



A horrible account of a man who kept a public Inn for travellers, who murdered and robbed almost every person that stopped in his house, giving an account of a man who stopped in his house, with a curious discovery of the landlord. *Edin. Aug. 1827*

This is giving an account of a horrid murder by a treacherous inn-keeper that has kept an inn those several years past, and has been in the habit, of murdering a number of people, and never was found out till Thursday last. A gentleman happened to pass by, and had been detained and was obliged to stay there all night. This said gentleman was in the custom of purchasing black cattle he had two hundred pounds of notes besides twenty of cash; This gentleman got a place from the landlord to secure the money, when he looked it up in a drawer and put the key in his small clothes pocket, when he thought all was safe, but the false villain the landlord, had a false key and when he found the gentlemen asleep he opened the drawer and found what money he had, and the number of the notes, he locked the drawer and left as it was again he went and acquainted his wife with what he was intending to do, but his wife prevented the horrible deed, and when he could not get it brought to execution he took another plan. In the morning the gentlemen settled his bill and rode away. The inn-keeper made an alarm that there was a drover in his house lastnight and had robbed him of two hundred pounds, on which two officers pursued him on horse-back and brought him prisoner before a Magistrate, and the inn-keeper swore quantity and number of the notes and he was searched; the same quantity of money was found on him on which he committed to jail, he wrote to his friends for his character and shewed it to the Sheriff of the County, on this man having a good character the gentlemen held a committee; after which they considered they would make general search in the innkeeper's house, on account of the many robberies that had been committed on that road before. They brought a few town officers with them, and made a general search and found a great number of gold and silver watches belonging to gentlemen, and their names on them. They found a trap door and when they went down they found a large boiler, a large quantity of men's bones in the cell, on which they apprehended him and his wife and committed them to jail when he confessed the whole transaction he confessed that he had murdered and robbed fifteen drovers, and none escaped but Andrew Johnston. He put an end to his own life by hanging himself with his own neckcloth, and Johnston was brought out of jail, and his wife stands her trial at next assizes

