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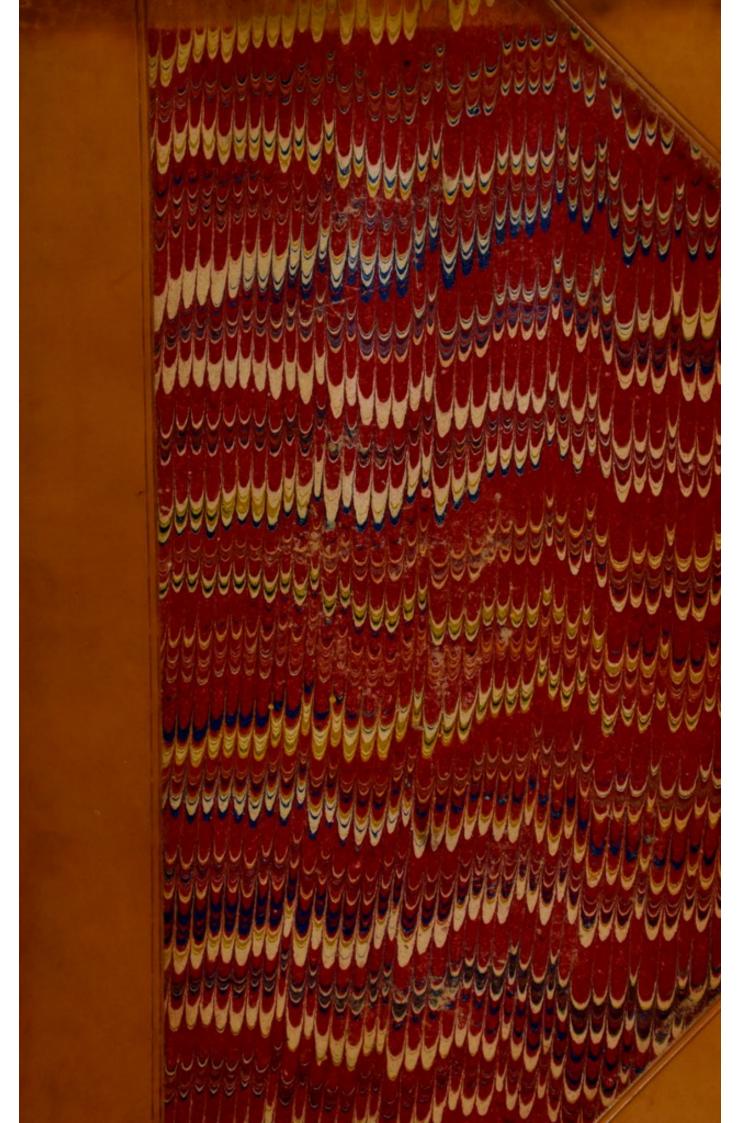
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THE EXAMINATION AND CONFESSION OF CERTAIN WITCHES AT CHELMSFORD IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX.

COMMUNICATED AND PREFACED

BY

HERMANN BEIGEL, M.D.

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PREFACE.

HEN History draws its everlasting marks to picture the life of nations, its aspect becomes gloomier

in noting down the instances where people meet to destroy in bloody wars what the blessings of peace have created, instances in which the genii of life lower their torch, in a short space, a thousand and more than a thousand times. But when History paints even such mournful pictures, there is the somewhat reconciling thought that mostly holy principles, powerfully influencing the progress of mankind, were the subject of controversy. But when facts have to be written down, proving that many

thousands of lives are facrificed to the sheer ignorance of a century, to the selfish malice of a certain party, history steeps its pen in its own heart's blood, and mourns over the gloomy time in which such deeds could happen, and over the men that lived in it.

