clergyman, who took him in as a writing master in his school, for which he allowed him 40 l. per annum; where he had not well got footing, before he got his patron's two daughters with child; and would have got his school from him too, by his old fanatical way of defamations and scandals, had not some of his acquaintance accidentally come to town, and blown up his quarters, which soon proved too hot to hold him; after the story of selling the horse, and informing against a commissioner, were known: This again compelled him to try his fortune once more for London, where, as soon as he arrived, he equipt himself handsomely near the hundreds of Drury, and at night made no small figure at Howell's, and the pharaoh tables thereabouts, having brought near 100 l. with him to town, which he had housed the poor girls of, he had debauched in the country: But getting acquainted with the two celebrated mock counts Conyers and Viana, who were well known to be active, and quick of dispatch, they soon eased him of his ready money, which they imagined lay too heavy upon his hands. Now as physicians, are said never to be in a condition to get their head, before they have lost their teeth to eat with; gamesters, for the generality, before they come to be well versed in the art and mystery of cheating, are first cheated of all they have themselves.

From hence it was that he took to those courses which brought him to his shameful end; for there is not a gaming house about town, wherein companies are not to be picked up, that will draw young men into all manner of extravagancies and debaucheries.

At one of those gaming tables it was, that he first became acquainted with those two notorious highwaymen Spicket and Lincey; the first executed some time since, and the last by becoming an evidence transported for robbing a waggon at the end of Godwell-street, of 200 l. besides goods and bills; which they easily have discounted at gaming tables.

Being now initiated in the art (as they call it) surveying his majesty's roads, he made daily such improvements therein, by robbing sometimes with his companions, and at other times by himself, that he kept three geldings at a livery stable in Finsbury, and as many mistresses in and about the hundreds, to ease the fatigue of the day, spent either in laying wagers at horse races, or robbing on the highways.

Thus from being kept by others, he came to be keeper himself, which put him to many shifts and tricks, besides excursions on the highway; and a little enough, having three lewd extravagant women to maintain, and a servant in a livery, and many changes of cloaths, with which he appeared more like a lord than a highwayman.

Once our fortunate adventurer had a high run of dice, by stripping a young man of quality of 300 l. in specie, which made him yet sparkle more and more in the eyes of both sexes, especially in a lady of quality's, who presented him with 1000 l. out of what had been advanced to her for private service, by the late directors: But fortune doth not long continue her smiles; for in the midst of all his gaiety, he was forced to disappear, upon the news of Lincey's and Spicket's being seized for robberies; in two of which he had been concerned with them: however he found a way to stop Lincey's mouth, who was become an evidence, by sending him 100 l. by his man Wade to maintain him in prison, and promising when he came out, 100 l. more, which he punctually paid; by which for this time, he saved his life, though

Lincey

incey made an ample confession of all others, even Burroughs, his bosom friend, then mad in Bedlam. However, this narrow escape, made him resolve to leave off the road, now he had got 5000 l. Which he did for seven or eight months, till he had lost it all in the South Sea, which put him again upon his old practices; not but that he acted with more caution, for he would have now no partner, but his servant Wade, whom he thought (as it after proved) he might put his life into his hands; by the advice of a change-broker, who had been an old successful practitioner that way himself, they resolved upon robbing the Bristol mails only, which Child was to do alone, and Wade to put off the bills; both of which were done so successfully in two enterprizes, upon the heels of one another, that they might have been happy, if they had known when they had enough: But fate had decreed otherwise; for while Child was living at Salisbury, under the name of esquire Petre, in all the splendor and gaiety of the world, Wade, upon the discovery of a letter, confessed the whole affair to the master of the post-office, London, who writ down immediately to the postmaster of Salisbury where Child lodged, and secured him without any, or little resistance; upon which he was committed to Salisbury prison, where his behaviour was such, as not only recommended him to the prayers of all the prisoners, (unto whom he was very liberal, several debtors being discharged by him) but the good wishes of all persons, even some of the best fashion, who came to see him.

The gentleman who was sent by a *habeas corpus*, and a guard, to bring him to London, was so taken with his engaging demeanor, as to cause his irons to be taken off, during his whole journey; and upon his examination at the post-office, he was treated with the same tenderness; though it was resolved to execute him, to deter others from the like evil practices.

In short, the very keepers of Newgate, were softened into compassion, till he offered to escape from thence in womens cloaths. And at length, when nothing could be found against him in Middlesex, that was capital, after two sessions, he was carried down to the assizes at Alisbury, where, by the evidence of his man Wade, and the post-boy, he was found guilty of robbing the Bristol mail, between Slough and Colebrook, for which fact, he received sentence of death from the lord chief justice Prat, and afterwards, to be hanged in chains. And accordingly, on Thursday the 8th of March, he was guarded from Alisbury to Slough, in which passage he was very liberal to all poor objects of charity; and at night; enquiring of the minister, if there were any poor in the town, he left 20l. for their relief. The next day, he was brought in a coach with the ordinary and minister of the town, to the place of execution, where after very fervently recommending his soul to almighty God, and begging the prayers of all spectators, he delivered a paper of what he had to say, to a friend to publish it, if he thought proper: Afterwards, the executioner pulled his cap over his face, and then turned him off the ladder.

A True Copy of the Paper delivered.

IT being customary for men, under my unhappy circumstances, to declare what religion they die of, whether they suffer wrongfully or justly, at the place of execution; I am to assure the world, in the first place, that though the prejudice of education has misled me, for the greatest part of the time I have been at man's estate, against the principles of the church of England, yet I die in that communion; being perfectly persuaded by the divines, who have taken great pains with me for that end, that the doctrines

prines which are taught by that church, are pure, holy, and entirely conducive to eternal salvation.

I think myself likewise obliged in conscience, in this my last hour, to declare, not only my guiltiness, as to the crime I am now brought hither to suffer for, but for many others of the same ill tendency, and I heartily ask pardon of all that have been injured by any means, either by open assaults upon the road, or collusory practices in private, to defraud and cheat them: And particularly of a gentlewoman of this county, whom I drew aside, and borrowed a large sum of money under pretence of marriage. And as in my own person, forgive all the people whatsoever, without distinction or reserve, even my prosecutors, among whom my thanks are due to Capt. B— for undeserved favours, and hold myself bound to pray for him, whose evidence has taken away my life, and that Mr. Wade may repent, and not associate himself, for the time to come, with such as may take away him after the same manner.

