

A TRVE
RELATION
OF THE VNIUST.
CRVELL, AND BARBA-
ROVS PROCEEDINGS.
against the ENGLISH at

AMBOYNA

*In the EAST-INDIES, by the Nea-
therlandish GOVERNOR and
COUNCEL there.*

Also the copie of a Pamphlet, set forth first
in Dutch and then in English, by some
Neatherlander; falsly entituled,

A TRVE DECLARATION OF THE
Newes that came out of the EAST-INDIES, with
the Pinace called the HARE, which ar-
riued at TEXEL in *June*, 1624.

Together with an Answer to the same PAMPHLET.

By the English EAST-INDIA Companie.

THE SECOND IMPRESSIQN.

Published by AVTHORITIE.S.

LONDON,

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RELATION
OF THE
GIVEN AND
TOTAL





TO THE READER.

Gentle Reader, thou maist (perhaps) wonder why this Relation of the businesse of Amboyna, so many months since taken upon the oaths & depositions of our people that came thence, and presented to his Majesty, and the Lords of his Priuy Councell; cometh now at last to the Presse, and was not either sooner published, or altogether suppressed. The truth is, the English East-India Company haue euer been very tender of the ancient amity and good correspondence held between this Realm and the Neatherlands, and haue been very loth, by diuulging of the priuate iniuries done

 them:

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them by the Neatherlands East-India Company, to giue the least occasion of any distaste or disaffection, which might haply growe betweene these two Nations; for the sake and on the behalf of the two Companies respectiue. For which cause, although the wrongs and iniuries, or rather contumelies done vnto the English by the Dutch in the Indies, haue beene as intolerable as manifold; as to say nothing of those great heapes of them buried in the Amnesty of the Treaty of the yeare 1619. and only to point at the generall heads of those committed since that Treaty, and grossely contrary to the maine intent, and expresse words and disposition of the same: first, in the point of hostility; the inuasion of the Islands of Lantore and Polaroone, then and before in the quiet possession of the English, in the name of the Crowne of England; the taking of the same Islands by force; the razing and demolishing of the English Forts; the binding of the English (that had not so much as resisted them) to stakes with ropes about their neckes; throttling them with the same, and flourishing their naked swords about them, as if they would presently haue dispatched them; then taking them so amazed and bound, and tumbling them downe the rockes; and after, carrying their crushed and bruised carcases away in irons: secondly, in the
point

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point of their *Usurped* soueraignty; their taking vpon them the Conusance of controuersies between the English and the Indians, for matters passed farre without the compasse of the Neatherlands pretended jurisdiction, and executing their sentences therupon by plain force; seizing of the English Companies goods; fining, imprisoning, stocking, yea, whipping our people at a post in the open market-place, and after, washing them with vinegar and salt: thirdly, in point of partnership with the English; their putting great sums to the common account, which were disbursed to the priuate and sole behoofe of the Dutch; giuing great Presents for the glory of the Dutch, without consent of the English, and making warre for the enlargement of their owne dominion, yet bringing the charge to the common account; together with infinite other the like, the particulars whereof would arise to a just and ample volume: Neuerthelesse, the English Company from time to time contented themselues with informing his Majestie and his Honourable Priuy Councell with their grieuances priuately in writing, to the end that necessary relief and reparation might bee obtained, without publishing any thing to the world in print, thereby to stir vp or breed ill bloud between these Nations, which are otherwise tied in so many re-

ciprocall obligations. And the same course they haue hitherto holden also in this crying business of of Amboyna; onely offering to the Manes of their murdered Countrey-men, Factors and Kinsfolks, their effectuall endeavours in a dutifull course vnto his Majesty, for justice for their innocent blood, and reparation of the honour of the nation heerein interested. In which their wonted way they were so constant, that they could not be driuen out of the same by the contrary course of some of the other party; that not glutted nor mollified with the blood of these innocents, nor with all the other sufferings of the English in the Indies, published a Pamphlet in print in the Netherlands Language, not only in justification of this barbarous butchery, but withall in disgrace of the English Nation, and the laws and justice of the same. But behold now further, the same Pamphlet, being called in by an Edict of the States generall, was yet afterwards translated and printed in English, and dispersed euen in this Realm it self, to braue and disgrace vs at our own doores, and in our owne language. This, no English patience can bear: the bloud of the innocent cries out against it: the honor of the nation suffereth in it. Wherefore the English East-India Companie is heereby inforced, contrary to their desire and custome, to haue recourse also to the Presse, to maintaine

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taine the reputation of those their Countrey-men and seruants, that lost their liues vnjustly; and to acquaint the world with the naked truth of this cause, hitherto masked, muffled, and obscured in a fog of fictions, concealments; and crafty conueiances of the Author of this Pamphlet, and his clients the Governour & Councel (so termed) of Amboyna.

Having thus acquainted thee, gentle Reader, with the reasons why this businesse was no sooner published in print, it remaineth yet further, that thou be satisfied in an objection or two more, which common reason will suggest vnto thee. Without doubt, reading this discourse, and being a true patriote of thine owne Countrey, and a well-willer of the Netherlands (as we presume and wish thee to be), thou wilt wonder how it commeth to passe, that our Nation, which hath not been wont to receiue such disgraces, should now be so weak & vnprovided in the Indies, as to suffer such indignities, and to be so grossly ouertopped, outraged & vilified there: as also thou wilt no lesse admire, that any of the Netherlands nation, which hath receiued such and so many fauors and supports from hence, and held so good & antient correspondence with our nation, should now offer & commit such odious contumelies on Englishmen, their partners & allies by speciall Treaty. Herein thou wilt soon answer thy
A 2. self,

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selfe, if thou but consider the different end and designe of the English & Dutch Companies trading in the Indies, appearing by their severall course and practise respectively. The English being subjects of a peaceable Prince, that hath enough of his owne, and is therewith content, without affecting of new acquests; haue aymed at nothing in their East-India trade, but a lawfull and competent gaine by commerce and traffick with the people of those parts. And although they haue in some places builded Forts, and settled some strength, yet that hath not beene done by force or violence, against the good will of the Magistrates or people of the countrey; but with their desire, consent and good liking, for the security only of the Trade, and vpon the said Magistrate and peoples voluntarie yeelding themselves vnder the obedience and souerainty of the Crown of England; their owne ancient lawes, customes and priuiledges, neuerthelesse reserued. Further, the same English had vndoubted confidence in the Neatherlands Nation there also trading, especially being lately conjoyned with them in the strict alliance and sociall confederacy of the year 1619. and therefore attended nothing from them, but the offices of good affection and partnership. Upon these grounds, the English Company made their equipages answerable only to
a course

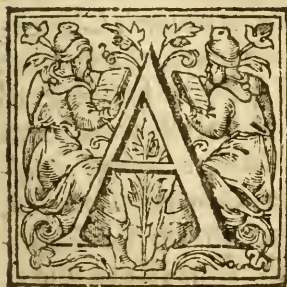
a course of cōmerce and peaceable traffick; not expecting any hostility, neither from the Indians, nor especially from the Dutch. On the other side, the Neatherlanders, from the beginning of their trade in the Indies, not contented with the ordinary course of a fair and free commerce, inuaded diuers Islands, took some Forts, built others, and laboured nothing more, than the conquests of Countries, and the acquiring of new dominion. By reason whereof, as they were accordingly provided of shipping, souldiers, and all warlike prouision, as also of places of Rendeuouz vpon the shore, and thereby enabled to wrong the English aswell as others: so the cost and charges of their shipping, Forts, and souldiers, imployed vpon these designes, rose to such an height, as was not to bee maintained by the trade they had in those parts. Wherefore, for a supply, they were forced (as some of their owne Countrymen and Aduenturers in their Company, affirm) to fish with dry nets, that is to say, to pick quarrels with the Indians, & so to take their ships, & make prize of their goods. Which yet not answering their charge and aduenture, they proceeded also to quarrell with the English; to debarre them of trade to free places; and for attempting such trade, to take their ships & goods. Touching which, when a good order was set by the said treaty of the year 1619.