Such a fad period extends nearly over three centuries, from the fifteenth to the end of the eighteenth. fpeak of the time during which the witchcraft trials existed, from their formal establishment by an immoral pope, Innocent VIII, up to their difappearance from the tribunals. Thefe centuries present the darkest side of the history of the world; and it is a gratifying task to pursue the track which was stealthily followed by this priestcraft, in order to regain the ruling power which the Reformation had wrested from their hands. The fecret tribunals (Vehmgerichte) and witchcraft trials were invented in

order to make those who did not enjoy the favour of the church ascend the funeral pile, or to let them feel the dreadful pains of torture, which a fecretly-nurtured revenge would not otherwise dare to do. Men who distinguished themselves by a particular erudition, and amongst them again those who occupied themselves in natural sciences, which are up to this day hated by catholicism, were put on trial and fentenced as forcerers. How impartially the perfecutors acted in this respect is manifested from the fact that after his death they made a forcerer of Pope Sylvester II. distinguished by his learning. The famous mathematician, Roger Bacon, was obliged to appear twice in Rome for an examination of his instruments. Arnoldus de Villa Nova was in his eightieth year condemned to fuffer death by fire, and the Bishop of Regensburg, Albertus Magnus, was suf-

pected of witchcraft, because in winter he gave a banquet to the Roman emperor in his garden, which bore a fpring-like appearance. An incautiously uttered word, a boast, led to the torture; the misfortune to have a mole, to have had a dog or cat difliked by a malicious neighbour, paved the way to tortures, ordeal of water, death by fire, in which thousands breathed their last, and all this was done ad majorem Dei gloriam. world was feized by a difease called forth and propagated by felfish priests. The path is not yet known which these fearful trials in Europe and on the other fide of the ocean took, and the threads entwined round Chriftianity are yet undifcovered. It is, therefore, our duty to collect materials for the future historian; and the trials carried on in behalf of witchcraft, forcery, etc. are of the greatest importance.

Entering into careful refearches concerning the study of the history of these errors of men, my attention has been called to the "Examinations," through the kindness of Mr. Payne, who has been fo good as to put into my hands an Index made by him of early printed books on Witch-I offer these "Examinacraft. tions" to the Society for the purpose of multiplying them, this copy being the only one in existence. It remains in the Library of Lambeth Palace; and I herewith offer my best thanks to the Rev. William Stubbs, Librarian of the faid palace, for the readiness with which he placed this copy in my hands, and kindly affifted me during the time I was occupied in the Library.

The faid pamphlet, of which Herbert speaks in the "Typographical Antiquities," vol. iii. p. 1316, and Collins, in vol. i. p. 1610, as con-

tained in the only existing copy of Lambeth Library, is marked in "An "Index of such English Books printed "before the year M.D.C. as are now "in the Archiepiscopal Library at "Lambeth, by the Rev. S. R. Mait-"land," by No. 1339, 1340, and

42.

It is found in a volume which contains fix different pamphlets of the fixteenth century. The fize is duodecimo, bound in brown leather; on each cover the two letters R. B. are printed in gold, being the initials of Richard Bancroft, Archbishop of Canterbury, who died in 1610, and who was the founder of Lambeth Library. Our pamphlet contains twenty-two folios, without pagination. The characters are old English, and, besides three ornamental drawings at the end of each division, the following woodcuts are printed:

1. (On the title-page) The Lord washing

the feet of his disciples.

2. Mother Waterhouse, when a child, and her grandmother, who is instructing her in witchcraft.

3. The cat of Mother Waterhouse, called by her "Sathan."

4. The toade into which the cat was

changed by Mother Waterhouse.

5. The likeness of Jone—daughter of Mother Waterhouse.

6. The cat "Sathan in the lykeness of the

great dogge."

- 7. Another likeness of "Sathan" as a dog with the face of an ape, as described by Agnes Brown.
 - 8. The fame woodcut.
 - 9. The likeness of Mother Waterhouse.

DR. BEIGEL.

London, Woburn Place, November, 1864.



THE EXAMINA-

tion and confession of certaine Wytches at Chensforde in the Countie of Essex before the Quenes maiesties

Judges, the XXVI

daye of July

Anno 1556

At the Affise holden there as then, and one of them put to death for the same offence, as their examination declareth more at large.

.

THE EPISTLE TO THE READER.