To conclude, I am thankful both to judge and jury, for the righteousness of his judgment, and their verdicts: And though, I could have wished, that the sentence, which is now going to be performed, might have been mitigated so far, as to have permitted me christian burial, according to the rites of that church: yet it may deter others from going into the same wicked courses, and bring them to a true sense of their duty to God and man, To him, to whom all honour and glory, for making me the vilest of his whole creation, an instrument of so great good.

And now, having made this my last declaration, I commend my soul into the hands of a gracious Redeemer, who, by his sufferings upon earth, has made satisfaction for the sins of the whole world: In full confidence, that through his wounds, mine shall be healed, and that though the fowls of the air

shall destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God.

Benjamin Child.

*A true account of the several Robberies committed by
JOHN HAWKINS, and GEORGE SYMPSON, lately
executed for robbing the Bristol Mails.*

THE next who made any figure in the road, was one John Hawkins, who had been an old collector upon the king's highway, though a young rogue, for he was not 30 years of age, and had been off and on concerned with several gangs, and yet had the good fortune never to be informed against, nor taken, although an additional reward was offered by proclamation of 100*l.* for taking any highwayman that should commit any robbery within five miles of London, on account of the many robberies committed by him and Wilson, in the streets and roads leading thereunto. He was born at Staines in Middlesex, (near which he was hanged in chains for robbing the mails) of very honest but poor parentage, who were obliged, by reason of the meanness of their circumstances, and many children, to put him to service at 12 years old, not being in a capacity to keep him at school any longer than he had learnt to read and write; In which employment he behaved himself very handsomely in several places, being a person of a good presence, and pleasant conversation, which, 'tis to be feared led him to all his misfortune; for being butler in a knight's family, he behaved himself so well, being a commendable servant in his aspects that he gained the love of every body; which led him into too much acquaintance, who caused him to lose his service, after several admonitions to no purpose.

Being now out of business, he was presently reduced to very great hardships, and had very little else
to

do, than to loyter away his time at gaming tables: Here he was accustomed every night to gaze and wish, and now and then to get a bit and sup for his pains; amongst whom, learning their way of living, he at length thought himself as well qualified to set up for himself as the best of them. His first trial was upon Hounslow-heath, where he robbed the passengers in a coach, of about 11 pounds; which made him imagine it would never be day with him, and that he had as fair a chance to make his fortune at Nick IV, as the cunningest of them all: But alas! he had not as yet lost enough, to learn to get any thing for himself; for that very night, he found himself in the same condition he was in the day before, when he committed the robbery, which put him from time to time upon several other shifts and pranks, of the same nature; although what was ill got was ill spent; for the same itch of gaming still remained in him, and much about the same success: So true is the ill proverb, That what is got over the Devil's back, is spent over his shoulder: He finding many difficulties in robbing alone, at length associated himself with Ryley, Cummerford, Reeves, and Leonard, with whom he committed many robberies on Bagshot and Hounslow-heaths, but never could keep any money, the fatal itch of gaming still being upon him, by which he was oftentimes put to his shifts to bilk an ordinary for a dinner.

He had not followed this way of living above two years, before he was apprehended with Wooldridge, for endeavouring to rescue Lennard, who was then a state prisoner; but was luckily discharged upon bail, in two or three days, just after Reeves, Cummerford, and Ryley, were seized at Guildford; upon which the two former were executed, and Ryley, who became an evidence, transported, and Lennard, who was so hamper'd about the Preston rebellion, submitted to a transportation; by which Hawkins was

left to himself, once more, and for some time applied himself, by the help of his brother, to live honestly, by selling of wine and brandy; but the returns therein, not being so great or quick, as his old way of robbing, he soon engaged himself in another gang, of which one Pocock being taken up, impeached the rest.

Hawkins not daring to appear where he was known, and having no more money than grace resolved once more to try his fortune with his old comrade Wooldridge, who being shot by Colonel Floyer, with two slugs in his thigh, languished near a month under the cure, and then died, not without suspicion of being poisoned by his companion, for fear he should tattle, the surgeon having declared that day the worst was past with him, and ordered a stronger watch upon him to prevent his escape; but Wooldridge being now safe, and most of his companions hanged, Hawkins appeared more publicly, and joined with his old comrade Wright, who was come out of salivation. The first robbery they committed was upon the Earl of Burlington, in Richmond-lane, from whom they took 20l. two gold watches, and a diamond ring, value 100l.

But wanting a third man, they drew Wilson into the confederacy, who afterwards hanged Hawkins and Simson, with whom they robbed that night Sir David Dalrymple by Winstanley's water works, of about three pounds, a snuff-box, and a pocket book.

The next coach they robbed, was Mr. Hyde's of Hackney, from whom they took 10l. and a watch, and so continued for a month together, committing two or three robberies every night in town, or within five miles of it. In the time of the bubbles, they robbed one coach in Chancery-lane, another the same night in Lincoln's-inn-fields, and in going off, stumbled upon my lord Westmoreland, with three foot-
men

men behind his coach, whom they robbed, but with a great deal of difficulty.

These robberies put them into so good condition, that Hawkins and Wright were determined for Holland, and thought to leave Wilson to try his fortune at the gaming tables; but Wright going to fetch a watch out of pawn, was betrayed by one of his old acquaintance to Jonathan Wild, and secured; who being in prison with Hawkins's brother Will, they made the best of their way to Oxford, for fear of a discovery: Where Hawkins and Wilson defaced some pictures in the gallery, for which a poor taylor, because a Whig, had like to have been whipped.

In a month's time, the sessions at the Old Bailey were ended, and Will. Hawkins was discharged, Poccock hanged, and Wright reserved in prison, till Kingston assizes, whom they knew would never betray them: Then they returned to London again; and after the two brothers had been at Holland, to put off their stolen goods, they went on in their old way till Christmas, having all, by this time, got horses of their own. One night being elevated with wine, they took a ride to Hampstead, resolving to rob the first coach they met, which happened to be too hot for them to stand by; for one of the gentlemen shot three slugs in Hawkins's shoulders, which made them brush off as fast as they could.