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yet they saw, they could not make their reckoning to any purpose, vnlesse they vtterly draue the English out of the trade of those parts; thereby to haue the whole and sole traffick of the commodities of the Indies in these parts of Europe, in their owne hands; and so to make the price at their pleasure; sufficient to maintain & promote their conquests, and withall to yeeld them an ample benefit of their trading. Which vnlesse they can, by this and the like worrying and wearying of the English, bring to passe, it is easie to be iudged by those that vnderstand any thing of the course and state of the trade of those parts, that albeit their returnes heerafter should proue as great continually, as of late extraordinarily they haue happened to be, yet the maine stock and estate of the Company must needs abate and decay by some hundred thousands of pounds yeerly. Thus, Reader, thou seest what hath made vs vnprovided against such accidents, and what now enforceth the Dutch East-India Company, or their seruants in the Indies, against the common Genius of their Nation, and the wonted firm affection between these two Nations mutually, thus to degenerate, and break out into such strange and incredible outrages against their neereft allies and best-deseruing friends. Farewell.



A TRUE
RELATION
OF THE LATE UN-
JUST, CRUEL, AND BARBAROUS
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST
the *English* at AMBOYNA in the *East-Indies*,
by the *Neatherlanders* there, vpon a for-
ged pretence of a Conspiracy
of the said *English*.



After the fruitlesse issue of two
seuerall Treaties: the first *An.*
1613. in *London*; and the o-
ther, *An.* 1615. at the *Hage* in
Holland, touching the diffe-
rences betweene the *English*
and *Dutch* in the *East-Indies*:
at last by a third Treaty, *Anno*
1619. in *London*, there was a
full and solemne composition made of all the said dif-

differences, and a faire order set for the future proceeding of the Supposts of both Companies in the Indies; aswell in the course of their Trade and commerce, as otherwise. Amongst sundry other points, it was agreed, That in regard of the great blood-shed and cost, pertended to bee bestowed by the Hollanders in winning of the Trade of the Isles of the *Moluccos, Banda, & Amboyna*, from the Spaniards & Portugals, & in building of Forts for the continuall securing of the same, the said Hollanders therfore should enjoy two third parts, of that Trade, and the English the other third; and the charge of the Forts to bee maintained by taxes and impositions, to bee leuied vpon the Merchandize. Wherefore, in consequence of this agreement, the English East-India Company planted certaine Factories for their share of this Trade; some at the *Molluccos*, some at *Banda*, and some at *Amboyna*. Of the two former of these, there will be, at this present, small occasion to speake further; but the last will proue the Scene of a sad Tragedie.

This *Amboyna* is an Island lying neere *Seran*, of the circuit of fortie leagues, and giueth name also to some other smal Islands adiacent. It beareth Cloues; for gathering and buying in whereof, the English Companie for their part had planted fise seuerall Factories, the head and *Rendevouz* of all, at the town of *Amboyna*; and therein first Master *George Muschamp*, and afterward Master *Gabriell Towerson*, their Agents, with directions ouer the smaller Factories at *Hitto* and *Larica* vpon the same Island, and at *Cambello* and *Lobo*, vpon a point of the neighbouring Island of *Seran*.

Upon these Islands of *Amboyna*, and the point of *Scran*, the Hollanders haue foure Forts : the chief of all is at the said Town of *Amboyna*, and is very strong, hauing foure Points or Bulwarks with their curtains; and vpon each of these Points, six great peeces of Ordnance mounted, most of them of brasse. The one side of this Castle is washed by the Sea; and the other is diuided from the land with a ditch of foure or fise fathome broad, very deep, and euer filled with the Sea. The Garrison of this Castle consisteth of about 200. Dutch souldiers, and a company of free Burgers. Besides these, there is alwaies a matter of three or foure hundred Mardikers (for so they call the free Natiues) in the Town, ready to serue the Castle at an houres warning. There lie also in the road (for the most part) diuerse good ships of the Hollanders, aswell for the guard of the place by Sea, as for the occasions of traffick; this beeing the chief *Rendenouz* aswell for the Islands of *Banda*, as for the rest of *Amboyna*. Heer the English liued; not in the Castle, but vnder protection thereof, in a house of their owne in the Town : holding themselues safe, aswel in respect of the ancient bonds of amity between both nations, as of the strict conjunction made by the late Treatie before-mentioned.

They continued heer some two yeers, conuersing and trading together with the Hollanders, by vertue of the said Treaty. In which time there fell out sundry differences and debates betweene them; the English complayning, that the Hollanders did not onely lauish away much money in building, and vnecessary expences vpon the Forts and otherwise, and bring large and vnreasonable reckonings thereof

to the common accompt; but also did, for their part, pay the Garrisons with victualls and cloth of *Coromandell*, which they put off to the Souldiers at three or foure times the valew it cost them, yet would not allow of the English Companies part of the same charge, but onely in ready money; thereby drawing from the English (which ought to pay but one third part) more than two thirds of the whole true charge. Hereupon, and vpon the like occasions, grew some discontents and disputes, and the complaints were sent to *Iaccatra*, in the Island of *Iaua Maior*, to the Councell of defense of both Nations there residing: who also, not agreeing vpon the points in difference, sent the same hither ouer into Europe, to be decided by both Companies here; or, in default of their agreement, by the Kings Maiestie, and the Lords the States Generall, according to an Article of the Treatie of the yeare 1619. on this behalfe. In the meane time, the discontent betweene the English and the Dutch, about these and other differences, continued and daily increased, vntill at last there was a sword found, to cut in sunder that knot at once, which the tedious disputes of *Amboyna* and *Iaccatra* could not vntye. And this was vsed in manner as followeth.

About the cleuenth of February, 1622. *Stilo veteri*, a *Iapon* Souldier of the Dutch in their Castle of *Amboyna*, walking in the night vpon the wall, came to the Sentinell (being a Hollander,) and there, amongst other talke, asked him some questions touching the strength of the Castle, and the people that were therein. It is heer to be noted, that those *Iapons* (of whom there is not thirty in all the Island) did, for the most part, serue the Dutch as Souldiers, yet were

not of their trusty bands, alwaies lodged in the castle, but vpon occasion called out of the town to assist in the Watch. This *Iapon* aforesaid, was for his said conference with the Sentinell, apprehended vpon suspicion of treason, and put to the Torture. Thereby (as some of the Dutch affirmed) hee was brought to confesse himselfe, and sundry others of his countrey-men there, to haue contriued the taking of the Castle. Heereupon, other *Iapons* were examined and tortured, as also a Portugall, the Guardian of the Slaues vnder the Dutch. During this examination, which continued three or foure dayes; some of the English-men went to and from the Castle vpon their businesse, saw the prisoners, heard of their tortures, and of the crime laid to their charge; but all this while suspected not, that this matter did any whit concerne themselues; hauing neuer had any conuersation with the *Iapons*, nor with the Portugall aforesaid. At the same time there was one *Abel Price*, *Abel Price examined.* Chirurgion of the English, prisoner in the Castle, for offering in his drunkenesse to set a Dutch-mans house on fire. This fellow the Dutch tooke, and shewed him some of the *Iapons*, whom they had first most grievously tortured, and told him, they had confessed the English to haue been of their confederacy, for the taking of the Castle; and that if he would not confesse the same, they would vse him euen as they had done these *Iapons*, and worse also. Hauing giuen him the torture, they soone made him confesse what euer they asked him. This was the fifteenth of February, 1622. *Stilo veteri.* Forthwith, about nine of the Clock the same morning, they sent for Cap-