OD whych of hys fingular goodnesse (as the sage philosopher Hermes hath plainly described) to each

of his creatures has added a reasonable soule, which is the chiefe and most excellent treasure that any man can be indued withvall: Let vs then consider God's inexplycable benefits, alwaies of his owne free wyll (and not of our desertes) geuen and bestowed upon vs, and sith that the soule of man is of great estimation in his fatherly presence, let vs endeuour ourselues to walke, that by continuall exercise of ver-

tuous and holesome documents, I mean not onely by hearing of the fincere veritie: neither yet by much talkyng of the fame to heare, and not to bear awaye is altogether friuolous: To babble and prate much of Christ and hys gospell (as though we would be counted ghostly gofpellers) and to wante the chefest thing, I meane the frutes of wellgoverned conversacion, and to be cleane voyde of integritie, and cleanesse of lyfe, in my judgement and as the facred Scripture verifieth, is nothynge but folly: (example) A tree that is altogether barren and at the required time destytute of fruyte hauing a trim shewe of leaves, deferueth to be hewed downe and made meet for the fier: fo we wantinge fruites required, but having plenty of leaues be of lyke effect, and for all the outwarde shewe that we haue, we shall in like case be cut

downe and throwen into the fyer prepared for the devill and his aungelles, from which (gentell reader) God defende vs all and geue vs fuche gracethat we may e hencefor the walke in our vocation, that God in al our workes may be unfeynedly glorified, and by thadmonition of this littel boke learne in fuch forte to keepe our foules by fixed and affured faith in Christ, from the stinking puddle of filthy pollution, then shall we escape that horrible place prepared for the vngodly and wycked liuers and as profitable feruants be counted apt members to dwell wyth our Sauiour Christ aboue the cloudes in his heuenly kingdome, to the which God for hys mercies fake bring us all. Amen.

THE PREFACE.

Y tremblinge hande for feare doth my dolour doth excede: (quake) My ioyes decrefe to tender teares my fportes are turnd in dede

The gredy gulfs of grysly griefe fo gripe my restles harte:

That my pore pen can fcantly shewe the passions of my smarte.

Drawe nere you patrones with your babes come viewe this haples happe:

In flushing fluddes of kominge teares your tender bewtyes lappe:

Ye matrones milde drawe nere in hafte this yrksome acte beholde:

Then Nature shall her rufull playnts by you her Nimphes unfolde.

Eche wight in whom the skilfull skyll of natures arte is shown:

Surrender may themselues to me this cruell acte to mone.

The heapes of griefe fo hugie are that fobbes must nedes abounde.

Yea shrilly shrickes to passe the skies, your voyces shall redounde.

The dolour nowe so doutfull is, that skante my warbling penne: Can forth expresse the sence thereof unto the sonnes of men.

Agayne the blubringe teares whych glide, from my poor pincked eyes:

Besmerde my face that scarce I can my inwarde griefes supprise.

One while I blush for shame to showe these pageantes worthy blame:

Some other time my thoughtes me let these bluddy factes to name.

Thus as I stay in doubt alas, my dompes are passinge great,

My clogged joyntes benomd with feare have got Dame forrowes feat

Her massy mace with direful stroke

But these Periphrases I leave, and will discourse my thrall,

Which to conceave each reader wyll well way I do not doubt:

Of late in Chenceforde towne deare friends before the noble route

Of Judges just plast in that seate by our moste famous Queene:

Judgement to give as justice leades, as daily well is seene.

The fessions there by order kepte offenders to correct.

Thre feminine dames attached were

whom Sathan had infect With Belial's spirite whose forcery did, the simple so molest:

That when they woulde with prefent death, they were full fore opprest.

Here after shall succede the actes that they them selues have wrought:

As they them felves confessed haue, to judgement being brought.

Which thing when thou hafte viewed well, good Reader do thou praye:

To God the Lorde that he from vs woulde witches take away.

And thus I ende hoping thou wilte my travell well accept:

And judge the truth when thou hafte hearde of this the full effect.

FINIS PROLOG.