At last, it being very bad weather, they could meet with no booty, till their horses heads were too big to come out of the stable, which made them turn foot-pads for once, but without success; for the coachman suspecting them, drove away from them, and Wilson by shooting at one of the horses, wounded himself in the hand, which made him think of retiring to his mother in Yorkshire; as he did, till Hawkins and Sympson, whom Hawkins had picked up in the mean time, came and bullied him into the gang again, swearing that his brother impeached him,

and all his companions: which was altogether false at that time, altho' it proved true in a little time after; for William Hawkins being taken by Sir Edward Lawrence's servants, whom he and Butler Fox had robbed in the Huntington coach, impeached every body he knew of, but only Wright and Fox (a poor man, whom he drew into two robberies only to save his own neck upon occasion) were taken: This is that Wright who was acquitted at Kingston assizes, and had ever after followed an honest employment, but was hanged upon Hawkins's information, for a robbery done upon Mr. Towers, two years before: And that Butler Fox, who was a porter in Milk-street, had a wife and three children, who being acquitted at the Old Bailey, of the two robberies he was guilty of, was afterwards tried and condemned at Croydon, upon the oath of William Hawkins, that they two had robbed Colonel Archibald Hamilton, which was utterly false; for it was done by his brother Jack and Sympson. All this while Jack Hawkins, Sympson and Wilson, played least in sight, and their rendezvous was mostly at London-wall, who was privy, and in some measure, a confederate with them, in all their roguery. One morning they robbed the Cirencester, Worcester, Gloucester, Oxford and Bristol stage coaches altogether; the next morning the Ipswich and Colchester; and the third morning the Portsmouth; the Bury coach was their constant customer: Their evening game was generally between Hamstead, Hackney, Bow, Richmond, and London, Sympson being a man that feared nothing.

This is the life they led till the beginning of April last, when they begun to think of putting an old design of robbing the mails in execution, which was consulted with the landlord C—— he advising them to begin with the Harwich mail, which they did not agree to, by reason of its uncertainty of coming in; and notwithstanding all that Wilson could persuade them

them to the contrary, they resolved to rob the Bristol mail the 23d of April last, which they did on the Monday morn following for which Hawkins and Sympson were hanged in chains near the place they did the fact, and Wilson being first taken, upon his confession, was admitted an evidence against them.

George Sympson was about 28 years of age, born at Putney in Surry; his father was a wine merchant, and had once a considerable estate, and though he was sometime mean, yet he was born a gentleman. His father moving from Surry into Bourne in Lincolnshire, was capable of giving him but a little education, but when he came to man's estate, he turned bailiff, and afterwards kept an inn, and was for sometime post-master of the town: But the world frowning upon him, he came to London, and served my lord Castlemains and other gentlemen, in quality of a footman: but not contented with that station, he never rested till he became acquainted with Jack Hawkins, which was about August last, when he first commenced Collector for the high roads.

He had been once before apprehended by Wild, upon suspicion, but when they were going before a justice, the coachman opening the door on Sympson's side, he kicked up his heels, and run away: The coachman, not knowing his passengers, stopt Wild for his fare, which gave an opportunity for Sympson to get off. And now as he had given himself up to a loose way of life, so he gave himself to loose inclinations, and debaucheries; which as his way of living provided him with money, so he found easily loose and vicious strumpets to spend it upon.

He had no sooner got to London, but he consulted with Hawkins and Wilson, to rob the Bristol mail; which they had not done above a week, before Wilson being apprehended at the inn by himself, where they first consulted the matter, after one or two examinations, impeached Sympson and Hawkins; upon
whose

whose information they were taken and committed to Newgate, till the next sessions, where they both received sentence of death, and were hanged in chains near Staines.

Hawkins, at first, was very much disturbed at the ill conveniences of the condemned hole, which he was put into after condemnation; but being forced to submit, he begged of the keepers to endeavour to prevent so much swearing; which was not proper for men in their condition to hear. And though at first, he seemed to accuse the severity of his judgment, yet at length he resigned himself perfectly to the will of God, and was very easy under his afflictions, saying, he would have died a thousand deaths, before he would have taken away the blood of a companion: however, he forgave Wilson, and begged of God to forgive him.

Sympson said whilst he was a sheriff's bailiff, he never oppressed any one; nor would he suffer any oaths or debauchery in his house, when he kept an inn: That he forgave all the world, even Wilson, who had broken all the vows of honour. And indeed, they both behaved themselves very handsomely, for persons under their unhappy circumstances, having other ministers beside the ordinary, to consult with. Taking their leave of friends over night, they were conveyed between nine and ten in the morning, May 22. 1722. in a cart to Tyburn; where, after begging of the spectators to pray for their souls, and take warning by their end, they delivered the following papers to a fellow prisoner with them in Newgate: And after some short ejaculations, the cart was drawn away.

HAWKINS'S LETTER.

IT has always been the charity of good Christians, to pay a great regard to the last dying words of a person;

person ; and since it has pleased the justice of Almighty God to bring me, deservedly, for my innumerable offences, to this ignominious death ; I do declare, that whatever account may be published relating to my birth, education, and life, has no authority from me, besides this that followeth.

It is with the greatest reluctance, that I am induced to make any declaration of myself ; but being apprehensive, how injurious the world generally is, to persons of my unfortunate circumstances ; and finding it absolutely necessary to discharge my conscience to the great God, before whom I am going to appear ; and from a principle of Christianity and charity, being obliged to vindicate the reputation of others who are, or may be unjustly censured upon my account ; I desire that indulgence from the world, as to accept of this relation, as the last account of me, and what is strictly true, as I am to answer it in a few moments, before the tribunal of Almighty God.

I was born in the parish of Staines, in the county of Middlesex, of honest and reputable parents, and who gave me a very liberal education. Some years ago, I removed to London, and lived comfortably ; but unfortunately engaging in the common calamity of the times, was reduced.

The publick and particular confession of my crimes, I hope, will not be expected ; for I bless the goodness of God, I have had the assistance of worthy divines ; who have afforded me spiritual comfort in this my distress ; and to God I have confessed my sins, and by him, through the merits of my Saviour, I expect to be forgiven.

But I am, in justice to my own reputation, obliged to declare solemnly, as I am soon to answer before God, at his judgment seat, that though I have been a great sinner, yet my character, bad as it is, has been injured by wicked persons, who have charged me with abominable villanies I was never guilty of ;

of; particularly the robbing of a coach, and afterwards inhumanly cutting a woman's tongue out, to prevent discovery.

