The tryal and condemnation of Arundel Coke alias Cooke Esq; and of John Woodburne labourer, for felony, in slitting the nose of Edward Crispe Gent. Contrary to the 22 & 23 Car. II, cap. I intitled, An act to prevent malicious maiming and wounding; who were found guilty at the assizes held before the Right Honourable Sir Peter King knt. ... at Bury St. Edmonds, Tuesday the 18th of March 1721, and received sentence the day following / [Arundel Coke].

Contributors

Coke, Arundel, -1722. Crispe, Edward. Woodburne, John, -1722. King, Peter, Sir. Great Britain. Courts of Oyer and Terminer and General Gaol Delivery.

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APRIL 21. 1722. Windof

DO Appoint JOHN DARRY and DANIEL MIDWINTER TO Print the TRYAL of Arundel Coke Eff; and John Woodburne; and Order that no other Perfon do prefume to Print the fame,

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APRIL 21. 1722.

I Do Appoint JOHN DARBY and DANIEL MIDWINTER to Print the TRYAL of Arundel Coke Esq; and John Woodburne; and Order that no other Person do presume to Print the same.

P. King.

THE

TRYAL

AND

CONDEMNATION

OF

Arundel Coke alias Cooke Efq;

AND OF

John Woodburne Labourer,

FOR

FELONY,

In Slitting the NOSE of

EDWARD CRISPE Gent.

Contrary to the 22 & 23 Car. II. cap. 1. intitled, An Act to prevent malicious Maining and Wounding;

Who were found Guilty at the Assizes held before the Right Honourable Sir PETER KING Knt. Lord Chief Justice of his Majesty's Court of Common Pleas, at Bury St. Edmonds, Tuesday the 13th of March 1721. and received Sentence the Day following.

LONDON:

Printed for JOHN DARBY in Bartholomew-Close, and DANIEL MIDWINTER in St. Paul's Church-yard. M. DCC, XXII.

THE CONDEMNATION Arundel Coke alias Cooke Efq; AND OF John Woodburne Labourer, ELON Digitized by the Internet Archive in 2018 with funding from Wellcome Library tled, An All to prevent malicious Maining and Wounding:

Printed for Jon M DARBY institute Charles and DANGER MIDWING BRIDE Charles and M. DCC. XXII.

THE

TRYAL

OF

70 HN WOODBURNE,

AND

Arundel Coke alias Cooke Efq;

N Tuefday the 13th of March 1721, at the Affizes held at Bury St. Edmonds in the County of Suffolk, John Woodburne and Arundel Coke were arraigned upon an Indictment found by the Grand-Jury: And the Court proceeded thus.

Clerk of the SJohn Woodburne, hold up thy Hand. Which they Arraigns. Arundel Cooke, alias Coke, hold up thy Hand. Severally did.

You stand Indicted by the Names of John Woodburne, late of the Borough of Bury St. Edmond's in the County of Suffolk, Labourer; and Arundel Coke, alias Cooke, of the Borough aforesaid, Esq; for that you, after the twenty fourth day of June, in the Year of our Lord One thousand six hundred and seventy one, viz. the first day of January, in the Eighth Year of our Sovereign Lord George, of Great-Britain, &c. intending one Edward Cripe Gent. then and yet being a Subject of our said Sovereign Lord the King, to main and dissigure at the Borough aforesaid, in the County aforesaid, by Force and Arms, &c. in and upon the said Edward Crispe, in the Peace of God, and of our said Sovereign Lord the King, then and there being, on Purpose,

Purpose, and of Malice forethought, and by Lying in wait, did unlawfully and feloniously make an Assault. And that you the said John Woodburne with a certain Bill value a Penny, which you the faid John then had and held in your right Hand, the Nofe of the faid Edward Crifpe, on Purpole, and of your Malice forethought, and by Lying in wait, did then and there unlawfully and feloniously slit, with an Intent by fo doing, the faid Edward Crifpe to maim and disfigure. And that you the faid Arundel Coke, at the time of the Felony aforefaid, by the faid John Woodburne in manner aforefaid, unlawfully and feloniously done and committed, to wit, the faid first day of January, in the eighth Year aforefaid, at the Borough aforefaid, in the County aforefaid, on Purpose, and of your Malice forethought, and by Lying in wait, unlawfully and feloniously was prefent, aiding and abetting the faid John Woodburne the Felony aforefaid, in manner afore aid, feloniously to commit and do. And so the Jury aforesaid, upon their Oaths say, That you the said John Woodburne and Arundel Coke, the said first day of January, in the eighth Year aforesaid, at the Borough aforefaid, in the County aforefaid, by Force and Arms, &c. on Purpofe, and of your Malice forethought, and by Lying in wait, the Felony aforefaid, in manner aforefaid, did, and each of you did, commit, and do against the Peace of our Sovereign Lord the King, his Crown and Dignities, and also against the Form of the Statute in that Case made and provided. [Vid. A true Copy of the Indictment it felf in Latin, at the end.

Clerk of the Arraigns. How fay'st thou, John Woodburne; art thou guilty of the Felony whereof thou stands Indicted, or not Guilty?

Prisoner. Not Guilty.

Cl. Arr. Culpris. How wilt thou be tryed?

Prisoner. By God and my Country.

Cl. Arr. God fend thee a good Deliverance. How fay'ft thou, 'Arundel Coke, alias Cooke, art thou guilty of the Felony whereof thou flandst Indicted, or not Guilty?

Prisoner. Not Guilty.

Cl. Arr. Culprit. How wilt thou be try'd?

Prisoner. By God and my Country.

Cl. Arr. God fend thee a good Deliverance. You, John Woodburne and Arundel Coke alias Cooke, the Prisoners at the Bar, hearken to what is said to you. Those good Men that are now called and do here appear, are those that are to pass between our Sovereign Lord the King and you, upon your several Lives or Deaths; if therefore you or either of you will challenge them or any of them, you must challenge them as they come to the Book to be sworn, before they are sworn, and you shall be heard.

Cl. Arr. Cryer, give the Book to

Thomas Buckingham, Nicholas Alger, Ambrofe Gallant, George Goddard, Robert Gall, William Scott,

George Crofs,
Samuel Bridge,
Jonathan Clements,
Thomas Taylor,
Simon Reeve,
William May.