An exhortacion to all faithfull men wyllinge them to set God's feare before their eyes, and Sathan's practises utterly to despise annexed to the same, profitable for every Christian man to reade and to imbrace.

EHOLD these acts and scan them well behold their pervers way:

These left the lord, these did his truth

which shold have ben their stay.

In them such power Sathan had,
that Christ they did resuse
His precious blud shed them to saue
to much they did abuse.

Sin death and hell did spreade their

Sin, death and hell did spreade their flagge, in them they bare the sway:

His worde was yrkesome to their hartes, they walked farre astray.

What tender harte woulde God renounce, who woulde his gospell leaue;

What godly one woulde hate his lorde

and vnto Sathan cleaue.

What wight woulde Gods good benefites fo lightly nowe esteme,

Which fent his Christ into the worlde from hell vs to redeme.

Who by his might did vanquishe sinne and layed Sathan waste:

By whose dere death eternall lyfe, his flocke shall furely taste,

His loue to vs his creatures did, in ample wife excede:

When by the paynes of paynefull death to faue us he decrede.

What durat harte or felly brest coulde finde Christe to repaye:

With fuch contempte as did these ymphes which here beholde ye may.

What matrones harte woulde hyde the skyll, of Nature that meke dame:

And toyle by fuch vngodly artes to extinguishe cleane the same.

I meane if God shoulde sende encrease, and multiply her sede:

Woulde she frequent it to destroy, by wicked meanes in dede.

I think no tender harte coulde finde, an infantes bloude to spill:

Nor yet no spoused wife I thinke, her husbande dere woulde kyll Sith that by witchcraft witches vse

all euilles to fequest:

Let fuch as feare the liuynge God, their practifes detest.

Sith whoredome in the fame I faye, her force doth plainly showe:

Let euery wight the same abhorre, and scape infernall wo.

Sith this arte doth fuch yll conteyne, as fwearinges manifolde:

Let faithfull hartes forfake the fame, and fixe on Christ their holde.

Sith by that practife vile dere frendes, man flaughter put in ure:

Let vs contemne those godles actes and leade a life most pure.

Sith Christ the rocke of lastinge life, must cleane renounsed be;

And Sathan as the gouernour must have the dignitie.

What curfed state shall they abyde, which Christ their guide refuse:

And study still the deuilles minde by practife still to vse.

Did Christ in vayne bestowe his bloude, to saue our soules from hell:

Did Christ in vaine prepare the heauens, for his elect to dwell.

Not so I judge, why shoulde we then his lawe and worde contemne:

The fcripture doth rebellious folke, euerlastingly condemne.

I meane fuch as his worde deteft

his lawe condemneth playne:
To taste with him whom they do serue
in hell eternall payne.

Such as do in finne delighte, frequenting mischiefe styll:

Be Sathans owne for Jesus Christe, for his deny them wyll.

Sith Christ in heauen will them forsake, which him in earth denve:

Let vs henceforth learne fo to walke, his name to magnifye.

Let vs that fwearers be in dede, our fwearinge cleane refrayne:

So shall we scape the gredy gulphes of hell and burninge payne.

Let whoremongers which whoredome use, cast cleane away the same:

And pardon craue, for Christ is prest, for to forgeue the blame.

Let fuch men as delight in finne, forfake their finfull waies:

And study nowe that all your actes may tende the Lorde to prayse.

Let filthy fwynishe dronkardes nowe, abhorred in Gods fight:

Leaue off their quaffing in excesse, in modesty delight.

Then shall Gods armes be opened wide, vs wretches to embrace,

And with his fainctes in his kingedome, he will vs furely place.

To whych kingedome for Christes sake, vouchsafe thy slocke to bringe:
That we as thy electes deare God, to thee may prayles singe.

Finis et John Phillips.

The examination of them with their confession before Doctor Cole and master Foscue at the same Sife verbatum, as nere as coulde be gathered, and firste of Elizabeth Frauncis who saide as here foloweth.