I do likewise most solemnly declare, upon the words of a dying person, that Mr. Mills, the Vintner, that keeps the Dog-Tavern at Billingsgate, has been maliciously and injuriously treated upon my account, and I hereby acquit him with my last breath, from having any concern with me, or being privy to my way of life, upon my account; and that knows no more of me, than as a common guest, who frequented his house, and used me in the same civil manner as he did other customers.

I hope the goodness of the world, will not reflect upon any of my family, for my misfortunes; particularly, I entreat their charity, as they are Christians, that they would not pass any hard censures upon my brother, Capt. Matthew Hawkins, who, in humanity, came to visit me in my afflictions, and is a person of an unspotted reputation.

I forgive all persons who have injured me; and, I hope all whom I have injured, will forgive me. I pray to God to pardon the sins of Ralph Wilson, by whose evidence I now suffer death: And I heartily forgive him, and hope that my melancholy example may bring him to repentance: I have been obliged to the charity and goodness of many christian persons, who have relieved and supported me under my confinement; and I am particularly bound to remember the spiritual comforts I received from the Rev. Mr. John Hawkins; to whom, and other good Christians, who, have in any respect, assisted me, I return my sincere thanks.

Receive therefore, O God, I beseech thee, the soul of thy servant; for into thy hands I commit my spirit. Amen.

JOHN HAWKINS.

SIMSON'S LETTER.

I Always thought it more proper, for persons in my unfortunate condition, to employ their last moments upon that eternal state they were launching into, than to take up their time in set speeches, for the entertainment of those they left behind them: But I shall be very short, and only beg leave to declare, in the most solemn manner, that before this my unhappy imprisonment, I never appeared before a magistrate as a criminal. I likewise discharge Mr. Mills, the Vintner, upon the word of a dying man, of having any acquaintance with me, or knowledge of my circumstances, and if it be any satisfaction to the world, they may know that I was born in the parish of Putney, of parents who bestowed education upon me very unsuitable to this reproachful end.

GEORGE SYMPSON.

N. B. The bodies of Hawkins and Simpson, were carried to Hounslow-heath, and there hung up in irons, on a gibbet erected for that purpose.

The life and actions of that famous French Robber, LEWIS DOMINIQUE CARTOUCHE, who was breke upon the wheel at Paris, the 28th of November, 1721.

HOWever bad our countrymen may be, yet you will find, that England is not the only country that breeds up thieves and murderers; all countries have their rapperies, or fellows that live upon plunder: Nay, the Tartars seem to be one entire body of thieves and robbers. And yet among all the villains in the world, ye scarce heard of a more compleat thief than Cartouche, who had so divided his companies

panies in most parts of the kingdom, that there was no taking of him, nor finding of him, though he was in the midst of all their publick assemblies every day, and committed robberies in some parts or others as often.

He was the son of a cooper born in Paris 1693, and bred up in a college of Jesuits in that city, but his parents not being able to maintain him so handsomely as others were, he first begun at the low game (rather than stick out,) and robbed the fruit-baskets, then books, and at length robbed a young Marquis's trunk of 100 crowns; which obliged him to leave the city, and then associated himself with gypsies, who first robbed him, and then admitted him into their gang, with whom he continued, till the parliament of Rouen dispersed them, when his uncle finding him among a croud of Dutch sailors, begging their scraps; took him home, and cloathed him, and by much entreaties, at length got his father reconciled to him.

He was no sooner recovered from a fit of sickness at his father's, but he stole his cash, to spend on lewd women; but his father finding it out, he next betook himself to picking of pockets; for which his father designed to put him to the house of correction; but giving him the slip, he run home, and carried off his moveables, and all he could find of his father's, and then disguising himself with paint, took himself to his old trade of picking pockets.

On day picking a German's pocket of a watch, one of the fraternity observing him, took him in as a partner, and carried him to his lodgings, where he fell in love with the landlady's younger daughter, the other having married the elder: But in six months, his brother-in-law was apprehended, and sent to the gallies; and his wife, and sister-in-law, were soon sent to the house of correction. Upon which, Cartouche betook himself to the gaming tables, where he put the bite upon youngsters; and to put a colour

to his way of life, he joined with inferior officers, to delude young fellows into their service, till at length he was kidnapt himself by the serjeant, and carried into Flanders. But peace presently ensuing, Cartouche was reduced without a farthing of money, as well as many officers and soldiers in the army; unto whom he proposed, that they had now no ways left to live by, but by robbing; and therefore, he was for establishing a new order, which should consist of about 200 men: whereof some had been thieves, and had been sent for soldiers; others had been soldiers, and became thieves: And at a second meeting he read the orders to them, which he was desired to draw up, which enjoined death to any that should break them.

In a little time, nothing was talked of at Paris, but robberies in streets, murders, and assassinations, upon the *Pont-Neuf*. Others of the gang broke open houses, and scaled high windows with rope ladders. Another party was appointed for the church, where they picked pockets of handkerchiefs, watches, &c. with their real hands, whilst they held up counterfeit hands made of wax, with gloves on them, pretending to be saying their prayers. Beside, they had several women, whose business was to pick up young men, and carry them into private places, where some of the gang would rob them, and murder them in case of resistance, and it being in the times of paper credit, if they got but a pocket-book, they were all paid.

The highways were as unsafe as the city; they first would kill the postilion, then make the passengers come out one by one, then tie their hands behind them, and fasten them to a tree. One time Cartouche taking a companion and a servant to ride out with him; on the road, he ordered his companion to shoot the servant, lest he should betray them, after which they robbed a coach with six men in it; and then he
killed

killed his companion, and made himself master of the booty.

By this time Cartouche had gotten about four thousand Louis d'Ors: and having a desire to make as many more of them, he, with three of his companions, went with it to a banker, desiring him to give them a bill payable at Lyons, for the like sum, which being done, they counterfeited it, and sent it to Lyons and received the money; they having before desired a letter of advice be sent with all expedition, in the mean time one of them came back with the true bill, and desired the money, saying, their friend's journey was stopped: by which he became master of 8000 Louis d'Ors.