Cl. Arr. Count these.
Cryer. Are you all sworn, Gentlemen?
Jury. Yes.

Cl. Arr. Make a Proclamation.

Cryer. O Yes, If any of you can inform my Lord the King's Justice, the King's Attorney or Sollicitor General, of any Treason, Murder, Felony, or other Misdemeanour committed by the Prisoners at the Bar, or either of them, come forth, and you shall be heard; for the Prisoners at the Bar now stand upon their Deliverance: and all Persons bound by Recognizance to prosecute them, or either of them, come

forth and profecute, or you'll forfeit your Recognizances.

Cl. Arr. John Woodburne, and Arundel Coke alias Cooke, hold up your Hands. Gentlemen of the Jury, look upon the Prisoners, and hearken to their Charge: They stand indicted by the Names of John Woodburne, late of the Borough of Bury St. Edmonds in the County of Suffolk Labourer, and Arundel Coke alias Cooke of the Borough aforesaid Esq; for that they (as in the Indictment before-mention'd) upon which indictment they have been arraign'd, and pleaded severally Not Guilty: Your Charge is to enquire whether they, or either of them, are Guilty

of the Felony whereof they stand indicted, or Not Guilty.

Mr. Lee. May it please your Lordship, and you Gentlemen of the Jury, I am of Counfel for the King against the Prisoners at the Bar, who are indicted for Felony on the 22° and 23° Car. II. entitled, An Act to prevent malicious Maiming and Wounding. And the Indictment fets forth, that the Prisoners, the first Day of January, in the eighth Year of his prefent Majesty, at Bury St. Edmonds in this County, did on Purpose, and of Malice forethought, and by Lying in wair, make an Affault unlawfully and feloniously upon Edward Crispe Gent. and that the Prisoner John Woodburne with a Bill which he then had in his Right Hand, did on Purpose, of Malice forethought, and by Lying in wait, flit the Nose of the said Edward Crispe, with an intent in so doing to disfigure the faid Edward Crifpe; and that the Prisoner Arundel Coke at the time of committing the faid Felony, on Purpole, and of his Malice forethought, and by Lying in wait, was unlawfully and felonioufly present, aiding and abetting the said John Woodburne to commit the said Felony: All which is laid to be done contrary to the Form of the Statute. If we who are Counsel for the King prove this Matter, you will find them Guilty.

Serj. Selby. May it please your Lordship, and you Gentlemen of the Jury, I am Counsel, pro has Vice, for the King against the Prisoners at the Bar, who stand indicted upon the Statute of the 22° of King Charles II. the one for maliciously maining and dissiguring of Edward Crispe, the other for abetting that Fact, which by that Act is made one and the same Offence; I said, Gentlemen, I was Counsel for the King, for that his Majesty, as the Father of his People, and for their Sasety, out of his natural Goodness, hath been graciously pleased particularly to regard this Prosecution for so horrid and bloody an Assassination. And tho, Gentlemen, 'tis difficult to stand in this Place without the greatest Tenderness to our Fellow-Creatures, yet these, who have devested themselves of all Humanity, now cease to be such; 'tis even Cruelty to the King's People not to stand up against them so far as is consistent with Law and Justice. Their Prosecution is become the common Concern

of Mankind; for fo long as these Prisoners have a Being here, the Life of every Man is precarious, and but at the Will of fo infernal a Contriver as the one, and so hellish an Executioner as the other. We shall first, Gentlemen, prove the Fact committed, and that by Mr. Crifpe himself, who by a particular Providence hath survived this horrid Attempt, and is here to give Evidence of it, and that he was invited with his Wife by Mr. Coke (who married Mr. Crifpe's Sifter, and who was to have Mr. Crifpe's Estate by his decease) to sup at his House; That Mr. Coke proposed to him to go after Supper to make a visit to Mrs. Monke (whole Name we mention without any the least Imputation) to which Mr. Cripe confented; That Mrs. Monke's House opens into the Church Yard, which is but crofs the way from Mr. Coke's House; That Mr. Coke took Mr. Crispe along with him about ten or eleven at Night, it being dark, into the Church-Yard, and walked him about near Mrs Monke's Door without going in, and then making some Noise or Whiftling, a Person came up to him and knock'd him down, after which he was not fenfible; That being left for dead, after fome time he got up, and return'd, he did not know how, to Mr. Coke's House, where the Company receiv'd him with great Consternation, as did Mr. Coke himself, who soon returned after walking out with Mr. Crifpe, out of Breath, and called for a Glass of Wine; and being asked what was become of Mr. Crifpe, faid he was stumbling home in the dark. This we shall prove by Mr. Browne another Relation. We shall prove by Mr. Sturgeon, who was called as his Chyrurgeon, the Condition of his Wounds; and by Carter, a Blacksmith, that Mr. Coke about the Friday before the Fact committed, fent for him, and asked (after a previous Discourse of Carter's Poverty, and how he might live well in the World) if he would cut off ten Mens Heads without remorfe, which when Carter faid he could not, If he would cut off one Man's Head, and lay it before Coke; which Carter refusing, Mr. Coke bid him confider on't, and come again, then gave him a Glass of Brandy, and difmissed him, bidding him send Woodburne to him. We shall prove by one Moone a Taylor, that Mr. Coke about three Years fince follicited him to the like effect. We shall prove by Willet the Constable, that after Woodburne was taken up, he confessed the Fact, said he did it with a Hedging-Bill, and gave him Directions where to find it, and he found it accordingly, which Woodburn, when fhew'd him, acknowledged to be the fame, and which we have here to produce. We shall prove by Mr Wetherell the Goaler, that Mr. Coke fince he was in his Custody confessed the whole Fact, and that Woodburne was placed in a Porch of an empty House near Mr. Coke's, to come out on a Whiftle to do the Fact, and that he deliver'd Mr. Crifpe to Woodburne, and was prefent when the Fact was committed. And after this Evidence, there can be no doubt, Gentlemen, but you will find the Priloners at the Bar guilty of this Indictment.

