

do not prove a better Friend to it, than those that have so industriously endeavour'd the taking away my Life; but they'll see their Error when 'tis too late— (he further adds) I bless God, I am now reconcil'd, to this contemptible Death— And tho' his going to Meetings, was the chief Treason that Hang'd him, for this must be Treason, (Jeffreys having sworn to Hang up the D. n'd Phanatics) However, Hucker thinking his way to Heaven the safest, tells his Friends on the Ladder; 'the Meetings, I bless God, I ever was at any of them; 'and that I was any way Instrumental to the upholding of them, and am troubled that I have, I fear Sincerely, deprived my self of them; 'and do believe, if ever the Ordinan-

Ordinan-

‘ Ordinances of God, were
 ‘ rightly Administred, and the
 ‘ Gospel Effectually Preached,
 ‘ it was in those Meetings,
 ‘ that were held in *Taunton*.
 ‘ The Lord blefs the Seed
 ‘ that was there sown —
 And tho’ he did not Live to
 see it; yet he tells us, (*as I
 said before*) *I do not doubt, but
 England will be yet Happy —*

Captain *Madders* (a Consta-
 ble at *Crookhorn*) said the same
 thing, and being the last that
 was Executed, and observing
 how joyfully others Dyed;
 said, *Lord make me so ready and
 willing to the last*; God did
 Hear his Prayer, for tho’ he
 seem’d at first, to be unwilling
 to Dye; yet at last he Dyed
 with as much assurance of
 Heaven, as any of the rest;
 for speaking to the Sheriff,

Captain
Madders.

Captain
Kidd.

he said, O Sir, you cannot Imagine what Comfort and Refreshment I have received, in a few Minutes; my Comforts are so great, that I cannot contain myself: So blessing and praising of God, he was Translated from Earth to Heaven — As soon as Captain *Maddlers* was Turn'd off, *Captain Kidd* prepar'd to follow him; He spake as positively of our Deliverance from Popery, as if he had bin Actually Ingag'd in it; calling to the Guards, and those present, he said, Do you see this? (Pointing up to *Eleven* that were Dead before him) Do you think this is not dreadful to me, that *Eleven*, of *Twelve* of us, that but a few Hours since, came down together, are Dead, and in Eternity, and I
just

just going to follow them; says one to him, It must be dreadful to Flesh and Blood: Says he; 'Well Gentlemen, I will assure you, I am so far concern'd, that methinks, I Grudge their Happyness, that they shou'd be so long before me in Heaven; but I'll make haste to follow; I am satisfi'd, this is the best Day that ever I saw; I might have Liv'd and forgotten God, but now I am going, where I shall Sin no more. O how great is that Glory, to which I am going!— Then taking his leave of the People, he Prayed very devoutly, and with a great deal of Joy and Comfort, bid the Hangman do his Office.

Mr. Charles Speak, also spake much of our future Deliverance

Mr.
Charles.
Speak.

ance from Popery and Slavery; he was a *fine Courteous Gentleman*, and tho' Young, Acted the part of an Old Christian Souldier, at his Death — If it had pleas'd God (said he) I *shou'd have bin willing, to have Liv'd some time longer; but Gods time being come, I am willing to Drink this bitter Cup; but do not doubt, but there be those Living, that will Revenge our Blood; but I forgive all the World—*At the place of Execution, the Inhabitants crouded about him, Weeping and bewailing his Condition; saying, Oh! 'tis the worst Day, that ever we saw in this Town; must this good Gentleman Dye here, oh yet save his Life; we are ready to Dye for him— He Prayed heartily, for near
half

half an Hour, and Sung a *Psalm*; and then cheartfully submitted to *Lord Jeffreys Sentence*.

The next that Suffer'd, was Mr. *Parret* (the Brewer) Mr. Parret when he came to the Gallows, 'he desir'd all, not to be faint-hearted, because of their Fall; 'and to think there was no 'hopes remaining; for, said he, 'God will yet Work a Deliverance for you; and at the 'time you are in the greatest 'Extremity, that will be God's 'Opportunity: Put your 'whole Trust in the Lord, and 'he will never leave you nor 'forsake you; and at saying 'those Words, he was Turn'd 'off the Ladder.