The parliament justly provoked, sent his picture to every market town in the kingdom, and promised a reward for taking them. One day an exempt of archers beset him at a house in Rue de Seine, where finding himself over-powered, he crept up a chimney, and got safe over the houses. Another time making merry with a friend, a spy told him the archers were at the door; but changing coats with his companions he passed through them without molestation. Being thus closely pursued every day, all his company desired him to withdraw for a time; which he did, after having given proper orders, and went to Bar upon Seine, where he took the name of Charles Bourguignon, pretending to be the son of an ancient gentleman in the town, who had a son gone to sea, and being not heard of a long time, was suspected to be lost: While he lived there, three of his companions were hanged in the place de Grave and two broke upon the wheel.

Cartouche being weary of an honest life, returned again to Paris, where he was received by his comrades with a great deal of joy; but being informed it had cost the government 60,000 livres to find him, he resolved

solved to change his quarters every night, which was generally with gentlemens servants.

But for all his precautions, his fatal hour drew near; for having information that a soldier, at the advice of his sweetheart had a mind to leave that way of life, and give information, he summoned all his comrades together, and ordered the suspected person's virility to be torn off, and his face to be torn, that he might not be known, and then to be thrown into the river: One Du Chatelet was the man that did the murder, who not coming home all night, and having some blood upon his cloaths, gave his landlord some jealousy, he hearing that night that a man had been thrown in the river Siene, and another murdered in the streets; and being acquainted with Monsieur Pacome, aid major of the French guards, went privately and told him; who sent for the soldier, and commanded him to discover Cartouche, or he should be broke upon the wheel in 24 hours; who, after a little pause, confessed he was to meet Cartouche at nine next morning, and if he could have a sufficient guard, he would deliver him up.

Monsieur Pacome immediately commanded a detachment of 30 soldiers, and a serjeant to go along with him; Du Chatelet carried them to a lone public house, and enquired for the four ladies, which was the watch word for the day; upon which he was admitted up, and 10 soldiers with him, who took him by a stratagem, without any resistance, for Cartouche being in bed, and the serjeant pretending Cartouche was not in the room, gave the soldiers an opportunity to seize him as he lay snug under the cloaths, thinking to conceal himself; upon which they bound him, and carried him naked, with his three companions and landlord, to Monsieur le Blanc's, who ordered him to be carried through the city, in the same condition, to prison.

Cartouche

Cartouche being taken, his comrades immediately dispersed, where he remained prisoner in the dungeon in the Grand Chatelet, with one hand tied before and another behind under a guard of six archers; notwithstanding he found means, by the help of his irons to beat a hole in the wall big enough to get through which he did, with another along with him; and after several difficulties, at length made his way into a boxmaker's shop, where lay a little dog which disturbed the whole family, and made them call the Guet; in the mean time, the master coming down with a sword in one hand, and a candle in the other, seeing the two men in his shop, let go his light, and was glad to run away in the dark: all this while the dog barked, and the maid was crying out thieves above at the window, till the Guet came, and breaking open the door took them, and carried them back to their former quarters; from whence they removed Cartouche to the Conciergerie in a coach, under a guard of 2 exempts, 8 horsemen, and 11 archers; where he was lodged in the tower of Montgomery, and fastened with an iron chain round his body to the main beam of the house: During this, several of his comrades were taken every day, but not upon his discovery; for he all this while seemed unconcerned, and his conversation was still chearful, and as yet, a pleasant freedom appeared in all he said or did, for many coming to see him out of curiosity, and a lady, among the rest, who being grieved to see him lie upon straw; he told her madam, you don't see all; and lifting up his legs, asked her, saying, what doth your ladyship think of such garters as these.

I omitted to tell you, when Cartouche was taken, there was found in his pocket, a pass-port signed by the duke of Lorraine, for one Jean Petit, a merchant's son; and being asked how he came by it, he said his name was Jean Petit, and that it belonged to him: Notwithstanding his father and mother confronted him

him, and owned him for their very son Lewis Dominique Cartouche: Persisting full in his denying himself, said they were hired to take away his life, and that he had never seen any of them before: However he was convicted of seven murders, besides assassinations upon persons assaulted, who escaped with life.

Then his courage began to fail him, finding himself convicted of several capital crimes, and having no hopes of breaking the prison, by reason of the strict guard that was kept over him day and night, which made him take poison, conveyed to him by some of his companions; but that being discovered by doctors, notwithstanding he was in a fever, by his frequent vomitings, upon the administering proper antidotes, the poison was expelled, and he cured.

During his sickness, the curate of St. Bartholomew's went to see him, to whom he seemed to listen attentively: But asking if he should send any books of devotion to read in his absence: he affirmed, that he could neither read or write: saying, he well knew, that every action of his was taken notice of, and carried up to the magistrates, for which reason, he looked upon all that came to visit him to be spies upon his actions, and therefore, he forbore drinking any quantity of wine, lest being overtaken, he should talk too freely, and to his prejudice. So thanking the priest very kindly for his good offer, he dismissed him, because not being able to read, he could make no use of his books.

After this, he passed three examinations: but still continued obstinate, and would confess nothing, notwithstanding there was sufficient proof against him. The judges at length passed sentence upon him, upon which, the parliament sent an order for his execution, dated the 26th of November, and in the 27th in the morning he was put to the question. La Magdelene and Durand were tortured at the same time, and told all they knew, but Cartouche did not disco-

ver one of his confederates, nor own any one crime further then that he had committed some robberies and killed the exempt Pepin in his own defence, but all the while railed at the treachery and perfidiousness of La Magdelene, who had been overcome by the 8th pint of water that he had drunk*.

On the 27th of November, about five in the evening, attended by his confessor, who was a doctor of the Sorbonne, Cartouche was brought to the Greve being the place of execution; where scaffolds were erected on all sides, and the windows were crowded with spectators; where Cartouche coming and seeing four wheels, and two gibbets, surrounded with soldiers of foot and horse, he said, 'twas a dismal sight. And at length, finding none of his comrades come to rescue him, as they had promised, he made an ample confession of all his accomplices, by which many were apprehended. When he had received eleven blows about his body, he was exposed upon the wheel till he died, in pursuance of his sentence, for about half an hour, till an archer, at the desire of his confessor, got under the scaffold and drew a cord that he had about his neck, which strangled him without any body perceiving.

