

An Account of the Execution of Brigadier Rookwood, Major and Mr. Cranburn, at Tyburn, April 29th. 1696.

WHEN the Prisoners came first up into the Cart, Mr. *Lowick* and Mr. *Rookwood* (being Roman Catholics) kneeled down together, and Mr. *Lowick* read some Prayers, for above half an hour, out of a small English Book of devotion, (writ by an Abbot). And Mr. *Cranburn*, kneeled down by himself, prayed to this effect.

O Lord Jesus, forgive me all my Sins, and forgive all my Persecutors; Grant me true Repentance, now I suffer for thy Cause; Let me have thy assistance and support, now I suffer for thy Cause. Give stedfastness to thy Followers, and Repentance to all their Persecutors.

Carry me to those Happy Mansions prepared for all those that suffer for thee, and all I beg for Christ Jesus sake: *Our Father which art in Heaven, &c.*

Almighty and Most Gracious God; support, I pray thee, thy unworthy Servant in this last and great business of laying down my Life. Let me not dishonour the Cause and Truth that I suffer for. It is not my mistrust of the Righteousness of my Cause, but the Common Sins and Errors of my Life, which makes me afraid to appear before thy Righteous Bar. But cleanse me from my Sins, and then I shall meet Death with confidence. I know, when the Sting of Death is taken out, there is an aversion in our nature; but let the influence of thy Grace overcome it in my Spirit. Possess my mind more and more with a sense of the Righteousness of the Cause I suffer for: And whatever terror would otherwise strike into me, let it arm my Spirit with confidence, that I dye for thee, and thy Cause, and that I shall be received into thy rest. *Lord, into thy Hands I commend my Soul.*

Mr. *Sheriff*. Mr. *Cranburn*, take what time you will, we will stay for you.

Then the Hangman tyed the Rope about Mr. *Cranburn*.

Mr. *Sheriff*. If you will retire again, Mr. *Cranburn*, we will wait for you.

Then *Cranburn* kneeled down and prayed again. And after a little time they all rose up, and kissed each other.

Mr. *Sheriff*. Take your own time, Mr. *Lowick*.

Mr. *Lowick*. I thank you, Sir.

Then *Cranburn* had the Rope put about his Neck.

Executioner. Have you got a Cap Sir?

Mr. *Cranburn*. Yes, I have. And the Executioner took it out of his Pocket, and a Paper with it.

Executioner. What is in this Paper?

Mr. *Cranburn*. Nothing.

Executioner. Do you deliver no Paper to the Sheriff?

Mr. *Cranburn*. No. My Papers have been taken from me. There is a Paper in my Bosom, which I would have you take out; open my Breast, and you will see it. Which the Executioner did, and took it out, and askt him if he should give it to the Sheriff.

Mr. *Cranburn*. No. There is nothing in it, but a Memorandum of what I would say. My Papers were taken from me.

Mr. *Sheriff*. Who took them from you?

Mr. *Cranburn*. *Tokesfield*.

Mr. *Sheriff*. You made it with your own hand, did it not?

Mr. *Cranburn*. Yes, Sir.

Mr. *Sheriff*. We cannot read this (it being Writ with a Pencil); make your self as easie as you can. Will you speak the Words your self?

Mr. *Cranburn*. Yes Sir.

Mr. *Sheriff*. Read it audibly, and leifu see there is one Writes, for we would do you and we will command silence.

Mr. *Cranburn*. Gentlemen, I am in a fe to appear before the Great and Righteous men; to whom I am to give an Account of ons. I confels I have been a great and wicked man; but I hope to find Pardon by the Merits and of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I v all of you to be diligent and conscientious to God; and whoever is so, it will make Christian; and I am sure he that is a good can never be a Rebel to his Lawful King. Affassination of the Prince of Orange, I had on Saturday, between the hours of nine and ary the 22d. Mr. *Charnocke*, after I had carried of the Persons to him, —

Mr. *Sheriff*. Who had you the names from

Mr. *Cranburn*. From Captain *Porter*. And ried the names to Mr. *Charnocke*, he made of six of his own, and sent me back to M acquaint him that it was necessary to come t they two to go to the Knight together.

Mr. *Sheriff*. What Knight was it?

Mr. *Cranburn*. That I cannot tell.

Mr. *Sheriff*. Go on.

Mr. *Cranburn*. The 22d I had knowledge sign, between 10 and 11. Between 11 and was over. And when I came from Mr. *Charnocke*, he told me the Knight had alter

fures; and he desired Mr. *Porter* would take self, and he would not have him make too out, for fear of surprizing any of the Ger were with him. What was sworn against *Porter*, Mr. *Pendergrafs*, and Mr. *La Rze*.

1. That I sent a Sword to Mr. *Pendergrafs*. was at the *Sun Tavern*. And 2. I did carry But I did not know what it was for. I w have repentance for the same. As I am to all men, so am I more especially to my Sov

James; I believe he had no knowledge of And I doubt not but God will restore him to and Rightful Kingdoms. And as I am in to pray for him, (then he kneel'd down) 'I

'seech God to Bless, Prosper and Keep hi 'him Patience under all his Sufferings, a 'issue out of all his Afflictions, and to gr 'Plots against him may prosper. Be a str 'against the face of his Enemies. As for

'would not have him to reign over them, 'cloathed with shame, but upon himself le 'flourish. Bless our Gracious Queen *Ma* 'the Queen *Dowager*, and His Royal Highne 'of *Wales*; Prosper them with all Happi 'them with thy Heavenly Grace, and bri 'thine everlasting Kingdom through Jesus

'Lord. (Then he stood up.)

Mr. *Sheriff*. Mr. *Cranburn*, take your own

Mr. *Cranburn*. I do believe that very few P of this Design, but those that were the princ ters of it; and I beseech God no more Bl spilt. I beseech Almighty God to open the Nation, that this Nation may not become Foreign Power.

