

{Anno 1558.

whereupon it followed, that all that denie was displayed, and winchester beall his plat forme, which he sayd he had cast though the Lordes great goodnesse, came to no effecte.

where moe more is to be noted, that during the pysonment of this Ladye and Buncelle, one M. Edmund Remaine was on the Racket, and maister Smithwicke, & diners other in the Tower were examined, and diners others added to them to accuse the guiltie Ladie, being in her captivite. Howbeit al that notwithstanding, no matter could be proved by all examinations, as theye the same time spang at woodstocke, had certaine intelligence by the means of one John Sauer; who vnder a colourable presence of a letter to misters Cleine from her father, was let in, and so gaue them secretly to vnderstande of all this matter. whereupon the Lady Elizabeth at her departing out from woodstocke, wrode these verses with her Diamond in a glasse window.

Verfes written by Lady Elizabeth in the glasse Window.

Much suspected by me:
Nothing prooued can be,
Quoth Elizabeth prisoner.

And thus much touching the troubles of Lady Elizabeth at woodstocke. whereunto this is more to be added, that during the same time, the Lorde of Tancarue had laboured to the Queene, and became surry for her, to haue her from woodstocke to his house, and had obtained grauntee thereof. whereupon preparation was made accordingly, and all things ready in expectation of her comming. But through the procurement either of M. Beuifield, or by the doing of winchester her mostail enemy, letters came our right to the contrary: whereby her iourney was stopped.

Lady Elizabeth not suffered to come to the Lord of Tancarue house.

Thus this worthy Ladie oppressed with continuall sorrow, could not be permitted to haue recourse to any frenches she had, but still in the hands of her enemies was left desolate, and bitterly destitute of all that might refresh a vnderfull heart, fraught full of reuour and chalyndome. whereupon no marvell, if she bearing vpon a time out of her garden at woodstocke, a certaine milkemaide singing pleasantly, wished her selfe to be a milkemaide as she was, saying that her case was better, and life moze merrier then was hers, in that state as shee was.

Lady Elizabeth wistheth her selfe to be a milkemaide.

Now after these things thus declared, to proceede further ther where we left before, Syr Henry Beuifield and his souldiours, with the Lorde of Arme, and Syr Raie Chamberlain, gauding and waiting vpon her, the firste night from woodstocke she came to Ricot. In which iourney such a mighty wind did blow, that her seruants were faine to holde downe her cloathes about her: In so much that her hode was twine; or thair blown from her head. whereupon shee deuotion to recourse to a certaine Gentlemanes house ther near, could not be suffered by Syr Henry Beuifield so to doe, but was constrained vnder a hedge to trimme her head aswell as shee could.

Lady Elizabeth being remoued from Woodstocke to Hampton Counte.

After this, the next night theye iourneyed to M. Dommers, and so to Colbooke, where they lay all that nyghte at the Scoge; and by the way coming to Colbooke, certaine of her graces Gentleman and Youen mette her, to the number of thre foote, muche to all theye comfortors, which had not seene her grace of long season before, notwithstanding theye were commauced in the Queenes name immediately to depart the towtne, to both their, and her graces no little heauinesse, who could not be suffered once to speake with them. So that night all her men were taken from her, leaving her Gentleman vs her, thre Gentlewomen, two Strones, and one of her warwoyle, the souldiours watching and warding aboute the house, and thee close shut vp within her prison.

Lord William Howard gentle and fauourable to Lady Elizabeth.

The nexte day following, her grace entered Hampton-coung on the backside, into the princes lodging, & doores being shut to her, and shee garded with souldiours, as before sayd, lay there a fortnight at the least, or euerm hadde recourse vnto her. At length came the Lord William Howard, who maruethous honorably vied her grace, whereat shee took much comfort, and requiesed him to be a meane that shee might speake with some of the Council. To whome (not long after) came the Bishop of Winchester, the Lord of Arundell, the Lord of Shrewsbury, and Secretary Peter, who with great humilitie humbled them selves to her grace. Shee againe likeuntoe saluting them, saye: My Lordes (quoth shee) I am glad to see you: for me thinke, I haue bene kept a great while from you desolately alone. wherefore I would desire you to be a meane to the King and Queenes Maiesties, that I maye be deliuered from prison, wherein I haue bene kept a long space, as to you

my Lordes, it is not vnknewen.