His body was delivered to the executioner's servant, with orders to bury it immediately, but he carried it to his own house, and made show of it for a penny a piece, several days, under pretence of buying a coffin, though he sold his body afterwards to the surgeon of St. Come, for a dissection, where several pain-

** Now the manner of his torture was thus: He had a sort of ruff tied about his neck, which went above his eyes, and was so contrived to hold water. They poured water into this ruff, by a pint at a time, which he was obliged to swallow as fast as he could, to prevent being suffocated.*

ers went, and gave money for the liberty of drawing his picture.

After this, Du Chatelet was pardoned by the king, and ordered to be set at liberty: but he fearing to be killed by some of Cartouche's accomplices, begged to be continued in prison, where he should have an opportunity to repent of his former sins; and instead of a large pension that was allowed him, he desired but six-pence a day; which he said was more than he deserved.

A little after, one Balagni, alias Capuchin, alias L'Amoureux was broken on the wheel, with some others; and afterwards, one Ferrard was apprehended, and then the abbot De la Mosh, by notice of a letter which discovered him. The same day, one Durand, who was concerned with this young man, in receiving his stolen goods, was taken into custody; and a few days after, they were both hanged. The abbot was not 20 years old; and he confessed, that the company of lewd women had brought him to that shameful end.

Notwithstanding all this, the very night Cartouche was executed, his accomplices had the boldness to summon a general meeting at the gate of St. Anthony, where they proceeded to the election of a leader; and made choice of St. Etienne, formerly lieutenant general to Cartouche; who thereupon assigned every one their respective offices, and allotted every one their distinct quarters. And their number continues so great even to this day, that there is not a week passes, without the execution of nine or ten: and yet robberies and murders are as common in France as ever.

JOHN MOLHONI, a Highwayman.

JOHN MOLHONI was found guilty of assaulting William Young, Esq; on the highway, in company with James Carrick, and Daniel Carrol not yet taken; and taking from him a gold repeating watch, a crystal snuff box, a silver hilted sword, and 42 pound in money; and afterwards running away, a watchman stopt him in the passage near the duke of Newcastle's house in Lincoln's Inn-Field's: but Molhoni getting away from him, the watchman sent his dog after him, which seized him in the first quarter of the fields, and held him fast till his master and another watchman came up, and secured him in the watch house all night, where, after several examinations, he, the next day, impeached James Carrick and Daniel Carrol, his confederates and countrymen.

He was born in Ireland, and his friends obtained for him the Queen's Letter to go to sea, in which service he served for many years on the coast of Sicily, and about Messina; and next on board a privateer, in which, he had very good success in taking many pirates, by which he got a great deal of money, and afterwards he was advanced on board another ship in the Baltick; out of which being discharged, he returned into Ireland, and got acquainted with one Cahoon, a gamester, who being as poor as himself, furnished him with materials for the highway: where they, with James Carrick committed many robberies; particularly one on Mr. Dillen, of above 300 pounds, who had that night broken the bank at a pharaoh table: and another on Richard Nutley, Esq; in which robbery Cahoon was taken, and afterwards executed: Upon which, Molhoni and Carrick came to London, where bringing 50l. with them, they
set

set up for gentlemen, and frequented the play-house and drawing rooms, like persons of distinction; where Molhoni getting acquainted with a rich man's wife in the Strand, he was from time to time supplied with money, to support him in his extravagancies, for about a year, till she died: In which time he got acquainted with Smith and Butler, both since hanged, and Campbel, with whom they committed many robberies on Finchley common, and other places till Smith and Campbell quarrelling about dividing the prey, broke the knot by the death of Campbell. Then they picked up Daniel Carrol, as a man fit to make up a third person, being of a daring spirit, and fit to undertake any enterprize: with whom they robbed Matthew Jenour, Esq; on Epping Forrest, from whom they took 20 guineas, two diamond rings, and his lady's watch, afterwards they robbed the Cambridge and Huntington stage coaches, where they met with a pretty good prey, which supplied them with money enough to support their extravagancies till the Sept. following, 1719 when they robbed the Southampton, Salisbury, and Taunton Dean coaches, which raised the country upon them, and like to have taken them; which put Carrick into such a fright that he advised to leave off, till Molhoni upbraiding him with cowardise, said, sink or swim, he would go on with the lay, till he had got money enough to make a figure in his own country. So swearing upon the gospel to be true to one another, they proceeded, and, for privacy, took a lodging at Wapping, where they pretended to agree with Adrian Van^r Stocken, to carry them to Scotland, but in the mean time, seeing a Norway-master lodge a bag of 100 l. in their landlord's hands, who was a sloop-seller, they brought it off by night from the till, in which it was placed, and came and took lodgings, about Tuthill street, in Westminster.

But Jonathan Wild offering a reward of 20l. to take them for this fact, they removed to Oxford where Carrick seeing doctor Hoskins in a coffee house whom they had formerly robbed, and hearing him say, that he was going to the vice chancelior's, suspected he was known, because he asked him several questions, as, what countryman he was, and how long he had been in England, &c. which made them remove their quarters to Coventry, either to go to Ireland, or come up to London, as they should judge most proper. Where Carrol seemed positively bent upon leaving off these evil courses, and returning to Ireland; but Molhoni and Carrick over-ruled it; and so they all three came up to London, where the daily instances of the seizures of highwaymen, and the constantly hanging them, so discouraged them, that they thought of a new way of making attempts on foot in the publick streets; to do which, they made it their business to get acquainted with persons of quality's servants that attended at Whitehall, St. James's, the Smyrna d' O yudar, and other chocolate houses; and having learnt of them, where their masters generally spent the evening, and to what place they were designed, after it was so spent, they lay in wait for them; so that by this and such stratagems, they seldom passed a week without some considerable prize or other, when they were in want.

If they stopped any one in a chair, two of them usually stopped the men that carried it, and if a coach only with one servant behind it; one was ordered to each side of the coach, with an eye to the footman, and the other to stop the driver. Thus they robbed a Scotch gentleman, whom they had observed to have received a sum of money, in gold, from a banker near Hungerford market; and after that, a lady in a chair, within three or four doors of her own house, in Park Place, in her return from visiting the
countess

countess of Walsingham in St. James's palace, from whom they took a purse of 10 guineas, and a gold watch, and a diamond ring. The third was in the same month, on a coach wherein were four gentlemen, from whom they took two silver watches, and two silver fwords, and about three pounds in money. Another was on the third of March last, when they robbed a coach with a gentleman and three ladies in it, of about 20 l. value. The next they took into the secret as they call it, was an old courtier, who had been to visit a young lady in Great Albemarle street, from whom they took a diamond ring, and a gold watch, but no money, he having given that to the lady.