Mr. *Henry Boddy*, who was Mr. Boddy. Executed at the *Bath*, also desir'd

fir'd the Spectators not to be
 dejected, because, Lord Jeffreys
 Sentenc'd so many ; for (said
 he) ' God will yet appear for
 ' you ; Then Gentlemen, never
 ' betray your Rights: I always
 ' thought it to be the Duty
 ' of every true Englishman, to
 Fight for his Country — Be-
 ing ask'd by Mr. *Simp'on*, who
 attended him to the last;
 whether he own'd the *Doct-*
rine of Non-resistance, own'd by
 the Church ; for except he
 own'd that, he told him, some
 People wou'd hardly have
 Charity for him, after he was
 Dead: *What matter's that, said*
he? Wou'd you have me to Lye?
No, I will not, yet I approve of
your Doctrine, of Non-resistance,
when the King Rules according to
Law — Then the Minister
 Pray'd

Pray'd very Devoutly near half an Hour, after which, lifting up his Hands and Eyes to Heaven, he quietly Submitted to Death — His poor Wife Offer'd all *She had in the World* to save his Life, and when She saw, She cou'd by no means prevail (Lord Jeffreys thinking him better for Heaven than Earth) She Dyed with Grief, before her Husband.

Mr. *Josias Askew*, did also foretel our Deliverance from Popery and Slavery — My Lord Jeffreys was so kind to him, that he wou'd have sav'd his Life, if he'd Impeach others ; but he chose rather (as Captain *Ansly* had done before him) to Suffer Affliction with the People of God, then to enjoy Life

Mr.
Josias Askew.

D d with

with Sin: Two things, especially conduce much to amendment (to wit) to withdraw our selves Violently from that to which *Nature is viciously inclin'd*, and to Labour fervently for that good we have most need of — But we see in *Askew* and *Ansllys* refusing to Live upon *Dishonourable Terms*, that all Men have not Power alike, to overcome and Mortify; yet he that is Zealous to advance in Vertue, will profit more, tho' he have more Passions to overcome, than another that hath fewer Passions, and less fervour to Vertue. But this was not the Case here, for *Askew* shew'd himself (not a Cold Lover of Vertue but) a *Passionate Admirer* of the Everlasting Beauty to be seen

by the Eyes of the Mind only; and therefore no wonder, that he'd not *Impreach* others, to save his *Life*; for the Soul that by but half an Eye sees God, will be *always Winging*, till She gets to Him; *nothing cou'd daunt Askew in his way to Heaven* — Not *Infamy*, for he knew in this, his share was not worse than his Masters — Not *Afflictions*; how many did *Job* and the *Apostles* wade through with *Courage*? — Not *Death*, for he knew That wou'd be his *happiest Day*, and his *Bridge to Heaven*; so that we may say of *Askew* (which was no small *Comfort* to his *Godly Parents*) *that tho' all his Life, was Religiously tun'd; yet it made the sweetest Musick in the Close.*

seem'd like a Man Covetous of Eternity, *Prodigal of Life*, little careful of the present, certain of the future: *He now seem'd no longer to have any commerce with the World*, and when he came to the Gallows (as you'll hear anon) he Dyed with such a *Christian Bravery*, that he seem'd to Dye the Death of the *Phoenix*; and even drew Life out of the Tomb— 'Tis true, Mr. *Askew's* Father, did all he cou'd to procure his Pardon; but it cou'd not be had, but at the *Price of Blood*, and he wou'd not live upon such Terms — He was not afraid of Death, but was like one wrapt up in Heaven with his Heart there, and his Eyes fixt thereon — When he went out of Prison, he said

Gentl

Gentlemen, now I am going, and it is the time I much longed for; I wou'd not change with him, that passed Sentence upon me, for a World — At the Gallows he sent his Duty to his Parents, and Love to his Dear Sister; and left Paul's Blessing with 'em. Grace Mercy and Peace; and we may rest assur'd, that tho his Flesh now Moulders to Dust (for which hee's oblig'd, to Lord Jeffreys Sentence) yet is his Happiness in a perpetual Growth.