wher shee had spoken, Steven Gardiner the bishop of winchester kneled downe, and requested that she would submit her selfe to the Queenes grace, and in so doing hee had no doubt but that her Maiestie would be good vnto her: the making answer that rather then shee would to doe, thee would lie in prison all the daies of her life, adding that shee craued no mercy at her maiesties hand, but rather desired the Lawe, if euer shee did offende her Maiestie in thought, woode, or deede: And besides this, in ycalbding (quoth shee) I shoulde speake against my selfe, and canse me selfe to be an offender, which neuer was towards her Maiestie; by occasion wherof the King and the Queene might euer hereafter conceite of mee an ill opinion: And therefore I say my Lordes, it were better for me to be in prison for the truth, then to be abroad and suspected of my Sinne. And so they departed, promising to declare her message to the Queene.

Lady Elizabeth requested by Winchester to submit her selfe to the Queenes mercy. Lady Elizabeth standeth to be tried by the lawe.

On the next day, the bill, of winchester came againe vnto her grace, and kneeling downe, declared that the Queene marueiled that hee would so stoutly be her selfe, not confessing to haue offened: so that it should seme the Queenes Maiestie, wrongfully to haue imprisoned her grace.

Take agayne betweene Winchester and Lady Elizabeth. Lady Elizabeth denieth to confesse any fault done to the Queene.

Ray quoth the Lady Elizabeth, it please her to punish me as these thinke her good.

well quoth Gardiner, her Maiestie willeth me to tell you, that you must tell another tale ere that you be sette at liberte.

Her grace answered, that shee had as lief to be in prison with honesty & truth, as to be abroad, suspected of other maiestie; and this that I haue said, I will (said she) stand vnto, for I will neuer bely my selfe.

Lady Elizabeth sent for to the Queene.

Winchester againe kneled downe, and said: When your grace hath the vantage of me & other the Lordes, praye for my long and wrong imprisonment.

what vantage I haue (quoth she) you knowe, takinge God to record I seeke no vantage at your hands for you to bealing with me, but God forgive you & me also. While the rest kneled desiring her grace that all myght be forgotten, and so departed, shee being fast locked vpp a gayne.

Lady Elizabeth sent for to the Queene.

A leuen night after the Queene sent for her grace at 7. of the clocke in the yghyt to speake with her: for shee had not seene her in two yeeres before. Yet for all that shee was amased at the sobayng teneys for, thinking it had bene wozen then afterwarde it piodue, and desired her Gentleman and Gentlewomen to pray for her, for that shee coult not tell whether euer shee should see them a gayne or no.

Lady Elizabeth brought to the Queenes bed Chamber.

At which tyme Sir Henry Beuifield with Maiestie Clarencius comming in, her grace was brought into the garden vnto a staires foote that went into the Queenes lodgyng, her graces Gentlewomen waiting vpon her, her Gentleman vther & her Strones going before with torches, where her Gentleman and Gentlewomen being commauced to stay all launging one woman, maistres Clarencius conducted her to the Queenes bed chamber where her maiestie was.

At the sight of whome, her grace kneled downe and desired God to preserve her Maiestie, not mistrusting but that shee should try her selfe as true a subiect towards her Maiestie, as euer did any, and desired her Maiestie cuncto to Judge of her: and sayde that shee should not trude her to the contrary, what so euer reports otherwyse had gone of her.

Take betweene the Queene and Lady Elizabeth.

To whom the Queene answered: you will not confesse your offence, but stand stoutly to your truth: I pray God it maye fall out.

If it doth not, quoth the Lady Elizabeth, I request neither fauour nor pardon at your Maiesties hands. well sayd the Queene, you staye still perseuere in your truth, Whilste you will not confesse but that you haue bene wrongfully punished.

I must not say so (if it please your Maiestie) to you. why, then (sayd the Queene) helpe you will to other.

Small combeere of the Queenes hand toward her sister.

So, if it please your Maiestie (quoth she) I haue borne the burden, and must beare it. I humbly beseeche your Maiestie to haue a good opinion of me, and to thynke me to be your true subiect, not onely from the beginninge heerebera, but for euer, as long as life lasteth: and so theye departed with very fewe comfoztable woords of the Queene, in English: but whar shee sayd in Spanish, God knoweth. It is thought that King Phillip was there beynde a cloth, and not receiue, and that hee shewed himselfe a verie frend in that matter, &c.

King Phillip thought that hee found a lady Elizabeth.

This her grace departing, went to her lodgyng at S. GREY.