The sixth adventure was at Marybone in August 1721, where observing a baronet with only one servant to have a great purse of gold, they dogged him in his way home to a field near the boarded house, and took above 200 guineas from him and some silver, which they gave to his man; also a diamond ring, and a silver watch: But he advertising a bigger reward for the watch in the papers than it could be sold for, they left it as appointed, and received the reward.

The next robbery which they fully purposed should be the last they committed, was in December following; when having moved their quarters nearer to Covent Garden, to be near at hand to the gaming tables in and about the Little Piazza, Bow-Street, Charles Street, and Bridges Street, they took notice of a Frenchman of quality, who lodged at a house on the paved stones in St. Martin's Lane, and stripped most of the adventurers at hazard; whereupon they followed him about one in the morning, till he came to the corner of Bedfordbury, where stopping the chair, they made the men turn two or three yards down a bye-alley and then they robbed him of 230
 G 3 pieces

pieces of gold, his watch, ring, gold headed cane and sword, and then took to their heels, and made their escape through Rose Street, to Molhoni's lodging in Hart Street.

Thus being all of them put into a condition of living happy, till at last cards, dice and ill women, reduced them into their primitive condition, it made them consult once more how to retrieve their losses; when at a meeting at the Rose tavern the corner of Bridges Street, after having followed two gentlemen in their chairs in vain, into Tavistock Street, they agreed to meet there the night following; which they did, and then going in quest of prey, till about one in the morning, coming down Little Queen Street, they saw esquire Young, in a chair, which they caused to be stopped, and robbed him of the money and things abovementioned; in which fact, Molhoni was taken by a watchman's dog, and committed to Newgate, where he owned the robbery, and many others, impeaching his companions; but that not saving him he was hanged for it the 18th day of July, 1722, seeming very penitent according to the principles of his religion, he being a Roman Catholick.

JAMES CARRICK, *a Highwayman.*

WHEN a vicious inclination is settled in the nature of man, no education, no learning, no rules of morality, are sufficient to alter his temper, as plainly appears in the life of James Carrick an Irishman, who was apprehended and convicted afterwards, for assaulting William Young, Esq; in a chair, in Little Queen Street, between one and two in the morning, on the 1st of July 1722 in company with John Molhoni and Daniel Carrol, not then taken, and taking from him a gold watch, value fifty pounds,
a chrystal

a chryſtal ſnuff-box, and a ſword, value three pounds each, and forty pounds in money. Carrick ſtopping the chair, and clapping a piſtol to his breaſt, demanded his money, while the other cryed out, your money, Sir; no delays, do not trifle, Carrick was taken the Monday after he committed the fact, in Monmouth Street by Whiggington, and his aſſiſtant, who was a ſervant to Mr. Brounker, a ſaleman, as he was cheapening cloaths up and down the ſtreet, with ſquire Young's ſnuff box, watch, and purſe with 17 guineas and a half in it in his pocket.

He was about twenty ſeven years of age, born at Dublin in Ireland, and of very reputable parents, his father being a Jeweller by trade; by which having got enough to maintain him, and (as he thought) to ſettle his children well in the world, he left off his trade, and obtaining for the eldeſt a commiſſioner's poſt, he next bought a coronet of horſe's commiſſion for the ſecond, and then got this unhappy malefactor an enſign's poſt, which obliged him when very young to leave his native country, and go into the ſervice in Spain, where he indulged himſelf in all the extravagancies of the country, rioting in wantonneſs and debauchery; which the gaiety of his temper, and the viciousneſs of his inclinations naturally led him into. Being reduced, after the concluſion of the peace, he came to England, where his natural inclination to vice ſoon made him an extraordinary proficient in gaming, whoring, and drunkenneſs; by which, notwithstanding the aſſiſtance afforded him by certain ladies of pleaſure, he kept company with, he was very often reduced, and fell into want of money to maintain his irregularities, often ſaying, what was got over the devil's back, was ſpent under his belly: For frequenting gaming tables, thinking thereby to better his fortune, he became acquainted with one Smith his countryman, with whom he engaged to
take

take a purse on the highway; but they two being youngsters at the sport, and not succeeding according to expectation, did afterwards join with one James Butler, their countryman, and a surveyor on the highway, with whom they committed many robberies on Bagshot Heath, Finchley Common and Hounslow-Heath, &c. by which they got so much money that they appeared in their habits and accoutrements, more like dablers in politicks, and expectants of the court, than Vultures that made a prey of fellow creatures: But at length Butler being taken along with one Nodes, an upholsterer's son near Fleet ditch, in a robbery near Holloway, he endeavoured to make himself an evidence against Carrick; which not being accepted of, because Butler was a very old offender, Carrick became an evidence against him and hanged both Butler and Nodes in the year 1716, as aforesaid.

His friends hearing of his way of living, and what troubles he had brought himself into by such ill courses, entreated him in several letters to return home; and his elder brother was so kind as to promise to meet him, and conduct him safe to Dublin, where he said he would procure him a place: But he having tasted too much of the pleasures of the town, could not think of leaving a loose and debauched life, for the true felicity of a retired and solitary one; and so, notwithstanding all persuasions, continued in and about London, committing many robberies, till another of his comrades being taken, he thought it was the safest way to withdraw for a time to France; where also following the old sport, he was soon apprehended, but that being made up by an officer that knew him in Spain, who also lent him 20 pistoles to carry him to England, upon a note payable upon his brother; which he accordingly sent to him, he promised to pay it upon advice from his brother: But James, instead
of

of acknowledging his countryman's kindness in saving his life, and paying him his just debt, though not a farthing out of his own pocket, utterly foreswore his ever being in France, or that he borrowed or owed him a farthing; verifying the proverb, "That save a thief from the gallows, and he'll cut your throat."