Mr. John Holway Dyed telling the Spectators, that he thought his, and other Mens Blood, wou'd be Reveng'd one Time or other, he received his Sentence, with much Courage and Resolution, and by the means of one Mr. Tyler, who

Mr. Holway.

who was to Suffer with him, was brought to that settled Frame of Spirit, as was fit for one in his Condition — As he was riding in the Cart, toward the place of Execution; the Troopers being just behind the Cart, he told them they shew'd like brave fellows; but, said he, if I were to have my Life for Fighting the best Five of you, I wou'd not Question it — The Rope being about his Neck, he said, Lord forgive me, have Mercy on my Poor Soul, Pardon all my Sins; and then the Executioner did his Office. As Mr. Holway Dyed, believing God wou'd Revenge his, and other Mens Blood: So Dr. Temple, who was the Dukes Surgeon, and came over with him from Holland, positively says

Dr. Tem-
ple.

says, ' I have that Satisfaction,
' that I Dye a Professor of the
' Church of *England*, and for a
' good Cause, and I believe
' 'twill revive again in *Eng-*
' *land* — and then adds — Lord
' have Mercy upon me, and
' give me strength to go thro'
' these Pains: Give me full
' assurance now at this last
' Moment; Come, Lord Jesus,
' come quickly.

Samuel Robbins of *Charmouth*, Mr. Rob-
was not less Prophetical! He bins.
received his Sentence with
great Courage — He told
his Friends, ' He was ready to
' Dye, when ever Gods Provi-
' dence call'd him to it; but
' (*said he*) tho' my Lord *Jef-*
' *freys* has past Sentence upon
' me, I am as Innocent as the
' Child Unborn; yet I beleive
' 'tis

'tis a good Cause that I Dye
 for, and that God will appear
 for it.

*What a Judge was here? To
 send such Innocent Men to
 Heaven (I mean what a kind
 Man) for you see (Madam) how
 joyfully they Dyed for the sake
 of Christ, and what com-
 fort they left us, in saying, We
 shou'd yet be Delivered.*

But of all that Dyed under
Jeffreys Sentence, or spoke of
 those Happy Times that we
 now enjoy; none deserves great-
 er Thanks than *the Reverend*
 Mr. John Hicks, for he was
 none of those covetous Whiggs,
 which the Duke mentions in
the Paper he left behind him; he
 Ventur'd both his Person and
 Purse, to preserve his Country
 and left such a Speech behind
 him,

him, as deserves to be Written in Letters of Gold; and seeing there be many that never saw it. I shall give *this Account* of it.

He said, *He suppos'd the Spectators wou'd expect he shou'd speak something, before he left this Sanguinary Stage and Passage; by which his Immortal Spirit, wou'd be Transported into an Invisible and Eternal World.* After he had spoke of the different Sentiments, that both his Friends and Enemies had of his Death; he then clears himself of some charges against him; as to his being Engag'd with Colonel Blood, who Stole the Crown — He also declar'd, *he never perswaded the*

E e late

late Duke of Monmouth, to assume the Title of King, as had bin Reported— He next tells us, He dyes, owning his Non-conformity ; which he says, ‘ I chose not from Sullenness, ‘ or Humour, or Factious Temper, or Erroneous Principles ‘ of Education, or from Secular Interests, or Worldly ‘ Advantages ; but clearly from ‘ the dictates of my own Conscience ; and as I judg’d it to ‘ be the Cause of God, and ‘ to have more of Divine ‘ Truth in it, then that which ‘ is contrary thereunto ; so now ‘ (*adds he*) I see no Cause to ‘ repent of it, nor to recede ‘ from it ; not questioning but ‘ God will own it at the last ‘ Judgment day ; yet (*add*
‘ *he*

be) I censure not those that
do Conform; and I believe,
after all the hottest disputes,
there are of both Parties,
will be glorify'd in Hea-
ven—According to the 29th
Article of the Church of
England, a Visible Church,
is a Congregation of Faithful
Men; in the which, the pure
Word of God is Preach'd,
the Sacraments of the Lord
Duly Administred according
to Christ's Ordinance, and all
those things that of Necessi-
ty, are Requisite and Neces-
sary to Salvation; with such a
Church (*adds be*) have I
held, the most Intimate Com-
munion, and with such (*did*
I Live) cou'd hold it; but I
wou'd not be so Incorporated