tain *Towerfon*, and the rest of the English that were in the Town, to come and speak with the Gouvernor in the Castle. They all went, saue one that was left to keep the house. Being come to the Gouvernor, he told Captain *Towerfon*, that himself and others of his Nation were accused of a conspiracy to surprize the Castle; and therefore, vntill further triall, were to remain prisoners. Instantly also they attached him that was left at home in the house, took the merchandize of the English Company there into their owne custody by Inuentory, & seized all the chests, boxes, books, writings, & other things in the English house. Captaine *Towerfon* was committed to his chamber, with a guard of Dutch souldiers. *Emanuel Tomson* was kept prisoner in the Castle: the rest, *viz. John Beomont, Edward Collins, William webber, Ephraim Ramsay, Timothie Johnson, John Fardo & Robert Brown*, were sent aboard the *Hollanders* ships then riding in harbour, some to one ship, and some to another, and all made fast in Irons. The same day also the Gouvernor sent to the two other Factories in the same Iland, to apprehend the rest of the English there. So that *Samuel Colson, John Clark, George Sharrock*, that were found in the factory at *Hitto*, and *William Grigs, and John Saddler* at *Larica*, were all brought prisoners to *Amboyna* the sixteenth of February. Upon which day also *John Powle, Iohn Wetherall, and Thomas Ladbrook*, were apprehended at *Cambello*, and brought in Irons vnto *Amboyna*, the twentieth of the same moneth. In the meane time, the Gouvernour and Fis-call went to worke with the prisoners that were already there. And first they sent for *John Beomont*,

and

and *Timothie Johnson*, from aboard the *Vnicorn*; who being comne into the Castle, *Beomont* was left with a guard in the Hall, and *Johnson* was taken into another room. Where, by and by, *Beomont* heard him cry out very pitifully; then to bee quiet for a little while, and then loud again. After taste of the torture, *Abel Price* the Chirurgion, that first was examined and tortured (as is aboue-remembred), was brought in to confront and accuse him. But *Johnson* not yet confessing any thing, *Price* was quickly carried out, and *Johnson* brought again to the torture; where *Beomont* heard him sometime cry aloud, then quiet againe, then roare afresh. At last, after hee had been about an houre in this second examination, hee was brought foorth wailing and lamenting, all wet, and cruelly burnt in diuers parts of his body, and so laid aside in a by-place of the Hall, with a souldier to watch him, that he should speak with no body. Then was *Emanuel Tomson* brought to examination; not in the roome where *Johnson* had beene, but in another something farther from the Hall. Yet *Beomont*, being in the Hall, heard him roare most lamentably, and many times. At last, after an houre and an halfe spent in torturing him, hee was carried away into another room another way; so that hee came not by *Beomont* through the Hall. Next, was *Beomont* called in, and, becing demanded many things, all which hee denied with deep oathes and protestations, was made fast to be tortured; a cloth tied about his neck, and two men ready with their Iarres of water to be powred on his head. But yet for this time the Gouvernor bade loose him; hee would spare him a day or two, because hee was an old man. This was all Saturdayes worke, the

*Emanuel
Tomson
examined.*

fifteenth of February aforesaid.

Vpon Sunday the sixteenth of February, *William webber, Edward Collins, Ephraim Ramsfey, and Robert Brown,* were fetcht from aboard the *Rotterdam*, to be examined. At the same time came *Samuel Colson, William Griggs, and John Clarke, George Sharrock, and John Saddler,* from *Hitto and Larica*, and were immediately, vpon their arriuell, brought into the Castle-Hall.

*Robert
Browne ex-
amined.
Edward
Collins ex-
amined.*

Robert Browne Tailor was first called in; and being tormented with water, confessed all in order as the Fiscall asked him.

Then was *Edward Collins* called in, and told, that those that were formerly examined, had confest him as accessary to the plot of taking the Castle. Which, when he denied with great othes & execrations, they made his hands and feete fast to the Racke, bound a cloth about his throate, ready to bee put to the torture of water. Thus prepared, he prayed to be respited, and he would confesse all. Being let downe, hee againe vowed and protested his innocency; yet said, that because hee knew that they would by torture make him confesse any thing, though neuer so false, they should doe him a great fauour, to tell him what they would haue him say, and hee would speake it, to auoide the torture. The Fiscall hereupon said; What? doe you mocke vs? and bade, Vp with him againe; and so gaue him the torment of water: which he not able long to endure, prayed to be let downe againe to his confession. Then he deuised a little with himselfe, and tolde them, that about two moneths and a halfe before, himselfe, *Tomson, Johnson, Browne, and Fardo,* had plotted, with the helpe of the Iapons, to sur-

surprise the Castle. Heere he was interrupted by the Fiscall, and asked, whether Captaine *Towerson* were not of that conspiracy. Hee answered, No. You ly, said the Fiscall: did not he call you all to him, and tell you, that those daily abuses of the Dutch had caused him to think of a plot, and that he wanted nothing but your consent and secrecie? Then said a Dutch Merchant, one *John Iooft* that stood by, Did not you all sweare vpon a Bible to be secret to him? *Collins* answered with great oaths, that hee knew nothing of any such matter. Then they bade make him fast againe: whereupon he then said, All was true that they had spoken. Then the Fiscall asked him, whether the English in the rest of the Factories, were not consenting to this plot. He answered, No. The Fiscall then asked him, whether the President of the English at Iaccatra, or *M. welden* Agent in Banda, were not plotters or priuie to this businesse. Againe he answered, no. Then the Fiscall asked him, by what meanes the Iaponers should haue executed their purpose. Whereat, when *Collins* stood staggering and deuising of some probable fiction, the Fiscall holpe him, and said, Should not two Iaponers haue gone to each point of the Castle, and two to the Gouvernours chamber doore; and when the hurly-burly had bin without, and the Gouvernour comming to see what was the matter, the Iaponers to haue killed him? Here one that stood by, said to the Fiscall, Do not tell him what he should say, but let him speake of himselfe. Whereupon the Fiscall, without attending the answer to his former question; asked what the Iapons should haue had for their reward. *Collins* answered, 1000. Ryalls apeece. Lastly, he asked him, when this

this plot should haue beene effected. Whereunto, although hee answered him nothing (not knowing what to deuise vpon the sudden) yet hee was dismissed, and very glad to come cleere of the torture, though with certaine beleefe that hee should die for this his confession.

*Sam. Colson
examined.*

Next was *Samuel Colson* brought in, being newly arriued from Hitto, as is before touched; and was the same day brought to the torture: who, for feare of the paine wherewith hee saw *Collins* come out, in such a case, that his eyes were almost blowne out of his head with the torment of water; chose rather to confesse all they asked him: and so was quickly dismissed, comming out weeping, lamenting, and protesting his innocency.

*John Clark
examined.*

Then was *John Clarke*, that came with *Colson* from Hitto, fetcht in, and a little after was heard (by the rest that were without in the Hall) to cry out amaine. They tortured him with water and with fire, by the space of two houres. The maner of his torture (as also of *Johnsons* and *Tomsons*) was as followeth: First they hoised him vp by the hands with a cord on a large dore, wherthey made him fast vpon two Staples of Iron, fixt on both sides at the top of the dore posts, haling his hands one from the other as wide as they could stretch. Being thus made fast, his feete hung some two foot from the ground; which also they stretcht asunder as far as they would retch, and so made them fast beneath vnto the dore-trees on each side. Then they bound a cloth about his necke and face so close, that little or no water could go by. That done, they poured the water softly vpon his head vntill the cloth was full, vpto the mouth and nostrils

nostrills, and somewhat higher; so that he could not draw breath, but he must withall suck-in the water: which being still continued to bee poured in softly, forced all his inward parts, came out of his nose, cares, and eyes; and often as it were stifling & choking him, at length took away his breath, & brought him to a swoone or fainting. Then they tooke him quickly downe, and made him vomit vp the water. Being a little recouered, they triced him vp againe, and poured in the water as before, eftsfoones taking him downe as he seemed to be stifled. In this maner they handled him three or foure seuerall times with water, till his body was swolne twice or thrice as bigge as before, his cheekes like great bladders, and his eyes staring and strutting out beyond his forehead: yet all this hee bare, without confessing any thing. Infomuch as the Fiscall and tormentors reuiled him, saying that he was a Diuell, and no man, or surely was a Witch; at least had some charme about him, or was enchanted, that he could beare so much. Wherefore they cut off his haire very short, as supposing he had some witchcraft hidden therein. Afterwards they hoised him vp againe as before, and then burnt him with lighted candles in the bottome of his feete, vntill the fat dropt out the candles; yet then applyed they fresh lights vnto him. They burnt him also vnder the elbowes, and in the palmes of the hands; likewise vnder the arme-pits, vntill his inward might evidently be seene. At last, when they saw he could of himselfe make no handsome confession, then they ledde him along with questions of particular circumstances, by themselves framed. Being thus wearied and ouercome by the torment, hee

answered yea, to whatsoever they asked: whereby they drew from him a bodie of a confession to this effect; to wit, That Captaine *Tower* had vpon New-yeares day last before, sworne all the English at *Amboyna* to be secret and assistant to a plot that he had projected, with the helpe of the Iaponers, to surpris the Castle, and to put the Governour and the rest of the Dutch to death.