Mr. Sheriff. You say, you believe few Persons knew of this matter, and that you hope no more Blood will be spilt.

Mr. Cranburn. I do so.

Mr. Sheriff. Do you mean that there may be no more Plots against the Government?

Mr. Cranburn. What I said, I shall not unsay. As to my Religion, I was born and baptized in the Church of England, which Church always taught me to abhor that damnable Doctrine of Deposing or Killing Kings; and I am sorry that any that would be counted Members of it, should be guilty of Usurpation and Rebellion, and I beseech God they may repent of the same. I have had a foul Scandal cast upon me, that I received my self very indecently before the Privy-Council, which was never my Nature: And I appeal to my Lord Shrewsbury, who is a Person of Honour, and I believe he will do me that justice as to acquit me of it. I humbly beg Pardon of all I have injured, and I freely forgive all; and I would advise all to do as they would be done by.

Mr. Sheriff. You speak of the Doctrine of the Church of England teaching you to abhor King-killing; what do you think of the Assassination of our King? Will the Church of England allow it?

Mr. Cranburn. As to the Assassination, I gave you an account.

Mr. Sheriff. Does the Word of God, or the Doctrine of the Church of England allow of any Assassination?

Mr. Cranburn. Neither the Law, nor the Doctrines of the Church ever taught me to Depose my Lawful Sovereign.

Mr. Sheriff. Did it ever teach you to Assassinate any private Man? Were you not concern'd in it? Or did you not know of it?

Mr. Cranburn. I knew of it Februry the 22d. between ten and eleven, and between eleven and twelve the whole Design was over.

Mr. Sheriff. If you had had an opportunity, would you have discovered it?

Mr. Cranburn. I would never have discovered any Man. If I would have been an Informer, I might have been at liberty about the Town, as well as others.

Mr. Sheriff. Did you not know of the Design to Assassinate the King?

Mr. Cranburn. I did know of it.

Mr. Sheriff. Major Lowick, I have seen that ingenuity in you, that I hope you have some good Advice to the People.

Mr. Lowick. I could never speak extempore.

Mr. Sheriff. Do you deliver any Paper?

Mr. Lowick. I have a Paper here, but I doubt you cannot read it. I humbly beg the good Prayers of all the good People that are here.

Mr. Sheriff. I only desire you to satisfy the People, whether you come to Suffer justly, or unjustly.

Mr. Lowick. I am not guilty in that positive degree. I must own I did know of it, and if the thing had gone forward; I do believe I had been engaged. In what I have done in drawing in any into the Design, I humbly beg their pardon, I hope they will all forgive me, and I forgive every one.

Mr. Sheriff. You do acknowledge you were concerned in it?

Mr. Lowick. I do acknowledge it, and I do beg the pardon of every one that Suffers on my account.

Mr. Sheriff. You beg pardon of God, and of the King?

Mr. Lowick. I do, so far as I was engaged to do him injury. And I forgive all People.

Mr. Sheriff. The Lord grant you forgiveness, Sir. We would not make any thing uneasy to you?

Mr. Lowick. I believe you will not.

Mr. Sheriff. Mr. Rockwood, will you say any thing?

Mr. Rockwood. I refer my self to the Paper (which he delivered to the Sheriff) I acknowledge I was to be concerned.

Mr. Lowick. If I were to live again in the World, I would live by the Grace of God to better purpose. All People know I am a Roman-Catholick, and was born of Roman-Catholick Parents, and so was brought up; and I beg of you all your Prayers. I humbly beg pardon of all the World, and forgive all the World, and am in Charity with all men, and I beg pardon of all that Suffer on my account.

Then the Executioner askt them severally forgiveness. To which they answer'd, That they did freely forgive him, and all the World.

Mr. Sheriff. You shall have your own time.

Mr. Lowick. O Jesus, receive me. And then he several times kissed the Crucifix in his Book, and delivered it to one to give one of his Friends.

Mr. Lowick. Shall we say some Pater Nosters more?

Mr. Rockwood. We cannot have time.

Mr. Lowick. Jesus Maria, O Jesus, Son of God, have mercy on me. I heartily beg pardon for all the things that I denied, that were true.

Mr. Sheriff. You mean at your Trial?

Mr. Lowick. In all places, when I was examined, in all places I beg pardon of all the World, in every thing I have offended.

Mr. Sheriff. I wish you had not given your self this cause to be troubled.

Mr. Lowick. I wish so too. O Jesus have mercy upon me. So I wish. I am sorry with all my Heart and Soul that I ever did any thing like it; sorry from my Soul; O Jesus Maria; O Jesus, look upon us Penitents; give us one view of Heaven. O Jesus, Maria, have mercy on me! Holy Mary, Mother of God! Our Father which art in Heaven, &c. I desire aie man to give me the Book again.

Mr. Sheriff. Give him the Book again, (which was done, and he again kissed the Crucifix, and gave back the Book again to the man).

Mr. Lowick. I humbly beg thee, Dear Saviour, to forgive me all my Sins. Jesus, who suffered for me, and all mankind, upon the Cross, pardon all my Sins.

Executioner. Tell me when I must draw away.

Mr. Lowick. We must not be our own Executioners, God be merciful to us.

Mr. Sheriff. When the Executioner is withdrawn, give a stamp with your Foot, give your own Sign.

Executioner. I hope you forgive me.

Prisoners. We forgive thee and all mankind.

Mr. Lowick. Jesus Maria, have mercy upon us.

Mr. Cranburn. Lord Jesus receive my Soul.

Then they continued in their private Ejaculations for some time (after their Caps were over their Eye and then the Cart was drawn away; and having hung about half an hour, they were cut down and quartered.