Serj. Branthwayt. My Lord, the Defendants are indicted of Felony upon an Act of Parliament made 22° & 23° Car. II. by which Act, if any Person or Persons, on Purpose, and of Malice forethought, and by Lying in wait, shall unlawfully cut out or disable the Tongue, put out an Eye, slit the Nose, &c. with an Intention in so doing to maim or disfigure; the Person or Persons so offending, their Counsellors, Aiders, and Abettors, knowing thereof, are Felons without Benefit

of Clergy. The Indictment charges the Defendants with feloniously making an Affault on Mr. Crifpe; that Woodburne flit his Nosc with a Bill or Hook; that Coke was aiding and affifting therein. We shall be able by undoubted Evidence to prove and make clear the Charge of the Indictment, and every Particular thereof, as has been opened to you, and that the manner of doing it was attended with fuch Circumstances of Inhumanity, Baseness, and Villany, as no Instance can parallel. Mr. Crifpe is Brother-in-Law to Mr. Coke, who on the first day of January last, under the Colour of Friendship and Affection, invites Mr. Crifpe and Family to Supper at Coke's House. Before this Invitation he had agreed with Woodburne for Hire to lie in wait on purpose to effect the defigned Mischief. When Woodburne was lying in wait, Coke came several times to him to encourage him in his vile Purpose. After Supper, Mr. Coke, unmindful of all the Obligations of brotherly Love, of Hospitality, and of the Protection due to Mr. Crispe, by false and vile Arts and Persuasions entices him into the Church-Yard, the Place defigned and agreed upon for the Execution of their wicked Purposes. When he had got Mr. Crispe into this Place, by Sign he gave notice of it to Woodburne, who had follow'd at some distance; and then deliver'd him into the Possession of Woodburne, and was present at the striking several Blows with the Hook. By the Nature of the Instrument every Blow must maim and disfigure; and the Blows being given by the Order and Direction of Mr. Coke by Woodburne, Mr. Crifpe's Nose was slit on purpose to maim and disfigure by one lying in wait: which are all the Circumstances required by the Act of Parliament to make them guilty of the Felony with which they are charged. Which feveral Facts we shall call our Witnesses to make out, and doubt not but the Jury will find him guilty.

Serj. Selby. We defire in the first Place, Mr. Edward Criffe himself may be fworn, (which was done accordingly.) Mr. Crifpe, give an

account to my Lord and the Jury of the whole Matter.

Crifpe. On New-Years-Day last I was invited to sup at Mr. Coke's, and being there, he proposed to me to go to Mrs. Fanny Monke's.

L. C. J. Was this before or after Supper?

Crispe. This was before Supper: We supp'd about seven, and after Supper about ten a-clock he call'd me out of his Parlour, I follow'd him; we went into the Church-yard. It was then very dark, the Moon did not shine. He took three or four Turns before the House where Mrs. Monke dwelt, then he stood still and made a noise. L. C.J. What kind of Noise did he make?

Crifpe. It was like a Hollowing.

L.C.J. Were you under any Fear or Apprehension from that Noise?

Crispe. Yes, my Lord, I was afraid, and made up towards the Wall'; but in a quarter of a Minute fomebody came behind me, and knock'd me down.

L. C. J. Did you then know who that Man was?

Crifpe. I did not.

L. C. J. Can you tell what was done to you afterwards?

Crifpe. My Lord, I cannot, for on that Blow I lost my Senses for fome time.

L. C. J. How long was it before your Senses returned?

Crifpe. My Lord, I cannot tell, but in some time I got up, and return'd to Mr. Coke's.

Serj. Selby. In what Condition did you find your felf?

Crispe. I was ready to die and faint, and I was found very much wounded.

Serj. Branthw. Did any Chyrurgeon come to you at Mr. Cake's?

Crifpe. Yes, Sir, Mr. Sturgeon.

L. C. J. After the Person came up who knock'd you down, did you hear Mr. Coke fay any thing?

Crifpe. No, my Lord.

L. C. J. Can you tell whether he stay'd any time, or what became of him?

Cripe. No, I cannot.

L. C. J. Was he there when the first Blow was given? Crispe. Yes, he was.

L. C. J. Will the Prisoners ask Mr. Crifpe any Questions?

Coke, Mr. Crispe, was I present when you were knock'd down? Crifpe. Yes, Sir.

Coke. Do you remember that you faw me?

Crifpe. Yes.

Coke. How near was I to you?

Crifpe. You were close by me when I was knock'd down.

Serj. Selby. Call Mr. Brown and fivear him, (which was accordingly done.) I think you are a Relation of Mr. Coke's?

Brown. Yes, Sir, I married his own Sifter, and he married Mr.

Crifpe's Sifter.

Serj. Selby. Was you at Mr. Coke's House last New-Tears-Day at

night?

Brown. A Day or two before last New-Years-Day, I and my Wife and Daughter were invited to sup with him, and accordingly we went. I came about fix a-clock, and found Mr. Coke and Mr. Crifpe drinking a Glass of Wine in the Parlour before Supper.

Serj, Selby. Was there any other Company with them?

Brown. No, the Women were above Stairs. I fat down with them, and we three staid in the Parlour till Supper-time. When Supper was ready, we went up Stairs. Then after Supper between eight and nine, we three came down into the Parlour again. Some time after, Coke went out of the Room, and then came back again and gave a Call, or beckon'd to Mr. Crispe, who follow'd him out of the Room.

Serj. Selby. At what time of night was this?

Brown. After nine a-clock at night.

Serj. Branthw. How long was it before Mr. Coke return'd? Brown. He was gone about ten Minutes, and then returned. Serj. Branthw. Was he in any diforder when he returned?

Brown. He feem'd to be out of breath, as if he had been walking

faster than ordinary.

Serj. Branthw. How far distant is the Church-Yard, where this Gentlewoman dwelt, from Mr. Coke's House?

Brown. The Church-Yard is about twice the length of this Shires House from Mr. Coke's House.

Serj. Branthw. What did Coke do when he came in?

Brown. Immediately he drunk a Glass of Wine to me, and after he had fat some time, he went out of the Room. I heard a Noise up Stairs, and being told my Daughter was ill, I went up, and in a little time came down again into the Parlour, where I found Mr. Coke.