YRST she learned this arte of witchcraft at the age of xii yeres of hyr grandmother whose nam mother Eue of Hatfyelde Peuerell, diffeafed. Item when shee taughte it her, she counseiled her to renounce GOD and his worde and to geue of her bloudde to Sathan (as she termed it) whyche she delyuered her in the lykenesse of a whyte spotted Catte,

and taughte her to feede the fayde

Catte with breade and mylke, and

she dyd so, also she taughte her to cal it by the name of Sathan and to

kepe it in a basket.

When this mother Eue had geuen her the Cat Sathan, then this Elizabeth defired firste of the sayde Cat (callinge it Sathan) that she might be ryche and to haue goodes, and he promifed her she shoulde—askinge her what she would have, and she fayde shepe (for this Cat spake to her as the confessed in a straunge holowe voice, but fuche as she vnderstode by vse) and this Cat forthwith brought shepe into her pasture to the number of xviii, blacke and whyte, whych continued with her for a tyme, but in the ende dyd all weare awaye she knewe not howe.

Item, when she had gotten these shepe, she desired to have one Andrew Byles to her husband, which was a man of some welth, and the cat dyd promyse she shold, but that he sayde

the must fyrste consent that this Andrew shuld abuse her, and she fo did.

And after when this Andrew had thus abused her he would not mary her, wherfore the willed Sathan to waste his goodes, which he forthwith did, and yet not beyng contentid with this, she wild him to touch his body whych he forthewith dyd whereof he died.

Item, that euery time that he did any thynge for her, she sayde that he required a drop of bloude, which the gaue him by prycking herfelfe, fometime in one place and then in an other, and where she pricked her felfe there remayned a red fpot which was styl to be sene.

Item, when this Andrew was dead, the douting her felfe with childe, willed Sathan to destroye it, and he bad her take a certayne herbe and drinke it, whych she did, and de-

stroyed the childe forthwyth.

Item, when she desyred an other husbande he promysed her an other, naminge this Frauncis whom shee nowe hath, but said he is not so rich as the other, willynge her to consent vnto that Frauncis in fornycation which she did, and therof conceaued a daughter that was borne within a quarter of a yere after they were maried.

After they were maryed they liued not fo quietly as she desyred, beinge stirred (as she said) to much vnquietnes and moued to swearing and cursinge, wherfore she willed Sathan her Cat to kyll the childe, beinge aboute the age of half a yere olde, and he did so, and when she yet founde not the quietnes that she desyred, she wylled it to lay a lamenes in the leg of thys Frauncis her husbande, and it did in this maner. It came in a morninge to this Frauncis shoe, lying in it lyke a tode, and

when he perceived it puttinge on his shoe, and had touched it with his fote, he being sodenly amased asked of her what it was, and she bad him kil it and he was forthwith taken with a lamenes wherof he can not healed.

After all this when shee had kept this Cat by the space of xv or xvi yeare, and as fome faye (though vntruly) beinge wery of it, she came to one mother Waterhouse her neyghbour (a pore woman) when the was going to the oven and defired her to geue her a cake, and she wold geue her a thing that she should be the better for so long as she liued, and this mother Waterhouse gaue her a cake, where vpon she brought her this cat in her apron and taught her as she was instructed before by her grandmother Eue, telling her that she must cal him Sathan and geue him of her bloude

and bread and milke as before, and at this examination woulde confesse no more.

Mother Waterhouse of Hatfylde peuerell of the age of lxiiii yeares being examined the same day confessed as followeth, and the xxix daye suffered.

YRST she receyued this cat of this Frances wife in the order as is before sayde, who wild her to cal him Sathan, and told her that yf she made muche of him he would do for her what she wolde haue him to do.

Then when she had receyued him she (to trye him what he coulde do) wyld him to kyll a hog of her owne, which he dyd, and she gaue him for his labour a chicken, which he fyrste required of her and a drop of her blod. And thys she gaue him at all times when he dyd anythynge for her, by pricking her hand or face and puttinge the bloud to hys mouth whyche he fucked, and forthwith wold lye downe in hys pot againe, wherin she kepte him, the spots of all the which priks

are yet to be fene in her skin.

