

A Full and Particular Account of the Trial and Sentence of HUGH M'MILLIAN, and EUPHEMIA M'MILLIAN, the last of whom is to be executed at Edinburgh, on Wednesday, 23d Jan. 1828, for the Murder of Archibald Campbell, teacher of dancing in Edinburgh, by throwing vitriol in his face, in consequence of which he died in great agony.

ON Monday last, the 17th instant, came on before the High Court of Justiciary, the trial of HUGH M'MILLAN and EUPHEMIA LAWSON or M'MILLIAN, his wife, for Murder, in so far as they did, on the 17th of October last, throw upon the head, face, and other parts of the body of the now deceased Archibald Campbell, painter and teacher of dancing in the High Street, Edinburgh, a quantity of sulphuric acid or corrosive or burning substance, with the intent to murder, maim, or disfigure the said Archibald Campbell, so that he died in the Royal Infirmary, on the 30th of the said month of October.

The pannels plead not guilty, Doctors Adams, Nisbett and Christison gave evidence as to the appearance of Campbell's body and clothes on examination in the Royal Infirmary, and Mr Shireff Tait deponed as to the deceased deposition taken by him in the said institution, a great number of witnesses were then examined who stated that vitriol, or other corrosive substance had been thrown in Campbell's face late on Wednesday night, from the house of M'Millan. Mrs Campbell deponed, that Mrs M'Millan came into deceased's house that afternoon, and threw on the floor a chair that was laid across the door to prevent the child from falling down stairs, saying — him, what was he about with his Lawborrows now, a police officer was sent for, and Mrs M'Millan was taken to the office, she afterwards said I'll do for you now, several witnesses were afterwards examined, who proved the fatal liquid was thrown from the door of M'Millan's house upon the unfortunate victim of their revenge.

The Honourable Mr Leslie Melville addressed the Jury in behalf of M'Millan, and said that he had always maintained a good character, and that it might be of importance to him in after life, what their verdict should be, which he hoped would be that of Not Guilty.

Mr Milne addressed the jury in behalf of Mrs M'Millan, and concluded by saying that the injury was intended for the cloak and not for the person, and contended that he was entitled to a verdict of not proven. The Lord Justice Clerk then summed up the evidence in his usual clear and impartial manner, and pointed out to the jury in the most satisfactory way, that from all the circumstances, the female prisoner was clearly guilty. The jury having retired for about fifteen minutes, returned a verdict unanimously finding the pannel Hugh M'Millan not Guilty, and unanimously finding the prisoner Euphemia M'Millan guilty of the second charge libelled in term of the late statute, but unanimously and earnestly recommending her to the mercy of the court, the verdict being engrossed, the Lord Justice Clerk thanked the jury for their attention, assured them their verdict was just, such as the court thought the evidence warranted, and assured them their reconsideration should be duly forwarded to the proper quarter.

Lord Gillies and Lord Pitmilley having delivered their opinions, after which the Lord Justice Clerk addressed the prisoner in a most solemn and impressive manner, notwithstanding the recommendation with which the jury accompanied their verdict, nothing remained for the court but to pronounce the last sentence of the law, even whatever might be the result of the recommendation of the jury, it would be well for her to cultivate that contrition of heart and temper of mind, which might enable her to make her peace with God, for she might lay her account with it, that even, if her life was spared, she would be sent out of this country.

The sentence of the court was then read, ordaining her to be executed at the common place of execution, on Wednesday, the 23d of January next, and the husband Hugh M'Millan was dismissed from the bar.