Serj. Branthw. Did you ask him what was become of Mr. Crifpe?

Brown. I did then ask him what was become of Mr. Crifpe, and he told me that he believ'd he was gone home in the dark. In about two or three Minutes after, Mr. Crifpe came in. He was very much wounded and bloody. I was fo furprized that I could not take particular notice of him.

Mr. Raby. How long was it from Crifpe's going out to his coming in

Brown. It was near half an hour.

L. C. J. So then Coke returned in about ten Minutes, and Crifpe in near half an Hour.

Browne. Yes, my Lord.

Serj. Selby. Did Mr. Coke fee Mr. Crifpe when he came back to his House?

Brown. Yes.

Serj. Selby. What did he fay?

Brown. He feem'd to be in a great Consternation.

Mr. Raby. Do you know of any Estate that would have come to Mr. Coke after Mr. Crifpe's Death?

Brown. I cannot politively fay it of my own Knowledge.

Mr. Raby. We will ask Mr. Crifpe that Question. Pray, Mr. Crifpe; would any Estate have come by your Death to Mr. Coke?

Crifpe. In case I had died, One hundred Pounds per annum would

have come to his Wife as one of my Sifters.

L. C. J. Have you then no Children, nor Brothers?

Crifpe. No, my Lord; my next of Kin are three Sifters, one of which is Mr. Coke's Wife, she would have been one of my Heirs.

Serj. Selby. Call Mr. Sturgeon; (who appeared, and was fworn.) What

do you know concerning this wounding of Mr. Crifpe?

Sturg. I am a Chirurgeon by Profession; and the first day of January last at Night, about Eleven a-clock, I was fent for to Mr. Crifpe at Mr. Coke's House: When I came, I found him very much wounded and cut, and in a very weak Condition, and that he had loft a great deal of Blood. I examined his Wounds: One Wound began at his right Ear, divided the fleshy part of his Cheek, and ended on his upper Lip just under his right Nostril; the Flesh was all divided, and the Jaw left naked. Another Wound divided the right fide of the Nostril, and made an oblique Cross over the Wound, and ended near the right under Jaw.

Serj. Selby. Was his Nose flit?

Sturg. Yes, Sir, the Nofe was cut from without into the Nostril; the Edge of the Nole was not cut through, but there was a Cut or Slit in the Nole that went through; I fow'd it up; it was indeed but with one Stitch; it is yet visible, and the Nose was cut through.

Serj. Selby. Were there any other Wounds?

Sturg. There was another deep Wound under his Chin, that reach'd from one Jaw to the other. There was another Wound, which began at his Chin, crofs'd the left under Jaw, and tended towards his Ear. There was also a small Wound on his left Cheek, another on his upper Lip, and another on his left Temple.

Serj. Selby. How many Wounds had he in all?

Sturg. Seven.

Serj. Selby. Do you think there were feven distinct Wounds, that had seven distinct Blows?

Sturg. I take it, that every one of the feven Wounds had a distinct Blow.

Serj. Selby. With what Instrument did you apprehend those Blows were given?

Sturg. It was cut fo clean, that I thought it was done either by

2 Knife of Razor.

L. C. J. Let the Jury see Mr. Crispe's Wounds.

[Then his Face and Wounds were shown to the Jury for their Observation.]

Serj. Branthw. Swear Charles Willett; (which was done accordingly.) I think you are a Constable in Bury St. Edmonds?

Willet. I am.

Serj. Branth. Had you any occasion to speak to Woodburne concerning this Matter, and what did he say?

Will. I had a Warrant from Alderman Wright and Mr. Serjeane

Reynolds to apprehend Coke upon Woodbarne's Examination.

Serj. Branthw. The Question ask'd you is, What you know of Woodburne's Confession, and what he hath said to you about this Matter?

Will. After Woodburne was committed, I was with him, and ask'd him, Whether he was concerned in the wounding of Mr. Crifpe? He told me, Yes he was. I ask'd him, Whether Mr. Coke was with him: he faid he was. I ask'd him how long Coke stay'd with him: He faid, That he had struck Crifpe three or four Blows before Coke left him.

Serj. Branthw. What else did you ask him, or did he fay to you?

Will. He told me, that he was walking up and down in the Churchyard when Coke whiftled to him, and that on that Signal he went up and affaulted Mr. Crispe.

Serj. Branthw. Did he give you any account how long and where

he waited before the Fact was done?

Will. He told me, that he was defired by Mr. Coke to be up and down in the Churchyard about Nine a-clock that Night; and that being a cold Night, Coke gave him a Bottle of Brandy, and told him he could not tell what time Crispe would come home, but defired him to be ready and to stay let it be never so long.

Serj.

Seri. Brantha, Did he tell you with what Inftrument he did it?

Will. He told me, He did it with an Hook or Bill, that was new ground for the Purpose, and that it was in his House at the right hand of his Door. I went according to his Direction, and found it, and brought it to him; and he said, That that was the Hook.—

The Hook I have brought with me, and this is the Hook that I have now in my Hand.

Mr. Raby. Call William Wethersl; (who was fworn.) Give my Lord and the Jury an account what you know of this Matter.

Weth. I am the Gaoler; and the Day after Mr. Coke was committed to me, about five Minutes after One, he fent for me up into his Chamber, where his Wife was crying and in great disorder, as he seem'd to be likewise. She was desiring her Husband to discover. When he came to himself, he told me, That he and Woodburne had had a Design to murder Mr. Crispe, and had attempted it several times; and desired me to go and secure Woodburne. I went to the Alderman, and told him of it, and he gave me the like Orders. Coming from the Alderman I met Mr. Coke's Man, who ask'd me whether I had found him; on which I ask'd him, Who, and what he meant, thinking him to be ignorant of his Master's Consession: but he told me, that his Master had discovered it to him, and had sent him to take up Woodburne. Whilst we were talking, we say Woodburne coming up, and we desir'd one John Carter a Smith, who was shooing a Horse, to assist us; which he did, and we secur'd Woodburne.

L. C. J. Did Mr. Coke confess any thing to you concerning this Fact,

and the manner of doing it?

Weth. Yes, my Lord, he did. He told me several times, that he had a design to murder Crispe, and that he employ'd Woodburne, and delivered Crispe into his hands.