E e 2

with

' with any Church, as to ex-
 ' clude me, from holding
 ' Communion with other
 ' Churches — *He next tells us,*
 ' He approves of the An-
 ' tient and Present Form of
 ' Civil Government, English
 ' Monarchy; and exhorts all
 ' Men, to abhor all Treason-
 ' able Plots and Conspiracies,
 ' with the highest Detestation;
 ' and to take the plain Text of
 ' Scripture to Walk by,
 ' in Honouring and Living
 ' in Subjection to Rightful
 ' Kings — *He concludes with say-*
 ' *ing, I forgive all my Enemies,*
 ' and particularly *Barter of Lis-*
 ' *well,* who betray'd me, and
 ' proved such a Traytor to *James*
 ' *Duke of Monmouth,* his Old and
 ' Intimate Friend — The care
 ' of my most dear Wife and
 ' a great many Children; I
 ' cast

cast upon God (*and then adds*)
I am going into that World,
where many dark things shall
be made perfectly manifest
and clear, and many doubtful
things fully Resolv'd —
The Consideration (*adds he*)
of these things, and that I
know so little, of the most
Glorious Mystery of Salva-
tion by Jesus Christ; that
I am so incapable to Fathom
the Depth of the Provi-
dences of God (and parti-
cularly in the late Stupendious
and Amazing one) — That
I am so Ignorant of the Na-
ture of Angels and Spirits,
with their Offices and Ope-
rations; that I am so little
acquainted, with the Nature
of my own Soul, as at pre-
sent, in, and United to my
Body;

' Body; and as disunited and
 ' separated from it, how with-
 ' out Corporeal Organs, it shall
 ' most vigorously perform all
 ' its proper Functions and
 ' Offices ——— The Consi-
 ' deration of these things,
 ' makes me much more willing
 ' to Dye, that I may have
 ' the knowledge thereof; with
 ' Innumerable other things
 ' that I am now either Igno-
 ' rant of, or do but Imperfect-
 ' ly know—*He then adds,* Why
 ' shou'd my Soul be unwilling
 ' to take it's Flight, into the
 ' unseen and Eternal World?
 ' Where no fordid, or Impious
 ' thing, shall be seen and
 ' found; and where I shall be-
 ' hold no narrow Contracted
 ' Soul, perfering their Private,
 ' before

‘before a Publick good ; but
‘all Unanimously centre in one
‘common Universal Good—
‘*He tells us,* He blesses God
‘for all his Sufferings, and
‘particularly for this last ; that
‘he has bin effectually con-
‘vinc’d, of the Vanity of this
‘World, of his own Sinful-
‘ness, by Nature and Practice ;
‘and that he now sees That
‘to be Sin, which he never
‘saw before — And then con-
‘cludes with, *exhorting all Men,*
to Prize and Value Time, and to
Improve it for Eternity : For that
(as he adds) we must all Dye,
yet we know not how, where, or
when : He next recomends fe-
veral Texts of Scripture, to our
perusal — And at last Dyes,
(as the rest did) believing, God
wou’d

would Work a Deliverance for his Church and People.

As *Mr. Hicks*, and those that Suffer'd before him, believ'd the Protestant Religion would yet Flourish in *England*: So *Mr. Satchel*, *Mr. Lancaster*, *Mr. Matbews*, *Mr. Sanford*, *Mr. Bennet*, &c. And those others that Dyed (through the Pious Zeal, of the Lord *Jeffreys*, were all of the same Opinion that *England* would yet be Deliver'd.

Mr. Satchel.

As to *Mr. Roger Satchel*, he plainly said, *our Deliverance was near at Hand*; and he did all he cou'd to hasten it: For he sooner had he the News of the *Dukes* being Landed, but he felt himself

himself to Work to serve him ;
desiring all he knew, to joyn
with him, and was one of the
first that went to him, to *Lyme*,
and was with him to the
End — After Sentence, Two
of his Friends came to him,
and told him there was no
hope — He answer'd, *My hope*
is in the Lord — He was very
devout in the way to his Exe-
cution ; when he came there,
the Minister ask'd him, what
were his grounds for joyning
in that Rebellion ? Who an-
swer'd, ' Had you Sir bin
' there, and a Protestant, I be-
' lieve you wou'd have joyn'd
' too — But do not speak to
' me about that, I am come to
' Dye for my Sins, not for my
' Treason against the King, as
F f ' you

' you call it : so pointing to
 ' the Wood, that was to Burn
 ' his Bowels, he said, I do not
 ' care for that, What matters
 ' it, what becomes of my Body,
 ' so my Soul be at Rest? And for
 ' my Friends, they have no
 ' reason to be troubled, for
 ' God will Work a Deliver-
 ' ance for 'em.