Having thus martyred this poor man, they sent him out by foure Blacks; who carried him between them to a dungeon, where he lay five or six daies without any Chirurgeon to dresse him, vntil (his flesh being putrefied) great Maggots dropt and crept from him in a most loathsome & noysome maner. Thus they finished their Sabbath daies work; & it growing now darke, sent the rest of the English (that came that day from *Hitto*, and till then attended in the Hall) first to the Smith's shop, where they were loaden with Irons, & then to the same loathsome dungeon where *Clarke* and the rest were, accompanied with the poore Iaponers, lying in the putrefaction of their tortures.

The next morning, being Munday the seuenteenth of February, old stile, *William Griggs* and *John Fardo*, with certaine Iaponers, were brought into the place of examination.

Will. Griggs
examined.

John Fardo
examined.

The Iaponers were first cruelly tortured, to accuse *Griggs*; which at last they did: and *Griggs*, to auoid the like torture, confessed all that the Fiscall demanded: By and by the like also was done by *John Fardo*, and other Iaponers: but *Fardo* himselfe endured the torture of water, and at last confessed whatsoever the Fiscall asked him; and so was sent back to prison.

The same day also *John Beomont* was brought the
second

second time to the Fiscals chamber ; where one Cap-
taine *Newport* a Dutch-mans son (borne in England)
was vsed as an Interpreter. *William-Grigs* was also
brought-in to accuse him ; who said , that when the
consultation for taking of the Castle, was held, then
hee (the said *Beomont*) was present. *Beomont* denied it
with great earnestnesse and deep oaths. At last being
triced vp, and drenched with water till his inwards
were ready to crack, he answered affirmatiuely to all
the Fiscals interrogatories : yet as soon as hee was let
down, he cleerly demonstrated to Captain *Newport*,
and *Johnson* a Dutch Merchant then also present, that
these things could not be so. Neuerthelesse hee was
forced to put his hand to his confession, or else hee
must to the torture againe : which to auoid, hee sub-
scribed ; and so had a great iron bolt & two shackles
riueted to his legs, & then was carried back to prison.

Ioh. Beomont
examined 2^o

After this, *George Sharrock*, Afsistant at Hitto, was
called in question ; who, seeing how grieuously o-
thers were martyred, made his earnest prayer to God
(as since vpon his oath hee hath acknowledged) that
he would suffer him to make some such probable lyes
against himself, as the Dutch might beleue, and so
hee might escape the torment. Being brought to the
Rack, the water prouided, and the candles lighted, he
was by the Gouvernor and Fiscall examined, and char-
ged with the conspiracy. He fell vpon his knees, and
protested his innocencie. Then they commanded
him to the Rack, and told him, vnlesse hee would
confesse, he should be tormented with fire and water
to death, and then should be drawne by the heeles to
the gallows, and there hanged vp. He still persisting
in his innocencie, the Fiscall bade him be hoised

George
Sharrock ex-
amined.

vp. Then hee craued respite awhile, and told them, that he was at Hitto, and not in *Amboyna*, vpon New-yeeres day, when the consultation was pretended; neither had beene there since Nouember before, as was well knowne to sundry of the Hollanders themselves, that resided there also with him. Heereupon, they commanded him againe to the Racke: but hee, crauing respite as before, now told them, that hee had many times heard *John Clark* (who was with him at Hitto) say, That the Dutch had done them many vn-sufferable wrongs, and that he would be reuenged of them: to which end, hee had once broken with Captaine *Towersson* of a braue plot. At which word the Fiscall and the rest were attentiuē, encouraging him to proceede. So hee went on, saying, that *John Clark* had entreated Captaine *Towersson*, that he might go to *Maccassar*, there to consult and aduise with the Spaniards to come with gallies, and rob the small Factories of *Amboyna* and *Seran*, when no ships were there. Heere they asked him, what Captaine *Towersson* said to this. He answered, that Captaine *Towersson* was very much offended with *Clarke* for the motion, and from thenceforth could neuer abide him. Heereupon the Fiscall called him rogue, & said he prated all from the matter, and should to the torture. Hee craued fauour againe, and began another tale; to wit, that vpon Twelf-day then last past, *John Clark* told him at Hitto, that there was a practice, to take the Castle of *Amboyna*; and asked him, whether he would consent thereunto. Whereupon he demanded of *Clark*, whether Captaine *Towersson* knew of any such matter. Which, *Clark* affirming; then he (the said *Sharrock*) said, that hee would do as the rest did. Then the Fiscall.

call asked him, what time the consultation was held. He answered, In Nouember last. The Fiscall said, That could not bee: for, the consultation was vpon New-years day. The prisoner said as before in the beginning, that hee had not been in *Amboyna* since the first of December, till now that hee was brought thither. Why then, quoth the Fiscall, haue you belyed your self? Wnereto the prisoner resolutely answered, that all that hee had spoken touching any treason, was false, and fained onely to auoid torment. Then went the Fiscall out into another roome to the Gouvernor, and anon returned, and sent *Sharrock* vnto the prison againe. The next day hee was called againe, and a writing presented him; wherein was framed a formall confession of his last conference with *Clark* at Hitto, touching the plot to take the Castle of *Amboyna*: which being read-ouer to him, the Fiscall asked him, whether it were true, or no. He answered, No. Why then, said the Fiscall, did you confesse it? He answered, For feare of torment. The Fiscall and the rest in a great rage told him he lyed; his mouth had spoken it, and it was true, and therefore he should subscribe it. Which as soone as he had done, hee fell presently into a great passion, charging them bitterly to be guilty of the innocent blood of himself and the rest, which they should look to answer for at the Day of Iudgement: withall he grappled with the Fiscall, and would haue stopped him from carrying in the confession to the Gouvernor, with whom he also craved to speak; but was instantly laid hold on, and carryed away to prison.

William Webber, being next examined, was told by the Fiscall, that *John Clark* had confessed him to haue

William Webber examined.

been at *Amboyna* on New-yeers day, and sworne to Captaine *Towerfon*'s plot, &c. All which he denied, alleaging, hee was that day at *Larica*: yet, beeing brought to the torture, hee then confessed, hee had bin at the consultation at *Amboyna* vpon New-yeers day, with all the rest of the circumstances in order as he was asked. He also further told them, hee had receiued a letter from *John Clark*; after which was a Postscript, excusing his brief writing at that time, for that there was great businesse in hand. But one *Rezier* a Dutch Merchant, then standing by, told the Gouvernor, that vpon New-yeers day, the time of this pretended consultation, *Webber* and hee were merry at *Larica*. So the Gouvernor left him, and went out. But the Fiscall held on vpon the other point, touching the Postscript of *Clark*'s Letter, vrging him to shew the same. Which when hee could not doe, though often terrified with the torture, he gaue him respite; promising to saue his life, if hee would produce that Letter.

Gabriel Towerfon examined.