L.C. J. Did he tell you that?

Weth. He did tell me so: He told me also, That it was done with an Hook; and that he had bid Woodburne to cut his Weasand or Windpipe; and that if Woodburne had not been a cow-hearted Dog, he would have so done, and secur'd Crispe from telling Tales.

Mr. Raby. Did Coke tell you what Means he used to do this to

Mr. Crifpe ?

Weth. He faid, That he call'd him out of his House, went into the Church-yard with him, and there delivered him into Woodburne's hands.

Raby. Did he fay what Signal was given?

Weth. Not that I remember; but he faid, That Woodburne was placed there by his Appointment.

Mr. Raby. For what Defign?

Weth. With an intent to murder him. When Woodburne struck him, Coke said, he went away immediately.

Mr. Raby. What have you heard Woodburne fay concerning this

Weth. I have heard Woodburne fay, That he and Coke had lain in wait feveral times and at feveral places to murder Mr. Crifpe.

D

Mr.

Mr. Raby. Did Woodburne give you any account what he did at this

time to Mr. Cri/pe?

Weth. Yes, he did; he faid, That he struck him a Blow with his Hook, and that not quite striking him down, he gave him a second Blow which did; and that Crispe, as he was falling, (who was never us'd to swear) cried out, God damn him; and that then it went to his very Heart to think that he should kill a Man with an Oath in his Mouth.

Mr. Raby. Did he say he gave him many Blows?

Weth. He faid, He gave him feveral Blows, and that he thought he was dead.

Mr. Lee. Call Robert Moon; (who appeared, and was sworn.) What

do you know of this Matter?

Moon. When I heard what happen'd to Crispe, I said, I knew the Person who did it, or the Person who employ'd him to do it; and the reason was, because three Years, or three Years and a half ago, Mr. Coke sent for me, and said to me, at first I thought it to be in a jesting way, that he wish'd Mr. Crispe out of the World, he was a good-for-nothing Fellow, his Wise had a trick of playing away his Estate, and he wish'd some body would knock him in the Head. Sir, said I to him, what advantage would that be to you? He shook his Head, and said, A very good Estate. Said I, I thought Crispe had but a small Estate. Yes, said he, a very good one. Then I began to think there was something in it. After some little time, said he, I do not value ten or twenty Guineas to knock him in the head. Then I began a little to reslect that he should have such an opinion of me, that I should be such a fort of Person.

Mr. Lee. What then did you fay to him?

Moon. I told him, That I would not kill the greatest Villain in the world for ten such Towns as Bury.

Mr. Lee. What did he fay afterwards?

Moon. I do not remember, I have forgot if there was any thing elfe.

Mr. Lee. How came you to remember this?

Moon. When I heard of this Fact committed on Mr. Crifpe, then it came fresh into my Memory.

Serj. Selby. Call John Carter, (who appeared, and was sworn.) What Trade are you of?

Carter. A Blacksmith.

Serj. Selby. Did Coke at any time fend Woodburne for you, and what

palt thereon?

Carter. On the Friday before New-Tears-Day last, which was on a Monday, Mr. Coke sent Woodburne to me, who told me his Master Coke wanted to speak with me.

Serj. Selby. Did you go?

Carter. Yes, I went to his House, and he order'd me to come up to him in his Chamber. When I came up, he told me that he wanted a good strong Horse to carry his Weight. I told him I did not know of

any one then; but when I did, I would let him know. Upon that he faid, By God, how do you go on, Boy? I hear you have lost most of your Bufiness, you have got no Iron nor Coals, and you are afraid of a Goal; I have a thing now in agitation that will make a Man of you as long as you live. I faid I should be very glad of that Said he, Can you keep a Secret ? Yes, faid I, as well as any one to ferve my felf and my Friend. Said he, Can you keep one of the biggest Secrets in the World? I told him, As well as any body. Said he, You are pretty much in Debt, and if you will ferve me in this, I can make a Man of you as long as you live: do you think you could cut five or fix Mens Heads off without Scruple of Conscience? I told him, No; it was too much for a Man's Conscience to bear. Said he, What, a Scruple of Conscience to do such a thing as that? There are those above who have done ten times worfe. I suppose, Sir, faid I, you mean the South-Sea Gentlemen. Yes, faid he, fo I do; they have ruined Families, and begger'd Gentlemen: To cut Mens Heads off is but a Trifle to them. Said I, Mr. Coke, I believe you speak only in joke, by way of merriment. Said he, What, do you think I fent for you by way of joke? I told him, I could not do any fuch thing. Then, faid he, do you think you can cut off one Man's Head without Scruple of Conscience? I told him, No. Then, said he, If you can't cut off a Man's Head, and lay it down upon the Table before me, you are not for my turn: On that he fetch'd a Bottel of Brandy, and gave me a Glass or two, and then said to me, Carter, I would have you go home, and confider of it for two or three Days, and if you can cut off a Man's Head without Scruple of Confcience, you shall have plenty of Gold and Silver, and any thing elfe you ask. I told him, I needed no Confideration, for I could not do it. Then, faid he, fend Woodburne to me. And as I went out, I faw Woodburne at the Door, and fent him in to Mr. Coke.

Serj. Selby. Did he fay any thing else to you, or any thing about

Mr. Crifpe?

Carter. I live in a House of Mr. Crispe's, and Mr. Coke had been formerly his Steward, and Woodburne acted under him. And Mr. Coke laid, that he heard my House was out of repair, that it would be his after Mr. Crispe, and whether I should not like it better for him to keep it in repair, as he had done before.

Serj. Selby. I think, my Lord, we have done with our Evidence, and have sufficiently proved Mr. Coke and Woodburne to be guilty not only within the Intention but the Letter of the Statute of the 22d of Car. II. upon which they stand indicted. We have proved the Malice premeditated and forethought, the Intention to maim and disfigure by slitting the Nose (for Mens Intentions must be construed by their Actions) and the maiming and disfiguring accordingly; and that Mr. Coke was privy to, and the Aider and Abettor of the Offence: And therefore, Gentlemen of the Jury, we can't doubt but that you will find them both Guilty; and that your Verdict and their Conviction will be with the Suffrage of all Mankind.