Mr. Lancaſter
 1717.

At the ſame time and place,
 Mr. *Lancaſter* was Executed;
 ' he ſpake much of the Down-
 ' fall of Popery, and of ſome
 ' great Men ; ſuch as Lord *Jef-*
 ' *freys*, Father *Peters*, and the
 ' like — He out-brav'd even
 Death it ſelf, and was well
 ſatisfied in the Cauſe he En-
 gag'd in — At the Gallows he
 ſaid, *I Dye for being a Prote-*
ſtant

stant, and am going to a Gracious God, I desire all your Christian Prayers. 'Tis good to go to Heaven with Company — He also Pray'd for the Duke of *Monmouth*, whom he suppos'd at that Time, to be Living; and so Praying privately for some small time, he was Turn'd, or rather *Leapt* off the Ladder.

Mr. *Mathews* was the next that Dyed, he spake much of our Deliverance, from Popery and Slavery, and was greatly Transported with the thoughts of it; but twas much disturb'd, the morning before he Dyed, to see his Wife Weep, and to be in such a Passion for him, which drew Tears from his Eyes, and taking her in his Arms, said — *My Dear, prethee*

do not disturb me at this time, but endeavour to submit to the will of God; and tho' thy Husband is going from thee, yet I trust, God will be All in All to thee; Sure my Dear, you will make my passage more troublesome then otherwise, if you thus Lament and take on for me: I am very Sensible of thy Tender Love towards me (which was more then in Fine Words) for you Settled your Estate upon me, and reserv'd nothing; but I wou'd have you consider, that this Separation will be much for my Advantage: I thank God, I am willing to Dye, and to be with my Jesus; be satisfy'd, the will of God must be done, Thy Will be done, O God, on Earth, as it is in Heaven! So Embracing her, he took his Fare

wel of her; and being come to the place of Execution, he Pray'd, *Lord have Mercy on Poor England, Comfort my Dear and Sorrowful Wife, be a Husband unto her, be Merciful to all Men, preserve this Nation from Popery; find out a way for its Deliverance, if it be thy good will: Comfort my fellow Sufferers, that are Immediately to follow, give them strength and Comfort unto the End: I forgive all the World, and now Blessed Lord Jesus, into thy Hands I commend my Spirit* — After which, going up the Ladder, he desir'd the Executioner not to be hard to him, who answer'd *No, and said, I Pray Master forgive me; to which he said, I do with all my Heart, and I pray God forgive thee;*

thee; but I advise thee to leave off this Bloody Trade; to which the Hangman Reply'd, I am forc'd to do what I do, i'ts against my Mind: So lifting up his Hands to Heaven, the Executioner did his Office.

Mr. Sandford.

Mr. Benjamin Sandford, with Nine more, was brought from Dorchester to Bridport to be Executed; coming to the place of his Martyrdom, he held up his hands to Heaven, and turning himself to the People, said; I am an Old Man, you see, and it would have troubled me, if I had Suffer'd for some Felonious Account — Says one to him Is not this worse, do you think, then Felony? —

He

He answer'd *No: But I believe this Sentence falls upon me, for my Sins against God, whom I have highly Provok'd, and must acknowledge have deserv'd Ten-Thousand times more (and then adds) Lord I trust thou hast Pardon'd them — Seal my Pardon in the Blood of my Saviour — Lord look upon me, and be with me to the last Moment.*

There was also Executed at the same time, one John Bennet a Poor Man; but Pious, and of good Report with his Neighbours in Lyme, where he Liv'd: (See how good my Lord Jeffreys was to this Poor Man!) For when he was
on

John Bennet.

on his Tryal; a Certain Person inform'd his Lordship, that the Prisoner then at the Barr, had Alms of the Parish: But his Lordship Reply'd; *Do not Vex your selves, I will ease the Parish of that Trouble* — In Prison, and at the Place of Execution, he behav'd himself so to all, that many of his Enemies pitied him, and wou'd (but that Jeffreys wou'd *Ease the Parish*) fain have Sav'd him — His Son being present, Offer'd to have Dyed for him, and was going up the Ladder, if it might have bin Suffer'd — He Pray'd some short time and so was *Translated from Poor Cottage, to a Heav'nly Crown* —