Then was Captaine *Towerfon* brought to the examination, and shewed what others had confessed of him. Hee deeply protesting his innocencie, *Samuel Colson* was brought to confront him: who beeing told, that vnlesse hee would now make good his former confession against Captaine *Towerfon*, he should to the torture; coldly re-affirmed the same, and so was sent away. They also brought *William Grigs* and *John Fardo* to iustifie their former confessions to his face. Caprain *Towerfon* seriously charged them, that as they would answer it at the dreadful day of Iudgement, they should speak nothing but the truth. Both of them instantly fell downe vpon their knees before him;

him; praying him for God's sake to forgiue them, and saying further openly before them all, that whatsoever they had formerly confessed, was most false, and spoken onely to auoid torment. With that, the Fiscall and the rest offered them againe to the torture: which they would not endure, but then affirmed their former confessions to be true.

When *Colson* (who had accused Captain *Towerfon* before) was required to set his hand to his confession, he asked the Fiscall, vpon whose head he thought the sinne would lie; whether vpon his that was constrained to confesse what was false, or vpon the constrainers. The Fiscall, after a little pause vpon this question, went in to the Governour then in another room; but anon returning, told *Colson* hee must subscribe it: which he did; yet withall made this protestation: Well, quoth he, you make mee to accuse my selfe and others, of that which is as false as GOD is true: for, God is my witnes, I am as innocent as the child new borne.

Thus haue they examined all that belong to the English Company in the severall Factories of the Island of *Amboyna*.

The one and twentieth of February, they examined *Io. Wetherall* Factor at Cambello in the Island of *Seran*. He confessed, he was at *Amboyna* vpon New-years day: but for the consultation, whereof he was demanded; he said he knew of no other, but touching certain cloth of the English Company, that lay in the Factories rotting and worm-eaten, which they aduised together how to put off to the best auail of their Employers. The Governour said, they questioned him not about cloth, but of treason: whereof when hee had

had protested his innocency, hee was for that time dismissed. But the next day he was sent for again, and Captaine *Towerfon* brought to confront and accuse him, hauing before (it seemes) confessed somewhat against him. But *M. Towerfon* spake now these words onely: Oh, *M. wetherall*, *M. wetherall*, speak the truth, and nothing but the truth, as God shall put into your heart. So Captaine *Towerfon* was put out againe, and *wetherall* brought to the torture of water; with great threats, if water would not make him confesse, fire should. He prayed them to tell him what hee should say, or to write downe what they would; hee would subscribe it. They said, hee needed no Tutor; they would make him confesse of himself. But when they had triced him vp foure seuerall times, and saw hee knew not what to say, then they read him other mens confessions, and asked him from point to point, as they had done others: and he still answered, Yea to all.

John Powle
examined.

Next was called in *John Powle*, *wetherals* Assistant at Cambello: but he, prouing that he was not at *Amboyna* since Nouember (saue now when hee was brought thither prisoner), and being spoken-for by one *John Iooft*, who had long beene well acquainted with him, was dismissed without torture.

Thomas
Ladbrook
examined.

Then was *Thomas Ladbrook*, seruant to *wetherall* and *Powle* at Cambello, brought to bee examined: but prouing that hee was at Cambello at the time of the pretended consultation, and seruing in such quality, as that he was neuer acquainted with any of the Letters from the Agent of *Amboyna*, hee was easily and quickly dismissed.

Ephraim Ramsfey was also examined vpon the whole
preten-

pretended conspiracy, and particularly questioned *Ephraim* concerning Captaine *welden* the English Agent in *Ramsley* Banda : but denying all, and prouing that he was not *examined.* at *Amboyna* at New-years tide, being also spoken-for by *John Iooft*, was dismissed, after hee had hanged in the Rack a good while, with the Irons vpon his legs, and the cloth about his mouth.

Lastly, *John Saddler*, seruant to *William Grigs* at *La-John Saddler* *rica*, was examined; and beeing found to have been *examined.* absent from *Amboyna* at New-years tide, when *Grigs* and others were there, was dismissed.

Thus haue we all their examinations, tortures, and confessions, being the work of eight daies, from the fifteenth vnto the three and twentieth of February. After which, was two daies respite before the Sentence. *John Powle*, being himself acquitted as before-said, went to the prison to visit *John Fardo*, one of those that had accused Captaine *Tower-son*. To him *Fardo* religiously protested his innocencie; but especially his sorrow for accusing M. *Tower-son*: for, said he, the feare of death doth nothing dismay me; for, God (I trust) will be mercifull to my soule, according to the innocency of my cause. The onely matter that troubleth me, is, that through feare of torment I haue accused that honest and godly man Captaine *Tower-son*, who (I think in my conscience) was so vpright and honest towards all men, that he harboured no ill will to any, much lesse would attempt any such businesse as he is accused of. Hee further said, hee would before his death receiue the Sacrament, in acknowledgement that hee had accused Captaine *Tower-son* falsely and wrongfully, onely through feare of torment.

The five and twentieth of February, old Stile, all the prisoners, as well the English as the Portugall and the Iapons, were brought into the great Hall of the Castle; and there were solemnly condemned, except *Ioohn Powle, Ephraim Ramsey, Iohn Saddler, and Thomas Ladbroke*, formerly acquitted, as aforesaid.

Captain *Towerfon* hauing been (during all his imprisonment) kept apart from the rest, so that none of them could come to speake with him; writ much in his chamber (as some of the Dutch report), but all was surpressed, saue onely a Bill of debt, which one *Tb. Johnson* a free Burgher got of him by fauour of his keepers, for acknowledgement, that the English Company owed him a certaine summe of money. In the end of this Bill hee writ these words: *Firmed by the Firme of mee Gabriel Towerfon now appointed to die, guiltlesse of any thing that can be iustly laid to my charge. God forgive them their guilt, and receiue me to his mercy. Amen.* This Bill being brought to *M. Welden* the English Agent at Banda, he paid the money, and receiued-in the acknowledgement.

William Grigs (who had before accused Captaine *Towerfon*) writ these words following in his Table-book: *we, whose names are heer specified; Iohn Beomont, Merchant of Lobo; William Grigs, Merchant of Larica, Abel Price, Chirurgion of Amboyna, Robert Browne, Tailor, which doe heer lie prisoners in the ship Rotterdam, being apprehended for conspiracie, for blowing up the Castle of Amboyna: we being iudged to death this fift of March, Anno. 1622. which wee through torment was constrained to speake; that which we neuer meant, nor once imagined; the which wee take upon our deaths & saluation, they tortured vs with that*

extreme torment of fire and water, that flesh and blood could not endure: and this we take upon our deaths, that they haue put vs to death guiltlesse of our accusation. So therefore we desire, they that shall understand this; that our Employers may understand these wrongs, and that your selues would haue a care to looke to your selues: for their intēt was to haue brought you in also: they askt concerning you; which if they had tortured vs, we must haue confessed you also. And so farewell; written in the dark.

This Table-book was afterwards deliuered to M. welden aforenamed, by one that serued the Dutch.

Samuel Colson also, another that accused Captaine Tower-son, writ as followeth in the waste leaues of a booke, wherein were bound together the Common Prayers, the Psalmes, and the Catechisme.

In one page thus;

March. 5. *stilo nouo*, being Sunday, aboard the *Rotterdam*, lying in Irons:

Vnderstand that I Samuel Colson, late Factor of Hitto, was apprehended for suspicion of conspiracy; and for any thing I know, must die for it: wherefore, hauing no better means to make my innocency knowne, haue writ this in this booke, hoping some good Englishman will see it. I doe here upon my saluation, as I hope by his death and passion to haue redemption for my sinnes, that I am cleere of all such conspiracy; neither do I know any Englishman guilty thereof, nor other creature in the world. As this is true: God blesse me.

Samuel Colson.

On the other side, vpon the first page of the Catechisme, is thus written:

IN another leafe you shall vnderstand more, which I haue written in this booke. Samuel Colson.