Also she faythe that another tyme being offended with one Father Kerfye she toke her catte Sathan in her lap and put hym in the wood before her dore, and willed him to kyll three of this father Kerfyes hogges, whiche he dyd, and retourning agayne told her fo, and she rewarded hym as before, wyth a chicken and a droppe of her bloud, which chicken he eate vp cleane as he didde al the rest, and she cold fynde remaining neyther bones nor fethers.

Also she confessed that fallyng out with one widdow Gooday she wylled Sathan to drowne her cow and he dyd fo, and she rewardid hym as before.

Also she falling out wyth another of her neyboures, she killed her three

geefe in the fame maner.

Item, shee confessed that because she could have no rest (which she required) she caused Sathan to destroye the brewing at that tyme.

Also beyng denyed butter of an other, she caused her to lose the

curdes ii or iii dayes after.

Item fallinge out with an other of her neybours and his wife, shee wylled Sathan to kyll hym with a bludye flixe, whereof he dyed, and she rewarded him as before.

Likewyse shee confessed, that because she lyued somwhat vnquietly with her husbande she caused Sathan to kyll him, and he doid so about ix yeres past, syth which tyme she hath lyued a widdow. Also she said that when she wolde wyl him to do any thinge for her, she wolde say her Pater noster in laten.

Item, this mother Waterhouse confessed that shee fyrst turned this Cat into a tode by this meanes, she kept the cat a great while in woll in a pot, and at length being moued by pouertie to occupie the woll, she praied in the name of the father and of the sonne, and of the holy ghost that it wold turne into a tode, and forthwith it was turned into a tode, and so kept it in the pot without woll.

Also she said, that going to Brack-stede a lyttle before her apprehentyon, this Sathan wylled her to hye her home, for she shulde haue great trouble and that shee shoulde be eyther hanged or burned shortly, more at this tyme she woulde not confesse.

Jone Waterhouse daughter to this mother Waterhouse, beinge of the age of xviii yeres, and examined confesseth as followeth.

laste wynter woulde haue learned her this arte, but she lerned it not, nether yet the name of the thinge. She saith she neuer saw it but once in her mother's hand, and that was in the likenes of a tode, and at that time comming in at a sodeyn when her mother called it oute to worke some thynge withall, she herde her to call it Sathan, for shee was not at any time truely taught it, nor did neuer exercise it before this tyme as soloweth:

Item she confessed that when her mother was gone to Breackstede, in herabsence lacking breade, she went to a gyrle a neybours chylde, and defired her to geue her a pece of brede and cheefe, whiche when denied and gaue her not, or at the least not fo muche as wolde fatisfye her, shee goinge home dydde as she had seene her mother doe, callynge Sathan, whiche came to her (as she fayd) she thoughte out of her mothers shewe from vnder the bedde, in the lykenes of a great dogge, demaundynge what she wolde haue, wherewithall she beyng a fearde, fayd she wold have him to make fuch a gyrle a ferd naminge this gyrle, then asked hee her what she wolde geue hym, and she faide a red kocke, then fayde hee no, but thou shalt geue me thy body and fowle, whereby she beinge foore feared, and defyrous to be rydde of hym, fayd she wold: And herewith he went to this gyrle in the lykenes of an euyll fauoured dogge with hornes

on his head, and made her very muche afearde, and dothe yet haunt her, nowe can not these witches (as they saye) cal hym in agayn, because they dyd not let hym out. And more (sayth shee) she never dydde, but this her doinge was the reuealyng of all the rest.

FINIS.

Imprynted at London by Willyam Powell for Wyllyam Pickeringe dwelling at Sainte Magnus Corner, and are there for to be soulde.

Anno 1566, the 13 August.



THE SECOND EXAMINATION

and Confession of mother Agnes
Waterhouse, and Jone her daughter,
vpon her arainement, with the
questions and answeres of Agnes
Browne the childe, on whom
the spirite haunteth at this
present, deliberately
declared

Gerard the quenes atturney,

the xxvii day of July

Anno 1566, no lesse

wonderful then

most true.