Crown— So much for the *Holy Lives and Triumphant Deaths*, of Mr. *Hewling*, Mr. *Batescombe*, Mr. *Jenkins*, and the rest of the *Western Heroes*. I shall conclude this Account, with saying, that Captain *Anfly*, made as good Use of Lord *Jeffreys* Sentence, as any of these; for he not only foretold our Deliverance from Popery and Slavery: (as was mention'd before) But being come to the Gallows, he told the Spectators, *I am come to Pay a Debt to Nature, 'tis a Debt that all must Pay; tho' some after one manner, and some after another: The way*
G g *that*

that I Pay it, maybe thought by some few Ignominious, but not so by me; having long since, as a True English-man, thought it my Duty to Venture my Life, in Defence of the Protestant Religion, against Popery and Arbitrary Power; for this same purpose, I came from my House, to the Duke of Monmouth's Army: At first I was a Lieutenant, and then a Captain; and I was in all the Action the Foot was Engag'd in, which I do not Repent. I might have

have sav'd my Life, if I
wou'd have done as some
Narrow-Soul'd Persons have
done, by impeaching others ;
but I abhor such ways of
Deliverance, choosing ra-
ther to Suffer Affliction, with
the People of God, than to
enjoy Life with Sin. As
to my Religion, I own the
Way and Practice, of the
Independent Church, and in
that Faith I Dye, depend-
ing on the Merits of our
Saviour Jesus Christ, for my
Eternal Salvation : His
blessing be with you all ;

G g 2 Fare

Farewel to thee Poor England; Farewel.

Abraham Anfly.

Thus have I *Waded*
through a Sea of Blood, to
blazon the Vertues of my
Lord Jeffreys; and as I
 ha' prov'd, that all that
 Suffer'd under his Sentence,
 (*from the Murtber of*
Godfrey, to the last that
Dyed in the West) fore-
 told our Deliverance,
 from Popery and Sla-
 very: So 'tis as plain he

I have
 Waded
 through a
 Sea of blood,
 to Blazon
 the Ver-
 tues of
 my Lord
 Jeffreys.

was

was Imploy'd in the Martyrdom of most, if not all of 'em ; and 'tis no *small Honour to my Lord Jeffreys*, that his *Bloody Zeal*, has tended so much to hasten what these Heroes foretold in their *Dying Speeches* ; sure (*Madam*) you'll think I'm in Earnest here, for to make *my Lord Jeffreys*, one of our *Deliverers from Popery and Slavery*, must needs be as great a Praise to his Lordship, as 'twill be a Surprize to the World.

But (*Madam*) per-
haps

haps you'll say, *the Solemn, Serious Dying Declarations, of these London and Western Sufferers,* have always out-weigh'd with you, the Testimony of those *Vile-Scoundrels,* who Swore 'em out of their Lives, or that Credulous Judge that listned to such Evidence: And perhaps (your Ladyship may add) I did and do most steadfastly believe, that the *only Plot* in that Day, was the same which the Almighty has since owned, and most signally prosper'd in the Hand of our Gracious August,

The *Protestant Plot,* was no other than a design to preserve the Protestant Religion, and the Laws of *England.*

August, and Rightful Sovereign King *William*: I mean the rescuing the *Protestant Religion*, and the Laws and Liberties of *England*, from a most Impetuous Torrent of Popery and Slavery; wherewith they were most dangerously Threatned. And therefore (continues your Ladyship) say what you will in *Jeffreys Praise*, He was a *Bloody Man*, and a *Traitor* to his Country, to Hang such Numbers of Excellent Persons, who came to deliver the Nation from Popery and Slavery.

Lord Jeffreys was one of our Deliverers from Popery and Slavery.

To this I answer: I shall endeavour to prove, that the Shedding so much Protestant Blood, was an Act of Mercy in my Lord Jeffreys, (did answer the Trust which was put in him) and that we shou'd praise him for it, for tho' Hanging so many in the West, &c. Look'd (as I said before) a little unkind, yet it did but look so, for 'twas to send 'em to Heaven, where they desir'd to be; and my Lord was so Tender of their Precious Souls, that he Hang'd none (or but very few) but what were Innocent.

He was so tender of The Souls of Men, that he Hang'd few but what were Innocent.