In the beginning of the Psalms, and in the leaf so referred vnto, is thus written, *viz.*

THE Iapons were taken with some villanie, and brought to examination: beeing most tyrannously tortur'd, were asked if the English had any hand in their plot, which torture made them say, Yea. Then was Master Tomson, M. Johnson, M. Collins, John Clark brought to examination, and were burned under the armes, armpits, the hands, and soles of the fecte, with another most miserable torment to drinke water; some of them almost tortured to death, and were forced to confesse that which they neuer knew, by reason of the torment which flesh and blood is not able to endure. Then were the rest of the Englishmen called one by one (amongst which I was one) being wished to confesse, or else I must goe to torment; withall caused M. Johnson, who was before tormented, to witnesse against me, or else he should be tormented againe; which rather than he would endure, he said, what they would haue, he would speake. Then must I confesse that I neuer knew, or else to goe to torment; which rather than I would suffer, I did confesse that, which (as I shall be saued before God Almighty) is not true; being forced for feare of torment. Then did they make vs witnesse against Captaine Towerson, and at last made Captaine Towerson confesse: all being for feare of most cruell torment; for which wee must all dye. As I meane and hope to haue pardon for my sinnes, I know no more than the childe vborne of this businesse. Written with my owne hand the fift of March, stilo nouo.

Samuel Colson.

Yet in another page were these words:

I was

I was born in New-castle upon Tyne; where I desire this book may come, that my friends may know of my innocencie.

Samuel Colson.

This Book he deliuered to one that serued the Hollanders; who sowed it vp in his bed, and afterward, at his oportunity, deliuered it to *M. welden* before-named.

All these said Writings are yet extant vnder the hands of the seuerall parties, well knowne to their friends heer in England.

The six and twentieth of February, *stilo. veteri*, the prisoners were all brought into the great Hall of the Castle (except Captain *Tower-son* and *Emanuel Tom-son*) to be prepared for death by the Ministers. The Iapons now all in generall, as some of them had done before in particular, cried out to the English, saying; O you Englishmen, where did wee euer in our liues eat with you, talk with you, or (to our remembrance) see you? The English answered, Why then haue you accused vs? The poore men, perceiuing they were made beleue each had accused others, before they had so done indeed; shewed them their tortured bodies, and said, If a stone were thus burnt, would it not change his nature? how much more we that are flesh and blood!

Whilst they were all in the Hall, Capitaine *Tower-son* was brought vp into the place of examination, and two great Iarris of water carried after him. What hee there did or suffered, was vnknowne to the English without: but it seemeth, they made him then to vnder-write his confession. After supper, *John Powle*,

Ephraim Ramsey, *Thomas Ladbroke*, and *John Saddler*, who were found not-guilty, as aforefaid, were taken from the rest, and put into another roome. By and by also were *Samuel Colson* & *Edward Collins* brought from the rest, into the room where *Emanuel Tomson* lay. The Fiscall told them, it was the Gouvernors mercy, to saue one of them three: and it being indifferent to him, which of them were the man, it was his pleasure they should draw lots for it. which they did, and the free lot fell to *Edward Collins*, who then was carried away to the chamber, where *John Powle* and the rest that were quit, lodged: and *Samuel Colson* back into the Hall. Anon also *John Beomont* was brought out of the Hall, into the chamber where *John Powle*, & the rest of the acquitted persons were, and was told, that he was beholding to *Peter Johnson* the Dutch Merchant of Loho, and to the Secretarie; for they two had begged his life.

So then there remained in the Hall ten of the English; for Captaine *Towerson* and *Emanuel Tomson* (as is said before) were kept in seuerall rooms apart from the rest. To these that remained in the Hall, came the Dutch Ministers, who telling them how short a time they had to liue, admonished and exhorted them to make their true confessions; for it was a dangerous and desperate thing, to dissemble at such a time. The English still professed their innocency, and prayed the Ministers, that they might all receiue the Sacrament, as a seale of the forgiuennesse of their finnes; and withall, thereby to confirme their last profession of their innocencie. But this would by no meanes be granted. Whereupon *Samuel Colson* said thus vnto the Ministers; You manifest vnto vs the danger

of diffimulation in this case. But tell vs; if we suffer guiltlesse, being otherwise also true beleeuers in Christ Iesus, What shall be our reward? The Preacher answered, By how much the cleerer you are, so much the more glorious shall bee your resurrection. With that word, *Colson* started vp, imbraced the Preacher, and gaue him his purse, with such money as hee had in it, saying; *Domine*, God blesse you: Tell the Gouvernour, I freely forgiue him; and I intreat you, to exhort him to repent him of this bloody tragedy, wrought vpon vs poore innocent soules. Here all the rest of the English signified their consent to this speech. Then spake *John Fardo* to the rest, in presence of the Ministers, as followeth: My countrey-men and brethren, that are heere with mee condemned to dye, I charge you all, as you will answer it at Gods iudgement seat, if any of you bee guilty of this matter, whereof we are condemned, discharge your consciences, and confesse the truth for satisfaction of the world. Hereupon *Samuel Colson* spake with a loude voyce, saying, According to my innocency in this Treason, so LORD pardon all my sinnes: and if I be guiltie thereof more or lesse, let me neuer be partaker of thy heauenly ioyes. At which words, eueryone of the rest cryed out, Amen for me, Amen for me, good Lord. This done, each of them knowing whom he had accused, went one to another; begging forgiuennesse for their false accusation, being wrung from them by the paines or feare of torture. And they all freely forgave one another: for none had beene so falsely accused; but he himselfe had accused another as falsely. In particular, *George Sharrock* (who suruiued to relate this nights passage) kneel-

led:

led down to *John Clark*, whom he had accused of the tale at Hitto aboue-mentioned, and craued forgiuenes at his hands. *Clark* freely forgauē him; saying, How should I look to be forgiuen of God, if I should not forgiue you, hauing my selfe so falsely accused *Captain Tomerfon* and others?

After this, they spent the rest of the dolefull night in Prayer; singing of Psalmes, and comforting one another; though the Dutch that guarded them, offered them wine, bidding them drink *Lustick*, and driue away their sorrow; according to the custom of their owne Nation in the like case, but contrary to the nature of the English.

Upon the morrow-morning, being the execution-day, the 27. of February, *stilo veteri*, *John Powle* being freed (as is aboue-recited) came into the room where the condemned persons were, and found them at Prayer. They all requested him to relate vnto their friends in England the innocency of their cause; taking it vpon their deaths, that what they had confessed against themselues & others, touching this crime, was all false, and forced by feare of torture.

The same morning, *William Webber* was called again into the Fiscals room, and there pressed to produce the letter, which hee had before confessed to haue receiued from *John Clark*, in the *Postscript* wherof some great businesse was intimated. They promised him his life, if he would deliuer or produce them that Letter: which although hee did not, nor indeed could, yet at last they pardoued him, and sent him to the rest that were faued, and *Sharrock* with him.

That morning, *Emanuel Tomson*, vnderstanding that *John Beomont* was pardoned, made means to haue him

him come and speak with him; which, with much ado, hee obtained. *Beomont* found him sitting in a chamber, all alone, in a most miserable fashion; the wounds of his torture bound vp; but the matter and gore-blood issuing thorow the Rollers. Hee tooke *M. Beomont* by the hand, and prayed him; when hee came into England, to doe his ductie to the honourable Companie his Masters, to *M. Robinsson*, and to his brother *Billingsley*; and to certifie them of his innocencie; which (said hee) you your self knowe well enough.

All things beeing prepared for the execution, the condemned were brought forth of the Hall, a-long by the chamber where the quit and pardoned were; who stood in the dore, to giue and take the farewell of their countrey-men now going to execution. Staying a little for this purpose, they prayed and charged those that were saued, to bear witness to their friends in England of their innocency, and that they died not traitors, but so many Innocents meerly murdered by the Hollanders; whom they prayed God to forgiue their blood-thirstinesse, and to haue mercy vpon their owne soules.