The Confession of Agnes Waterhowse the xxvii daye of July in Anno 1566 at Chelmsforde before Justice Southcote and M. Gerard the quenes atturney.

whether that shee were gyltye or not gilty vpon her araynement of the murtheringe of a man, she confessed that she was gilty, and then vppon the euidence geuen agaynst her daughter Jone Waterhouse, she sayde that she hadde a white Cat, and wylled her cat that he shuld destroy many of his neyghbours cattell, and also that he shoulde kyll a man, and so he dyd, and then after she must go ii or iii mile from her house, and

then she toke thoughte howe to kepe her catte, then she and her catte concluded that he the fayde Catte wolde become a tode, and then she shuld kepe him in a close house and geue hym mylke, and fo he wolde continue tyll she came home againe, and then being gone forth, her daughter hauing ben at a neyghbour's house there by, required of one Agnes Browne, of the age of xii yeres or more, a peece of breade and cheefe, and the fayde Agnes faide that shee had none, and that she had not the key of the milkhouse dore, and then the fayde Jone went home and was angry with the faid Agnes Broun and she faide that she remembred that her mother was wonte to go vp and downe in her house and to call Sathan Sathan she fayde she wolde proue the like, and then she went vp and downe the house and called Sathan, and then there came a black dogge to

her and asked her what she woulde haue, and then she faide she was aferd and fayd, I wold have thee to make one Agnes browne afrayde, and then he asked her what she wold give him and she saide she wold geue hym a red kock, and he faid he wolde haue none of that, and shee asked him what he wolde haue then, and he fayde he wold haue her body and foule, and fo upon requeste and feare together she gaue him her body and foule, and then fayde the quenes atturneye Howe vvylt thou do before God. O'my Lord, I trust God wyll haue mercy vpon mee, and then he faide thou faiste vvell, and then he departed from her, and then she saide that she herde that he made the fayde Agnes Browne a fearde.

The faid Agnes Brown was then demaunded and called for, and then the came in, and beinge asked what age she was of she sayde she thoughte

she was xii yeres old, and then the quenes atturney asked her what shee could fay, and then shee saide that at fuche a day, naming the daye certayne that shee was chirning of butter and there came to her a thynge lyke a blacke dogge with a face like an ape, a short taile, a cheine and a syluer whystle (to her thinking) about his neck, and a peyre of hornes on his heade, and brought in his mouth the keye of the milkehouse doore, and then my lorde she saide, I was afearde, for he skypped and leaped to and fro, and fatte on the toppe of a nettle, and then I asked hym what he wolde haue, and he faide he woulde haue butter, and I faide I had none for him and then he faide he wolde haue fome or he went, and then he dyd run to put the keye into the locke of the mylkehouse dore, and I sayde he sholde haue none, and he fayde he wolde haue fome, and then he opened the

dore and went vppon the shelfe, and there vpon a new chefe laid downe the key, and being a whyle within he came out againe, and locked the dore and faid that he had made flap butter for mee, and fo departed, and then she saide shee tolde her aunte of it, and then she sent for the priest, and when he came he bad her to praye to God, and cal on the name of Jesus, and soo the nexte day my lord he came again to me with the keye of oure milkehouse dore in his mouthe, and then I faide in the name of Jesus what haste thou there, and then he layed downe the key and fayde that I fpake euyll woordes in fpeakyng of that name, and then hee departed, and fo my aunte toke up the key, for he had kept it from vs ii dayes and a nyghte, and then we went into the milkhouse and there we dyd fe the print of butter vpon the chefe, and then within a few daies after hee

came againe with a beane pod in his mouth, and then the queenes atturney asked what that was, and so the other Justices declared, and then shee fayde my lorde I faide in the name of Jesus what hast thou there, and so then he laid it downe and faide I fpake euil wordes and departed and came agayne by and by with a pece of breade in his mouth, and I asked hym what he wold haue, and he fayde butter it was that he wold haue, and fo he departed, and my lord I dyd not fee hym noo more tyll wenfeday laste, whiche was the xxiiii day of July, why faid the quenes atturneye was he with the on Wenfeday last, ye she said, what did he then to thee fayde he, my lorde saide shee he came with a knyfe in his mouthe and asked me if I were not dead, and I faide No I thanked God, and then hee fayde if I wolde not dye that hee wold thrust his knife to my harte but he wold make me