Ther

Then how Gracious was my Lord Jeffries in sentencing these Men? For tho' they engag'd in a good Cause, and were ripe for Heaven, yet they durst not be so *hasty* as to hang themselves, that they might get there the sooner; and therefore my Lord was so very kind, that he'll rather venture the damning of his own Soul (by Murthering of 'em himself) than they shall be kept from Heaven against their Wills. And sure none hereafter will blame my Lord for killing so many in cold Blood, for they all Dy'd assured of Heaven, and of meeting their Friends there; nay they tell us in their last Speech, (which shews how pleas'd they were with my Lords Sentence) that they pity us that were to stay behind. As for Mr. Battiscomb, he plainly

The Lord Jeffries is so zealous in saving others, as to venture the damning of his own Soul.

More: the Friends dyed assured of Heaven

Mr. Battiscomb
rejected Lord
Jeffries
Pardon.

rejected my Lords Pardon, for he says in his last Speech, "I might have chosen whether I wou'd have undergone this Death, if I had hearken'd to my Lord Jeffries; but it was upon such terms, that should I have accepted, it would have been troublesome to me. And Mr. William Hewling was as easie under Lord Jeffries Sentence as Mr. Battiscomb: for said he, "I

Mr. Hewlin
is desirous
to Dye.

"am satisfied God has chosen best for me, he knows what the temptations of Life might have been; I might have Lived, and forgotten God; but now I am going where I shall sin no more. Capt. Kid said the verysame thing (as appears by his Dying Speech) and adds, I am so happy under my Sentence, that I think this the best Day that I ever saw. And Mr. Nelthorp particularly tells us, "I do embrace

Capt. Kid
calls the
Day of his
Death the
best that he
ever saw.

brace

“brace my dear and beloved Compa-
“nion with more joy in the Field of
“Suffering, than ever I could have
“done had I met him Crown’d with
“the Laurels of Victory. And then
adds, “Ob the Mercy to dye with
“such a Friend! (what could he
have said more in Jeffries praise,
as he ordered they should be
hang’d together?) and such a
“valiant Soldier of Jesus! “Then,
“Madam, would you see poor
“frail Creatures trampling this
“World under their Feet, and
“with an Holy Scorn smiling at
“Fire and Faggot? Would you see
“Shackled Prisoners behave
“themselves like Judges, and
“the astonish’d Jeffries stand like
“a Prisoner before them? Would
“you hear the melodious Voices
“of ascending Saints, in a ra-
“vishing Consort ready to join

Their be-
haviour at
the Bar and
Gibbet.

“ with the Heavenly Chorus in
 “ their delightful Hallelujahs?
 “ *In a Word*, would you see some
 “ of the rare exploits of Faith in
 “ its *highest Elevation*, immediate-
 “ ly before it be swallowed up
 “ in the Beatifick Vision? I say,
 Madam, if you are pleased with
 such sights as these, you can’t
 be angry with my Lord: Jeffries
 for hanging your Brother Benja-
 min (and so many Hundreds
 with him) for it sent ’em to
 Heaven in that *Triumphant* man-
 ner I have here described. And
 sure I am, ’tis no *small Honour* to
 your Noble Family, that your eldest
 Brother had the Courage to dye a
 Martyr; and ’twas no less
 Honour to the Protestant Religion
 that so many Dyed with him.
 And blest be the happy Day that
 brought their Crown!

’Tis no
 small hon-
 our to Dye
 a Martyr.

Their

Their radiant Crown of Martyrdom, which
(brings
A thousand Joys more than the Crowns of
(Kings,
A thousand Joys, without a thousand Stings :
So laught th' Apostles at Hell's baffled Rage,
And sung in spight of Fetters and a Cage.
Around Heaven's Battlements bright Legions
(wait,
And crouding Seraphs open wide the Gate ;
One who of Martyrs has peculiar Care,
Is sent to whisper in their Souls, Prepare ;
Or else their Guardian Friend had made them
(know
That dear obliging Message, They must go :
For sure they knew the worst King James cou'd
(do ;
They knew, they saw it all, and scorn'd it too.

