

it. Then when he had long vsed his foolishnes in this sort and had sported himselfe enough in deriding this chrysten martyre: in the end sent her to prison agayne, and there kept her very miserably, sauing sometimes he woulde send for her, when hys forlorn ghest came to him, to vie with her his accustomed folly asofore sayd. But in fine, the vile wretches (after many combaites, and scoffing, perswasions) when they had played the parte of a cat with a moule at length they condemned her & deliuered her ouer to the secular power, who within shorte space after most cruelly brought her forth to the place where she should suffer, and there in great contempt of the truth (which she most constantly confessed) they consumed her carcas immediately with fire into ashes: which she very patiently suffered, and most ioyfully receiued, yelding her soule and life to the Lord, and her body to the tormentors, for the whiche the Lordes name therefore be prayesd, Amen.

¶ The martirdome of one Snel, burned about Richmond in Queene Maryes tyme, omitted in this history.

AT Bedale a market towne in Yorkshyre, were two men in the latter dayes of Queene Mary, the one named John Snel, and the other Richard Snel, who being suspected for Religion, were sent vnto Richmond, where Doctor Dakins had commission from the Bishop of Chester to haue the examination of them.

This Doctor Dakins many times conferred wth them, sometimes threating fire and fagot if they would not recant, and sometimes flattering them with fayre fables if they would returne into the holy catholick church. But they stood constantly to the sure rocke Iesus Christ, in whome they put their whole trust and confidence, whiles at last being so long imprisoned that theyr toes rotted of, and the one of them could not go without crutches they brought the to the church by compulsion, where the one of them heard their abhominable Masse, hauing a certaine summe of money geuen him by the beneuolence of the people, and so departed thence: but the first newes that was heard of hym within thre or foure dayes was that he had drowned him self in a riuer running by Richmond called Swalle.

Immediately after D. Dakins geuing sentence that y other should be burnt, came home to hys house and neuer toyed after, but dyed. The Commissary of Richmond named Hylinges, preached at his burning, exhorting him to returne to the Church, but hys labour was in vayne, the constant martyre standing strongly to the fayth which hee professed.

Then being brought to the stake, whereunto hee was tyed by a girdle of iron, there was geuen vnto him gunpowder and a little straw was layd vnder his seete, and set vnto about with small woode and tarre barrells, the fire was put in the straw, which by and by flaming about his head, he cryed thus together: Christ helpe me: In somuch that one Robert Arkinson being present, layde: hold fast there & we will all pray for thee. Thus this blessed martyre ended his life.

¶ A story of one Laremonth, omitted in the body of the story.

Albeit I am loth to insert any thing in this booke which may seeme incredible or strange to ordinary working for quarrelling aduersaries, whiche doe nothing but spee what they may caull: yet forsomuch as besides other reporters the person is yet aliue, called Thorne a godly minister, which heard it of the mouth of the party himselfe, I thought therefore first for the incredible strangenes therof neither to place this story in the bodye of these Actes and Arguments, and yet in some outcorner of the booke not betterly to passe it vntouched, for the reader to consider it, and to creditte it as he seeth cause. The story is this.

There was one Laremonth, otherwise called Williamson, Chaplayne to Lady Anne of Cleue, a Scotishman, to whome being in prison in Queene Maryes daies, it was sayd, as he thought, thus sounding in hys eares: arise and go thy way, wherunto when he gaue no great heed at the first, the second time it was sayd to him agayne in the same wordes. Upon this as he fell to his prayers, it was sayd the thyrd time likewise to him, arise and go thy way, which was about halfe an houre after. So he arising vpon the same, immediately a peece of the prison wall fell downe, and as the officers came in at the outwarde gate of the Castle or prison, he leaping ouer the ditch escaped, and in the way meeting a certayne beggar, changed hys cot with him, and comming to the Sea shore, where hee

found a vessell ready to go ouer, was taken in, and escaped the search, which was straitly layd for hym in all the country ouer.

¶ A little short letter of William Hunter sent out of prison to his mother a little before hys martirdome, to be referred and placed in his story, pag. 153^d.

Most reuerent & louing mother, after my most humble wysdom I haue me hartly commended vnto you, desiring you to pray vnto God most hartely for me, that I may haue his blessing and yours, the which I esteeme more worth vnto me, the any worldly treasure. In this present letter you shall vnderstand the cause of my writing vnto you at this tyme, that I am in good health and prosperitie, as euer I was in this present life. Wherefore I render thanks vnto almighty God for it, who alone is most woorthye of all prayse, trusting in God you bee in health also. Furthermore I certifie you wherefore my father continueth here, to the intent to heare some godly and ioyfull tidynges, both for soule and body, whiche I trust it shalbe to your singular comfort and consolation, and to the great reioycing of all other of my frendes. Therefore I desire you, gentle mother to admonish my brother vnto a godly life, with dilligent attendance and to pray for me, considering his bound duety, that God may by your faythfull prayer, ayd and strengthen me in this my prosperous iourney and course, whiche I run trusting to obtayne a crowne of euerlasting life, whiche doth euer endure.

No more vnto you at this time, but God preserue you vnto euerlasting life. So be it.

¶ The Oration in effecte of Sir Nicholas Bacon Knight, Lord Keeper of the great Seale of England spoken in the Starre Chamber the 29. of December in the 10. yeare of the reigne of our Souereigne Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God of England, Fraunce, and Ireland Queene, Defender of the fayth &c. And in the yeare of our Lord God. 1567. Then being present.

- Mathew, Archbishop of Caunterbury.
- William, Marques of Northampton.
- Fraunces, Earle of Bedford.
- Lord Clinton, Admirall of England.
- William Howard, Lord Chamberleyae.
- Byshop of London.
- Lord Gray of Wilton.
- Sir Edward Rogers Knight, Controler.
- Sir Ambrose Cane Knight, Chanc. of the duchy.
- Sir William Cecil Knight, principall Secretary.
- Sir Fraunces Knolles Knight, Vicechamberleyne.
- Sir Walter Mildemay Knight, Chauncelor of the Eschequer.
- Lord Cattelene chiefe Iustice of the kings bench.
- Lord Dyer chiefe Iustice of the common place.
- Sir William Cordale Knight, M. of the Rolles.
- Iustice Weston.
- Iustice Welch.
- Iustice Southcotes.
- Iustice Caromes.



It is geuen to the Queenes Maiestye to vnderstand that certayne of her Subiectes by their euill dispositions do sow and spread abroad diuers sedicions to the derogation and dishonor, first of almighty God, in the state of Religion stablished by the lawes of this Realme and also to the dishonor of her highnesse in disprouing her lawfull right of supremacy amongst her subiectes. And this that they doe, is not done as in secrecy or by stealth, but openly auouched, & in all companyes disputed on. And thus by theyr bold attempts seme not to obey or regard the authority of lawes nor the quiet of her subiectes. As for example, by bringing in and spreading abroad diuers leud libels and sedicions bookes from beyonde the seas, and in suche boldnes that they do commend those writers in their sedicious bookes containing manifest matter agaynst the estate stablished. Which boldnesse of men so vniuersally and euery where scene and heard, cannot be thought to be done but by the comfort and ayd or at the least way wincke at by the who the Queenes highnes hath placed in authority to repres these insulencyes. And the Queenes highnes can not more iustly charge any for this disorder, then such who be in commission chosen

A letter of William Hunter to his mother a little before his burning.

The Martyrdom of one Snel by Richmond.

Gods punishment vpon the Deceitour that condemned Snel.

The maruolous deliuerance of one Laremonth.