Mr. Raby. My Lord, having gone thro our Evidence, you will now permit me to make fome few Observations upon what has been offer'd, and from which we humbly apprehend it will most clearly appear, that we have fully prov'd and made out every thing necessary to

maintain this Indictment.

My Lord, It must be agreed, that this is an Offence created by a particular Act of Parliament, usually call'd Sir John Coventry's Act, made on the Occasion of the like barbarous Usage he met with, to punish that Offence, and to prevent the like for the future: And I also agree, that the Prisoners must appear to be guilty of those very Facts, which by that Act are made Felony, or otherwise they cannot be punished by that Law. But we humbly apprehend, that when that Law, and the Evidence which has been given against the Priloners are consider'd, they will appear to be guilty within the express Words of that Law; for which End I beg leave to mention that Act, which is the 22 & 23 Car. II. cap. 1. The Words are thefe. "That if any Person or Persons, on Purpose, and of Malice "forethought, and by Lying in wait, shall unlawfully cut or difa-" ble the Tongue, put out an Eye, flit the Nose, &c. with an In-" tention in fo doing to maim or disfigure, in any the Manners " before mentioned, the Person or Persons so offending, their Counfellors, Aiders, and Abettors (knowing of and privy to the " Offence aforesaid) shall be Felons, &c."

From this Clause it appears the Offence must be done;

2. By Lying in wait.
3. By Slitting the Nose, &c.

4. With an Intention to Maim or Disfigure.

And we humbly fubmit it, that from the Evidence which has been given against the Prisoners, it most plainly appears, that the Defendants are guilty of this Offence in every Circumstance de-

fcribed by this Act of Parliament.

For certainly there cannot be the least Question, but that this was done of Malice forethought, when it appears from the Evidence to have been under Confideration and premeditated for three Years and an half: And Mr. Coke had try'd feveral Persons, before he could find any fo hardy as to execute his base Purpose, or comply with fo inhumane an Attempt: and therefore we apprehend there cannot be any colour to fay, This was not of Malice forethought.

2. And that this Offence was also done with Lying in wait, is as clear: For does it not fully appear upon the Evidence of Mr. Crifpe, that when he came out of Mr. Coke's Honfe, Mr. Coke gave a Whiftle or Signal? In vain had Mr. Coke given that Signal, if no Person had been in waiting to have heard it: To what End had that Signal been given, if Mr. Coke had not known there was fome Person to have heard it? It appears plainly Woodburne came upon the Signal given; and what enfued you have heard, I need

not repeat.

3. The third thing made material by this Act, is, That the Nose should be slit; and that the Nose was slit appears from the Surgeon's Evidence, who has given a very particular Account of the Seven Wounds Mr. Crispe received in his Face and Head: and he says, The Nose (the Nostril) was cut through.

4. Whether the other Circumstance, that this was done with an Intent to Maim and Disfigure, does sufficiently appear, or not, is the only Question that remains: and we submit it to your Conside-

ration, as that which is very clear from this Evidence.

Mens Acts are the best Interpreters of their Intents: If a Man kills another without Provocation, tho no express Malice or malicious Intent appears, yet the very Act of the Party has always been taken to be a sufficient Proof of his Intent and Malice forethought. The Intent is latent in the Mind, and can seldom be known otherwise than by the Act which is done: and as there the malicious Intent is collected from the Act of the Party, so here 'tis as reasonable to collect his Intent to dissigure from the Act which is done, the maining and dissiguring Mr. Crispe; and the very manner of doing it

fpeaks it.

Whoever looks upon this Gentleman (Mr. Crifpe) fees too plainly how much he is disfigur'd: and could a Man cut another feven times on the Head and Face with this Iron Bill, with this Weapon, without disfiguring him? Is it to be imagin'd? And when he has done the very Act, when he has disfigur'd him, shall he fay, He had no such Intent? The Act done, and the manner of doing it, speak it too plainly. 'Tis confess'd the Intent was to murder; this is what both the Prisoners admit to be the End defign'd; but did they not also intend the Means? It would be in vain to intend the End, and reject the Means to effect it: the Means chosen to effect it have appear'd to be to cut him to Death, by striking him with a Bill on the Head and Face : Is it possible to expect to cut him to Death on the Face with the Weapon produced, and not to disfigure him? This is the Act Woodburne has done, and Coke was prefent when Woodburne struck, even when he did this Fact, and Coke was a Counfellor, Aider and Abettor; he was present, and, in the Words of the Act of Parliament, knowing of the Offence. And therefore upon this Evidence we submit it, whether we have not given Satisfaction to the Court and Jury, that the Prisoners are guilty.

This is not a Profecution of the Party injured, arifing from Revenge or Resentment, but is carried on by the Publick, by the Crown, for the sake only of Publick Justice, that by the Punishment of this Offence, the Subjects may have that Protection they ought to have by a due Execution of the Laws: And all we pray, is, That the Jury will give such a Verdict as is agreeable

to Justice.

L. C. J. Woodburne, What have you to fay for your felf?

Woodburne. May it please your Honour, my Lord, the first time that Coke began with me about this Matter was on a Wednesday in last Barley-Harvest. He sent for me to mend his Copper, and after I had done