to dye, and then I fayde in the name of Jesus lay down thy knyfe, and he fayde he wolde not departe from his fweete dames knyfe as yet, and then I asked of hym who was his dame, and then he nodded and wagged his head to your house mother Waterhouse, then the queenes attourneye asked if she sayde Agnes Waterhouse what she saide to it, then she demanded what maner knife that it was, and Agnes Browne faid it was a daggar knife, there thou lieft faide Agnes Waterhouse, why, quod the quenes atturney, mary my lord (quod she) she saith it is a daggar knife and I have none fuch in my house, but a greate knyfe, and therein she lieth, yea yea, my lord quoth Jone Waterhouse she lieth in that she saith it hadde a face like an ape, for this that came to mee was like a dogge, well fayde the quenes attourney, well, can you make it come before us nowe,

if ye can we will dyspatche you out of prison by and by, no faith faide Agnes Waterhouse I can not, for in faith if I had let hym go as my daughter did I could make hym come by and by, but now I have no more power ouer him, then faid the queenes atturneye, Agnes Waterhouse when dyd thye Cat fuck of thy bloud neuer faide she, no faide hee, let me fe, and then the jayler lifted up her kercher on her heade, and there was diuerse spottes in her face and one on her nofe, then fayde the quenes atturney, in good faith Agnes when dydde he fucke of thy bloud laste, by my fayth my lord fayde she, not this fortnyght, and so the jurye went together for that matter.

Imprynted at London by Willyam Powell for Wyllyam Pickeringe dwelling at Sainte Magnus corner and are there for to be soulde.

Anno 1566 the 13 August.

The ende and last confession of mother Waterhouse at her death, whiche was the xxix daye of July. Anno 1566.

YRSTE (beinge redi prepared to receive her death) she confessed earnestly that shee had bene a wytche and vsed fuche execrable forferye the space of xv yeres, and had don many abhominable dede, the which she repented earnestely and unfaynedly, and defyred almighty Gods forgeueness in that she had abused hys most holy name by her deuyllishe practyses, and trusted to be faued by his most vnspekeable mercy. And being demaunded of the by standers, shee confessed that shee fent her Sathan to one Wardol, a neibour of hers, beinge a tayler (with whom she was offended) to hurte and destroy him and his goodes. And this her Sathan went therabout for to have done her wyll, but in the ende he returned to her agayne, and was not able to do this myschiefe, she asked the cause, and he aunswered because the faid Wardol was so strong in fayth that he hadde no power to hurte hym, yet she fent hym dyuerse and fundry time (but all in vayne) to haue mischeuid hym. And being demaunded whether she was accustomed to go to church to the common prayer or deuine feruice, she saide yea, and being required what she dyd there she saide she did as other women do, and prayed right hartely there, and when she was demanded what praier she faide, she aunswered the Lordes prayer, the Aue Maria, and the belefe, and then they demaunded whether in laten or in englyshe, and shee fayde in laten, and they demaunded why the faide it not in englyshe but in laten, feing that it was fet out by publike aucthoritie and according to Goddes word that all men shoulde pray in the englyshe and mother toung that they best vnderstande, and shee fayde that Sathan wolde at no tyme fuffer her to fay it in englyshe, but at all tymes in laten: for thefe and many other offences whicheshee hathe commytted, done and confessed, shee bewayled, repented, and asked mercy of God, and all the worlde forgyuenes and thus she yelded vp her fowle, trusting to be in joye with Christe her Sauiour, which dearely had bought her with his most precious bloudde. Amen.

Imprynted at London by Willyam Powell for Wyllyam Pickeringe dwellinge at Sainte Magnus corner and are there for to be soulde.

Anno 1566. the 23 August.

GLASGOW WARVERSITY















