During the time that he lay under condemnation, he surprized those that saw him, or talked with him, by the gaiety of his behaviour, and the unconcernedness of all afflictions. Notwithstanding, that all prisoners live in the condemned hole, (where but very little light approaches, and that so small and faint, as will not admit of seeing any thing distinctly) which is very miserable indeed; whose sighs are their chief and only air, and their mighty irons linked to their rattling of chains is their doleful and sorrowful musick, the destruction of vermin their constant and only business, and death every day their general expectation: Where an insulting turnkey, with the grim aspect of his countenance, makes them tremble with more fear, than if they were going to be hanged: though the insulting bravado has forgot it was his own condition once; and in the height of his domineering, need no screw to his ill favoured face to form an ugly frown, or a terrible look, because it is impossible he should look otherwise; which so dejects the spirits of the miserable imprisoned slaves, that they have a full epitome of hell before them. This, one would think, should easily affright them to repentance; although it happens quite contrary, for it oftentimes hardens them in their impieties. For, during the time the hardened sinner lay under condemnation, he (as I said before) surprized all that saw him, or talked with him, by the gaiety of his temper, and impudence of his behaviour; telling all that came to see him, "That though they paid money to see him in Newgate, if they would take the
 " pains

“pains to go to Tyburn, they might see him for no-
 “thing.” And notwithstanding the industry and
 vigilance of the ordinary, nay, and even of his own
 priests who came to see him, he pretending to be a
 Roman Catholick, they could not persuade him to
 desist from the company of certain lewd women
 (whose wiles had been his ruin) which he had for-
 merly associated himself with: Yea, even immedi-
 ately before his death, his thoughts seemed more intent
 and fixed upon them, than upon eternity.

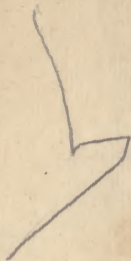
At the place of execution, he laughed and smiled
 upon all he there knew, giving himself a sort of a
 genteel air in fixing the rope about his neck, and
 laughing and gigling all the while the Rev. Mr. Pur-
 ney was at prayers; despising so much the singing of
 the psalm, that is usual upon such occasions, that he
 could scarce be observed to chant it without any me-
 lody; and as he constantly took snuff during the
 prayers of the chapel, and behaved himself not so
 reverently as it could be desired for a man in his cir-
 cumstances; so even at the fatal tree, he had conti-
 nually some ridiculous gesture, or other, to amaze the
 spectators, rather than to beg forgiveness, and exhort
 the people to take warning by his untimely end; only
 saying, “That the Sheriffs of London and Middle-
 “sex, had made an order that no Surgeon should
 “touch his body;” which the Ordinary wisely told
 him, did not at all concern him so much, as the safe-
 ty of his immortal soul, which he did not seem half
 so much to regard. To which he answered, “That
 “he had received the sacrament in his own way, and
 “had prepared himself agreeable to his own opini-
 “on.” But let any impartial reader judge by his
 conduct aforesaid, how duly he was prepared for that
 holy ordinance, or what a religion that is, which will
 administer to such profligates the blessed sacrament.
 Just as the cart was drawing away, he disdainfully
 turned

turned about Molhoni's cap upon his head, and then pulling down his own was hang'd at Tyburn, on Wednesday the 18th day of this instant, July 1722.

By which it is to be observed, that the devil had so hardened his heart, that he would confess nothing to the Ordinary, although pressed unto it in the most moving oratory that great divine is capable of: but he said to some of his friends, whilst under confinement, that Molhoni and he, and one William Lock now in Newgate, robbed the invalid belonging to Chelsea hospital, as he was coming home from the camp, where he was sent to light a colonel; and that Lock killed him, and stabbed him in several places; and that a little after, they three robbed the officer a driving the coach in Piccadilly, as he was coming from the camp in Hyde Park, at one o'clock in the morning. And in short, that he had been an old offender, and committed many other robberies, which he could not or else thro' his obstinate temper would not discover.

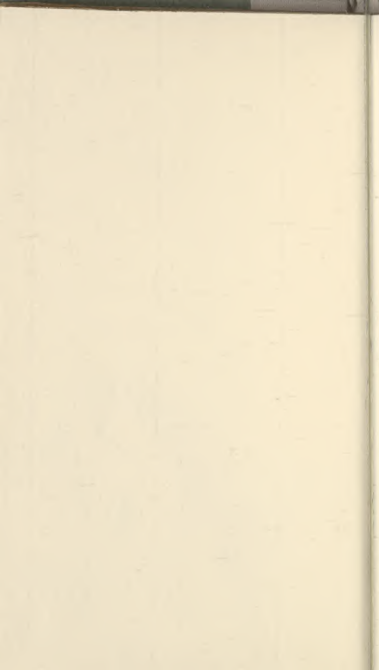
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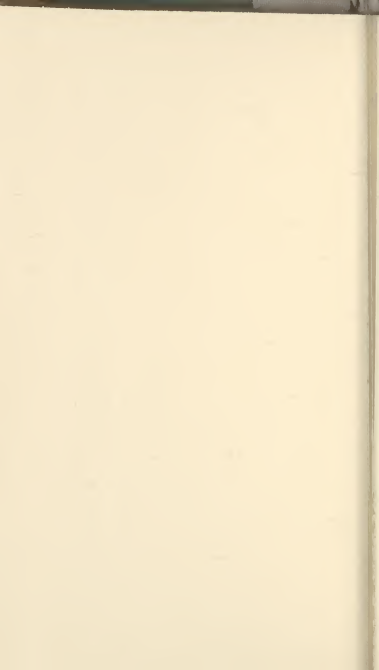


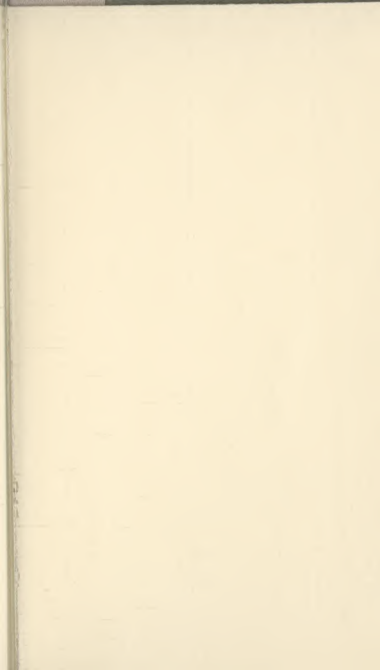












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