Being brought into the Yard; their Sentence was there read vnto them from a Gallery: and then they were thence caried vnto the place of execution, together with nine Iapons, and a Portugall; nor the ordinary and short way, but round about, in a long Procession, thorow the Towne: the way guarded with five Companies of Souldiers; Dutch & Amboyners, and thronged with the Natiues of the Island, that (vpon the Summons giuen the day before by the sound of the Drum) flocked together to behold this

triumph of the Dutch ouer the English. *Samuel Colson* had conceiued a prayer in writing, in the end whereof he protested his innocencie: which prayer hee read to his fellows the night before; and now also at the place of execution deuoutely pronounced the same; then threw away the paper: which the Gouvernor caused to bee brought vnto him, and kept it.

Emanuel Tomson told the rest, he did not doubt but God would shew some signe of their innocencie; and euery one of the rest tooke it seuerally vpon their death, that they were vtterly guiltlesse: and so, one by one, with great cheerfulnesse, they suffered the fatal stroke. The Portugall praied ouer his Beads very deuoutly, and often kissed the Crosse; swearing thereupon, that he was vtterly innocent of this treason; yet confessed, that God had justly brought this punishment vpon him; for that, hauing a wife in his owne Countrey, he had, by the perswasion of the Dutch Gouvernor, taken another in that Countrey, his first beeing yet liuing.

The Iapons likewise (according to their Religion) shut vp their last Act with the like profession of their innocencie. So there suffered ten Englishmen; viz: Captaine *Gabriel Tomerson*, the Agent of the English at *Amboyna*; *Samuel Colson*, Factor at *Hitto*; *Emanuel Tomson*, Assistant at *Amboyna*; *Timothy Johnson*, Assistant there also; *John Wetherell*, Factor at *Cambello*; *John Clarke*, Assistant at *Hitto*; *William Grigges*, Factor at *Larica*; *John Fardo*, Steward of the house; *Abel Price*, Chirurgion; and *Robert Browne*, Tailor.

The Portugall also suffered with them. His name was *Augustine Perez*. He was borne at Bengala.

The names of the Iaponeses that suffered (if any be curious to know them) were as followeth :

<i>Hitieso,</i>	} all borne at Firando.
<i>Tsiosa,</i>	
<i>Sinsa.</i>	
<i>Sidney Migiel,</i>	} borne at Nangafacque.
<i>Pedro Congie,</i>	
<i>Thome Corea.</i>	
<i>Quiundayo</i>	natiue of Coraets.
<i>Tsabinda</i>	of Tsouckergo.
<i>Zanchoe</i>	of Fisien.

Besides these, there were two other Iaponeses; the one named *Soysimo*, borne at Firando; and the other *Sacoube*, of the same place: the former of which being tortured, confessed both to haue beene priuie to this pretended treason, and to haue offered his seruice vnto the English, to ayde them in taking of the Castle: and the latter confessed to haue had knowledge of the consultation of the other Iapons to this purpose. But neyther of them was executed, nor so much as condemned. The reason whereof was not knowne to the English that were saued.

They had prepared a cloth of blacke Veluet for Captaine *Towerson*'s bodie to fall vpon; which being stayned and defaced with his blood, they afterwards put to the account of the English Companie.

At the instant of the execution, there arose a great darkeness, with a sudden and violent gust of winde and tempest; whereby two of the Dutch

Shippes, riding in the harbour, were driuen from their anchors, and with great labour and difficulty saued from the rockes. Within a few dayes after, one *William Dunckin*, who had told the Governour, That *Robert Browne*, the English Tailour, had a few moneths before told him, hee hoped, that within sixe moneths the English should haue as much to doe in the Castle of *Amboyna*, as the Dutch. This fellow, comming vpon an euening to the graue where the English were buried, being all (saue Captain *Towerson*) in one pit, fell down vpon the graue; and hauing lien there awhile, rose vp againe starke mad, and so continued two or three dayes together, and then died. Foorthwith also fell a new sicknesse at *Amboyna*, which swept away about a thousand people, Dutch and Amboyners: in the space wherein, there vsually died not about thirty at other seasons. These signes were by the suruiuing English referred to the confident prediction of *Emanuel Tomson* aboue-named, and were by the Amboyners interpreted as a token of the wrath of God for this barbarous tyranny of the Hollanders.

The next day after the execution, being the eight and twentieth of February, *Stilo veteri*, was spent in triumph for the new General of the Dutch then proclaimed, and in publick rejoycing for the deliuerance from this pretended treason. The day following, being the first of March, *John Beomont*, *George Sharrock*, *Edward Collins*, and *William webber*, were brought to the Governour, who told *webber*, *Beomont* and *Sharrock*; that they were pardoned in honour of the new
Ge-

Generall; and *Collins*, that he was to go to Iaccatra, there to stand to the fauour of the Generall. So the Gouvernor made them drink wine with him, and courteously dismissed them; willing them to go and consult with the rest that were saued, who were fit to be placed in the seuerall Factories. Which done, and their opinions reported to the Gouvernor, hee accordingly commanded each to his place; adding, that he would thenceforth take vpon him the patronage and government of the English Companies businesse. To which purpose, he had within a few daies past opened a Letter that came from the English President at Iaccatra, directed to Captaine *Tower*; beeing (as hee said) the first English Letter that euer he intercepted; further saying, that he was glad that he found by that Letter, that the English at Iaccatra were innocent touching this businesse.

The Gouvernor and Fiscall, hauing thus made an end at *Amboyna*, dispatched them selues for Banda: wherethey made very diligent enquiry against Captaine *welden*, the English Agent there, yet found no colour nor shadow of guilt to lay hold on; but at last entertained him with courteous speeches, professing to be very glad, that they found him, as well as the English at Iaccatra, to be without suspicion of this treason (as they tearm it). Captaine *welden*, perceiuing the disorder and confusion of the English Companies affaires at *Amboyna*, by means of this dealing of the Dutch; forthwith hired a Dutch Pinace at Banda, and passed to *Amboyna*: where, instantly vpon his arruall, he re-called the Companies seruants, sent (as before) by the Dutch Gouvernor to the vnder-Factories.

Having enquired of them, & the rest that were left at *Amboyna*, of the whole proceeding lately passed, hee found, by the constant and agreeing relation of them all, that there was no such treason of the English as was pretended: as also hee vnderstood, what strict command the Governour had giuen to the suruiuing English, not once to talke or conferre with the Country-people concerning this bloody businesse, although the said Country-people euery day reproched them with treason, and a bloody intention to haue massacred the natiues, and to haue ripped vp the bellies of women with childe, and such like stufte; wherewith the Dutch haue possessed the poore Vulgar, to make the English odious vnto them. The said *M. welden* therefore finding it to sort neither with the honour nor profit of the English Company, his Masters, to hold any longer residence in *Amboyna*, hee took this poore remnant of the English a-long with him, in the said hired Pinace, for *Iaccatra*; whither the Governour had sent *John Beomont* and *Edward Collins* before, as men condemned, and left to the mercy of the Generall.

When this heauy newes of *Amboyna* came to *Iaccatra* and the English there, the President forthwith sent to the Generall of the Dutch, to knowe by what authority the Governour at *Amboyna* had thus proceeded against the English, and how he, & the rest of the Dutch there at *Iaccatra*, did approoue these proceedings. The Generall returned for answer, that, The Governour of *Amboyna*'s authority was deriued from that of the Lords States Generall of the Vnited Netherlands; vnder whom hee had lawfull iurisdiction both in criminall and ciuill causes, within the district
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of *Amboyna*. Further, that such proceeding was necessary against traitors, such as the English; executed at *Amboyna*, might appeare to be by their owne confessions: a copy whereof hee therewith sent to the English President; who sent the same back to be authentickly certified, but receiued it not again.