done it, he bid me go to the further end of the Mill-Lane, and there he must speak with me, and which came first should stay for the other. I was there before him; when he came, he was on horseback, and his Horse kicked about in a furious manner, that the People took notice of it. When they were gone, he told me that he had a thing for me to do, but not to be done presently, and that if I did it I should want for nothing. I ask'd him what it was. He said, about Mr. Crispe, to set him aside, that is, to kill him; but he said, it was not to be done prefently: so he put his Hand in his Pocket and gave. me Eighteen Pence. I told him, I never did fuch a thing in my Life; I could not do it. Said he, It is not to be done prefently, we have time to confider. A while after he fent for me again, and ask'd me, Whether I had confidered of it. I told him, I could not do it. Said he, We must set Crispe aside; for Mrs. Crispe hath got a trick to play; she will make away what there is from me and my Child. I said, I never did any such thing; I could not do it, and desired him to forbear. I went away and left him in his Chamber. Within a while after he came to my House; said he, John, what is the reason you can't do this for me? Said I, I cannot do it. Said he, What fignifies it, I would do it for you, I faid, I could not do it. Then he went away very uneafy, and in a Week or Fortnight fent for me again to his Chamber, and there was at me again. I told him, I could do no fuch Work. Said he, Why can't you do this Work? I have been a good Master for you, I made my self look little to bail you when you were in Gaol. I turned about and cried. Said he, What makes you cry? your Crying fignifies nothing; the Money that I shall give you, will do you and your Family a kindness. Said I, I can do no such thing. Said he, It fignifies no more the killing of him, than to kill a Dog, for they do no good with what they have. Yes, faid I, Mr. Crifpe is a very good Master; I work'd for him and his Father before him; and to I went away. Afterwards my Wife died three days before Gunpowder-Treason last: she was buried on that day, and being very poor, I fent my Daughter to defire a little Money of him to have the Bell toll'd for my Wife; but he fent me none. My Wife was buried on a Sunday, then on the Monday he fent his Boy for me; I went down to him, and when I came, I fell a weeping for the lofs of my Wife, and having ten Children. Said he, What makes you cry? you must pull up a good Heart; tho your Wife be dead, you may have Friends; here is that which will do you a kindness hereafter. Said I, I am very forry for the loss of my Wife. Said he, What fignifies that? fhe was carried well into the Church, and is, no doubt, happy; she is gone before you; we must all go in our time: I was a Friend to you in her Illness; I fent her a good Doctor at my own Charge: this twenty Pounds that I will give you will be a brave Estate for you.

L. C. J. What were you to have this twenty Pounds for?

Woodburne. It was to kill Mr. Crifpe; he told me, that I must set aside Mr. Crifpe; he offer'd me Twenty Pounds to do it; but I then refus'd it. On Monday, New-years-day, in the Morning, Coke fent his Boy for me to come to him; and between Eight and Nine, in the Morning, I went to him. He was in his green Room. Now, faid he, John, we shall have the fairest Opportunity to kill Mr. Crispe. I told him, I was loth to do it; it was very cold, and I had an Ague. Said he, I will give you that, which shall warm you; he went to his Closet, and gave me out of the Bottle, that he used to carry in his Pocket, half a Pint of Brandy, and told me, that happen how it will, I must not come near his House any more that Day, left afterwards there should be some Suspicion; but said he, Whether Ague or not, you must be at Mr. Morrice's Porch, which is in the Church-yard, about Eight-a-clock in the Evening. I went there between Eight and Nine; about Nine, Coke came out, and gave me a Whiftle; on that I went up to him; he told me, Mr. Crifpe was very jolly, and he believ'd, it would be late before he came out. I told him, I did not care to flay. Said he, You must stay now; this is the Time that will do it. I flaid 'till Ten-a-clock; then he came to me again in Mr. Morrice's Porch, and told me, That he believed Crifpe would not go 'till Eleven-a-clock; but the later the better. Then he went from me again, and a little after Ten, Coke and Crifpe came out together, and on Coke's whifiling I came up to them; Crifpe was then before, and coming to get against the Wall. I came up to Coke; he bid me have a care not to hit him instead of Crifpe, being very dark; so he took me by the Sleeve to lead me up to Crifpe, and faid to Crifpe, Brother, fland flill; on that I hit him two Stroaks with my Hook; tho' I never heard him fweat before, yet he now fwore, God damn him; on that, Coke faid, What! Doth he fwear? Secure him, down with him; he flood by him 'till I gave him feveral Blows, and then he went away. Coke defired me to take away his Watch; for, faith he, As to his Money, he don't carry above Half a Crown or Three Shillings in his Pocket; and when I go to London, I will fell the Watch for you.

Lord C. J. What Woodburne faith against Coke is no Evidence against Coke, and should not have been mention'd by him; but what he saith relating to himself before the Fact, is so twisted with Coke, that without the Whole it is not so intelligible as to himself. However, the Jury are to take notice, that what Woodburne saith, is only Evidence against himself,

and not against Coke.

Lord C. J. After you had given him those several Blows with your

Hook, what did you next?

Woodburne. I began immediately to reflect on what I had done, and went away forthwith to my own House, where I was about to take a Line to hang myself.

Lord C. J. Have you any Witnesses, or any body to speak for you? Woodburne. My Lord, here are my two Daughters in the Court; I defire your Lordship would be pleas'd to hear them, Ann Woodburne and Sarah Woodburne; who being call'd, appear'd, and were sworn.

Lord C. 7. What fay you, Ann Woodburne?

Ann Woodburne. On the Wednesday before New-years-day, Coke sent for my Father by his Boy; I told the Boy, my Father was in Bed, and sick of an Ague and could not come. The Boy came again, and said, my Father must by all means come; but he would not then go, but he went to him on New-years-day in the Morning, and came home again. About Five or Six-a-clock in the Evening, my Father went out with a Hook in his Hand; and he said, he should not be at Home 'till Eleven or Twelve at Night; and if any body came for him, he bid us not take any notice but that he was at Home. We thought he took the Hook to cut some Wood with.

Lord C. 7. Have you any thing more to fay?

Ann Woodburne. When my Mother died, I went to Mr. Coke's to borrow Five Shillings of him, to have the great Bell toll for my Mother; and told him, that my Father would pay him again. He faid, What fignifi'd the ringing out of the great Bell; her Soul would be never the better for it; but, if he'll fatisfy me in my Request, he shall have Five times Five Shillings.

Lord C. 7. What fay you, Sarah Woodburne?

Sarah Woodburne. Coke did frequently fend for my Father, at all times both of Day and Night; and he would often come to my Father, and when he came, they would go out, and walk down the Backfide, and talk together. After this Fact was done, Coke fent his Boy for my Father, and the Boy faid, They must not go together, for if they did, People would take notice of them.

Lord C. J. Woodburne, have you any thing more to fay?

Woodburne. This Day Nine Weeks, which was a Week after the Fact committed, Coke fent for me, and faid, John, I wish you would have done the thing I order'd you; but you have been before Alderman Wright and the Recorder, and have told your Story well; but hold you fast, they will examine you again; I shall-----

Lord C. J. This is subsequent to the Fact, and is not Evidence against Coke. If you Woodburne have done, then Mr. Coke, what have you to

for your felf?