Then if my Lord Jeffries
hanging so many Innocent Men,
was the means of saving their
Souls, they (and their Friends

A a 3 too)

My Lord
Jeffrys de-
serv'd the
praises of
all he sen-
tenc'd to
Death.

too) have reason to praise his Lordship, as the *Instrument of their preservation*. And sure I am, he that's *shipwrackt at Sea* (if he have the least *Gratitude* in him) will be ever admiring the *Plank* that brought him to shore. *Mr. Neltborp* tells us, *Before his Sentence*, he saw a *Beauty in Wordly Comforts*; but now (says he) they seem so faded, by the greater *Lustre and Beauty that I see in God, in Christ Jesus*, that I am astonish'd where I have been wandring all my Days. As if he had said, *My Soul and Body too*, had been both lost, had not *George Lord Jeffrys* (in meer compassion) sent me to Heaven. Then let none reflect on the great *Numbers my Lord hang'd*; for 'tis easie to prove that his *Western Circuit* (as *Bloody as 'twas*) was the means of con-
verting

verting abundance, and particularly of Mr. Nelthorp. And sure I am, if every temptation we overcome, will be a shining Jewel in our Crown of Victory, that the Lives, Characters and dying Speeches of the many Hundreds that were converted by his Lordships Sentence, should be as so many Tongues to declare his Praise.

This Essay will be said to be writ by a Cut-throat.

I know the Slanderers of my Lords memory will be ready to say, None but a Russian or Cut-throat, would ever vindicate my Lord Jeffreys, for he sentenc'd Men for Traytors and Rebels, who were worthy Protestants, and fought in defence of their Country.

To this I answer, I own the earnest Zeal, Concern and Love, which most of 'em manifested for the Protestant Religion, being besides so Conspicuous in their

The Western sufferers were all Martyrs

Lives and Deaths, I know not how they can without impudence be branded with the infamous Name of Rebels; But however Rogues and Tories might call 'em in King James's Reign, they are now Saints and Martyrs; Phoenix-like, they now rise again, and flourish in their own Ashes. Not do I think 'tis any arrogance to honour 'em with the just and dear-bought Title of Martyrs.

'Tis true, in the two last Reigns many of the Flower of our Nobility and Gentry were not only call'd Traytors, but either lost their Lives, or Estates, or Liberties, or Country, whilst a Crew of Parasites triumphed and flattered in their Ruines; to see a Russell dye by Papists and Tories, in the flower of his Age; an Essex, or a Godfrey, sacrificed to

the

Their Enemies not being able to reach their Souls endeavour to damn their Memories.

the insatiable Ambition and Revenge of their Enemies; who yet not content with their Lives, would like the *Italians*, stab on after Death; and tho' they could not reach their Souls, endeavour to damn their Memories. These and too many other such melancholy instances, would be ready to make a short sighted Man exclaim with *Hercules in the Tragedian*, That Vertue is but an empty Name, or at least cou'd only serve to make its Owners more *sensibly unhappy*.

But altho' such Examples might a little Work on a weaker Vertue, that which is more confirmed and solid, can more easily resist it. 'Tis not impatient nor uneasy, but still believes that Heaven is awake, that

that the *Iron-Hands of Justice* will at length overtake the offenders, and by their destruction vindicate the Honour and Innocence of those whom they have ruined. It considers any *Riddles in Providence* as a curious piece of *Opticks*, which if judged of either before 'tis finished, or by piece-meal, here an Eye, and there another *distorted Feature*, appears not only unpleasing, but really dreadful; which yet if viewed when it is compleat, and taking all the Features together, makes a Figure sufficiently regular and lovely.

Riddles in Providence compared to a curious piece of *Opticks*.

Brave Men pickt out and cut off one after another, to make way for Popery

Who almost could have imagined, without some such Reflections as these, that those *brave Men* we have seen for some Years past pickt out, and cut off, one after another, with as much scandal

scandal and obloquy as could be thrown upon 'em by the ungenerous malice of their Enemies; when the very Attempt to clear their Reputation, has been made almost Capital, and involved those who had courage enough to attempt it, in little less mischief than what they themselves indured. *That ever these Phoenixes* (as I said before) *should rise again, and flourish in their Ashes!* *That* so many great Persons should already have done some of 'em Justice, *and the World as much to all the rest!* And with how much more joy, if 'twere possible, would these *Heroes* have received their Crowns, could they have foreseen their Deaths would have tended so far to work up the Nation to such a just Resentment, as would at last

Their Deaths had an influence on our late Glorious Deliverance.