Hitherto hath been recited the bare & naked narration of the progresse and passage of this action, as it is taken out of the depositions of six severall English Factors: whereof foure were condemned, and the other two acquitted, in this Proesse of *Amboyna*; all, since their return into England; examined vpon their othes in the Admiralty Court. The particular of Captain *Towerson's*, as also of *Emanuel Tomson's* examinations and answers, are not yet come to light, by reason that these two were kept apart from all the rest, and each alone by himself; nor any other of the English suffred to come and speak with them, except onely that short Farewell which *John Beomont* tooke of *Tomson* the morning before the execution aforementioned. The like obscurity is yet touching the examinations and answers of diuerse of the rest that were executed; beeing, during their imprisonment, so strictly lookt-to and watched by the Dutch, that they might not talke together, nor mutually relate their miseries.

But because the Hollanders defend their own proceedings by the confessions of the parties executed, acknowledging severally vnder their hands, that they were guilty of the pretended crime; it will not be amisse to recollect and recall vnto this place, as it were vnto one summe and totall, certain circumstances dispersed in severall parts of this narration; whereby as

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well the innocencie of the English, as the vnlawfull proceedings against them, may be manifested.

First therefore it is to be remembred; that the Iapons were apprehended, examined, & tortured three or foure daies, before the English were attached, and the same aswell of their apprehension, as torture, was rise and notorious in the Town of *Amboyna*, and the parts adioyning. *Tomson* in this *interim*, and the very first day of the examination of the Iapon, went to the Castle to ask leaue of the Governour to land some Rice, and brought backe the newes with him to the English house of the cruell handling of these poore Iapons. This had been *Item* enough to the English, if they had been guilty, to shift for themselues: where-to also they had ready means by the Curricuries or small Boats of the Amboyners, which lie along the Strand in great number, wherwith they might easily haue transported themselues to *Seran*, to *Bottoon*, or to *Maccassar*, out of the reach and iurisdiction of the Dutch: but in that they fled not in this case, it is a very strong presumption, that they were as little priuie to any treason of their owne, as suspicious of any treacherous traine laid for their bloods.

In the next place let it be considered, how impossible it was for the English to atchieue this pretended enterprife.

The Castle of *Amboyna* is of a very great strength (as is before declared); the Garrison therein two or three hundred men, besides as many moe of their free Burgers in the Towne. What their care and circumspection in all their Forts is, may appeare not only by the quick Alarum they now took at the foolish question of the poore Iapon, made to the Sentinell a-
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boue received; but also by that which a little before hapned at Iaccatra, where one of their souldiers was shot to death for sleeping in the Watch.

Durst ten Englishmen (whereof not one a souldier) attempt any thing vpon such a strength & vigilancy? As for the assistance of the Iapons, they were but ten neither, and all vnarmed aswell as the English. For, as at the seizure of the English house, all the prouision therein found was but three swords, two muskets, and halfe a pound of powder: so the Iapons (except when they are in seruice of the Castle, and there armed by the Dutch) are allowed to haue no Armes, but onely a Catanne, a kinde of short sword: and it is forbidden to all the Dutch, vpon great penalty, to sell any hand-gun, powder or bullets, to the Iapons or Amboyners. But let it be imagined that these twentie persons, English and Iapons, were so desperate as to aduenture the exploit; how should they be able to master the Dutch in the Castle, or to keep possession when they had gotten it? what Seconds had they? There was neither Ship nor Pinace of the English in the harbour. All the rest of the Iapons in the Island, were not twentie persons, and not one English more. The neerest of the rest of the English, were at Banda, forty leagues from *Amboyna*; and those but nine persons, all afterwards cleered by the Gouvernor and Fiscall themselues from all suspicion of this pretended crime; as were also the rest of the English at Iaccatra. On the other side, besides the strength of the Castle and Town of *Amboyna*, the Hollanders haue three other strong Castles, well furnished with Souldiers, in the same Island, and at Cambello neere adioyning. They had then also in the road of *Amboy-*

na eight Ships and vessels, namely, the *Rotterdam* of 1200. tun, the *Vnicorne* of 300. tun, the *Free-mans* vessell of 100. tun, the *Calck* of 60. tun, Captaine *Gamals Iunck* of 40. the *Flute* of 300. tun, the *Amsterdam* of 1400. tun, and a small Pinace of about 60. tun; and all these well furnished with men and munition. It is true, that the Stories doe record sundry valiant and hardy enterprises of the English Nation, and Holland is witnessse of some of them, yea, hath reaped the fruit of the English resolution; yet no Story, nor Legend scarcely reporteth any such hardi-nesse eyther of the English or others, That so few persons, so naked of all prouisions and supplies, should vndertake such an aduenture vpon a counterpartie, so well and abundantly fitted at all points.

But let it be further granted, that they might possibly haue ouercome all these difficulties; yet to what end and purpose should they put themselues into such a ieopardie? They knew well enough, that it was agreed between both Companies at home, That the Forts in the Indies should remaine respectiue-ly in the hands of such as had possession of them at the date of the Treatie, *Ann: 1619.* and that the same was ratified by the Kings Maiestie, and the Lords States Generall. They knew likewise, and all the world takes knowledge, of his Maiesties religious obseruation of peace and treatie with all his neighbours, yea, with all the world: what reward then could these English hope for, of this their valour and danger? Certainly none other than that which is expressly prouided by the Treatie it selfe, that is, To be punished as the disturbers of the common peace and amitie of both Nations.

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But let these English-men haue been as foolish in this plot as the Hollanders will haue them; is it also to be imagined, that they were so gracelesse, as when they were condemned, and seriously admonished by the Ministers to discharge their consciences, yet then to persist in their dissimulation, being otherwise of such godly behaiour, as to spend the time in Prayer, singing of Psalmes, and spirituall comforting one another, which the Dutch would haue had them bestow in drinking, to driue away their sorrow? Let *Colsons* question to the Minister be considered: his and the rests offer and desire to receiue the Sacrament in witness of their innocencie; their mutual asking forgiveness for their like false accusations of one another, forced by the torture; *Tomsons* last farewell to *Beoment*; *Colsons* prayer, and his writing in his praier booke; *Fardo's* farewell to *Powle*; also his coniuring exhortation to his fellowes, to discharge their consciences, and all their answeres thereunto, crauing Gods mercie or iudgement, according to their innocencie in this cause; their generall and religious profession of their innocencie, to their countrey-men, at their last parting with them; & finally, the sealing of this profession with their last breath and blood, euen in the verie article of death, and in the stroke of the Executioner. What horrible and vnexampled dissimulation were this? If some one or more of them had been so fearefully desperate, yet would not there one amongst ten be found to thinke of the iudgement to come; whereunto he was then instantly summoned without *Essoine*, *Baile*, or *Mainprise*? What? had they hope of reprieue & life, if they kept their countenance to the last? Yet what hope had *Tomson* and

the rest, when Capt. *Towerfons* head was off? Nay, what desire had *Tomson* and *Clarke* to liue, being so mangled and martyred by the torture? They were executed one by one, and euery one seuerally took it vpon his death, that he was guiltlesse.

Now to blanch and smooth ouer all this rough and barbarous proceeding; it is here giuen out, that the Gouvernor & Fiscall found such euidence of the plot, and dealt so euently in the processe, that they spared not their owne people; hauing vsed some of their natiue *Hollanders*, partakers of this treason, in the same manner as they did the *English*. But this, as well by the relation here truely and faithfully set downe, grounded vpon the sworn testimonie of sixe credible witnesses, as also by other sufficient reports of diuerse (lately come out of those parts) appeareth to bee a meere tale, not once alleaged by anie in the *Indies* in many moneths after the execution; but only inuented and dispersed here, for a *Fucus* and false colour vpon the whole cause, and to make the world belceue that the ground of this barbarous and tyrannous proceeding was a true crime, and not the vnfatiable couetousnesse of the *Hollanders*, by this cruell treacherie to gain the sole Trade of the *Molluccos*, *Banda* and *Amboyna*; which is already become the euent of this bloody processe.

To adde hereunto by way of aggrauation, will be needlesse; the fact is so full of odious and barbarous inhumanitie, executed by *Hollanders* vpon the *English* Nation, in a place where both liued vnder termes of partnership and great amitie, confirmed by a most solemne Treatie.

FINIS.