Coke. May it please your Lordship, I am much asham'd, and very unable to defend my self; I am asham'd to think I should be concern'd in so heinous a Crime against Mr. Crispe's Life; I am even consounded at it; it is indeed a very great Crime, and I know not what to say for my self. As for Woodburne, he hath asserted against me several things that are false.

Lord C. J. I have told the Jury, that what he hath faid is no Evi-

dence against you.

Coke. When I first spoke of this Matter to Woodburne, he said, he should value it no more than the cutting off the Head of a Dog. I did, indeed, go out with Mr. Crispe that Night, but I was not near him when Woodburne struck him, but retreated to my own House in a Moment. My Lord, I am very sensible that a Point of Law may arise on the Statute whereon I am indicated.

Lord C. J. Whereon ?

Coke. With respect to my Intention.

Lord C. J. Your Intention is Matter of Fact, and must be try'd by the Jury, whether your Intent was to maim and disfigure; this doth not seem to me to be a Point of Law; if there be any Point of Law that shall arise, you shall have Counsel to speak to it; but whether you slit Mr. Crispe's Nose, with an Intention to disfigure him, is a Matter of Fact.

Coke. My Intent was to kill Mr. Crifpe, and not to maim or disfigure

him.

Lord C. J. But that is the Question the Jury are to try, Whether you did not of Malice slit his Nose, with an Intent to disfigure him. If the Jury do not find that you so did, you must be acquitted on this Indictment. Supposing your Design was to kill, yet your Design might be likewise to main; and this the Jury must try; this is Matter of Fact for their Consideration.

Coke. This is a very penal Statute, and I am unable to plead my own

Cause; I beg your Lordship to assign me Counsel.

Lord C. J. If any Point of Law doth arise upon the Statute, you shall have Counsel; but as yet there is nothing but Matter of Fact; whether the Fact proved doth support the Charge in the Indictment; or in other Words, Whether the Evidence be sufficient to make good the Charge? this must be left to the Jury; I will state the Fact to 'em, and they are on their Oaths to give in their Verdict.

Coke. This is a very penal Statute, and I cannot argue it for my felf; I hope your Lord'hip will affign me Counfel; this is the first Indictment

That ever was upon this Statute.

L. C. J. What do the King's Counsel say to it?

Serj. Selby. After so full an Answer as your Lordship has given I think it but vain to say any thing; I always thought that no Matter of Law could arise upon this Fact and Indictment; for Woodburne did the Fact of Malice fore-thought, by lying in wait, and with an Intention to maim; Mr. Coke was aiding, abetting, and privy to the Fact: therefore, tho it was an Intent to kill, it must be to maim also; he could not intend to kill him with such an Instrument, without intending to maim him first; and therefore, if there were two Intentions and but one executed, there is no Pretence to say, that what was executed was not intended. Mr. Coke says, there never was any Indictment before upon this Statute; if not, it must be because no Man before ever thought of being guilty of so horrid an Action.

L. C. J. If any Point in Law doth arife, you shall have Counsel; but the Fact must be agreed and stated, before the Law can come in debate. You say, your Intent was only to murder; but that is not yet agreed or found to be the Fact; it is the point now in Trial, whether you did it not with an Intention to maim, or disfigure; and according as that Intention shall appear to the Jury, so will they either acquit or convict you; therefore, if you have any thing more to say, I desire you to go on.

Coke. I submit to your Lordship's Judgment.

L. C. J. Gentlemen of the Jury, this is an Indictment of the Prifoners at the Bar John Woodburne and Arundel Coke, for Felony, by lying in wait, and purposely and maliciously slitting the Nose of Edward Crispe, with Intention, in so doing, to maim or disfigure the said Edward Crispe, John Woodburne is indicted for the principal Actor, or the Person who did the Fact; and Arundel Coke is indicted for being present, aiding, and abetting.

betting. This Indictment is founded on a Statute made in the two and twentieth Year of King Charles the second, intitled, an AEt to prevent malicious maining and wounding; whereby it is enacted, That if any Person or Persons, from and after the twenty fourth Day of June, in the Year of our Lord 1671, on purpose, and of Malice fore thought, and by lying in wait, should unlawfully cut out, or disable the Tongue, put out an Eye, flit the Nose, cut off a Nose, or Lip, or disable any Limb or Member of any Subject of his Majesty, with Intention in so doing to maim or dissigure in any the Manners before-mentioned fuch his Majesty's Subject, that then, and in every fuch Case, the Person or Persons so offending, their Counsellors, Aiders, and Abertors (knowing of, and privy to the Offence, as aforefaid) shall be, and are thereby declared to be Felons, and shall suffer as in Cases of Felony, without Benefit of the Clergy. Now the Question on this Indictment is, Whether John Woodburne did on Purpose, and of Malice fore-thought, and by lying in wait, unlawfully flit the Nose of Edward Crifpe, with an Intention to maim or disfigure him therein? And, Whether Arundel Coke was feloniously prefent at the Fact, aiding and abetting Woodburne in the Commission and Perpetration of it? To make out this Matter feveral Witnesses have been called; the first Wirness was Edward Crispe himself, who informs you, that Arundel Coke married his Sifter, and Mr. Brown Coke's Sifter; and that last New-years day they were invited to sup at Mr. Coke's; and that before Supper, Mr. Coke propos'd to go to Mrs. Monke's; and that after Supper, about Ten-a-clock at Night, Mr. Coke call'd Mr. Crifpe out of the Parlour to go to this Mrs. Monke's; and that when they had walked three or four Turns before the House where Mrs. Monke dwelt, Coke stood still and made a Noise like a hollowing, which made Mr. Crifpe afraid, being dark, fo he made toward the Wall; but in a quarter of a Minute's time, a Man came and knock'd him down: who that Man was, nor what was then further done to him, he could not then tell; because, by the Blow he lost his Senses for some time; but afterwards he got up again, and return'd to Mr. Coke's House, from whence he came; but in a fad Condition, much wounded and bloody; where Mr. Sturgeon the Chyrurgeon came to him, from whom you have the Particulars of his Case. He says, That Coke was close by him when he was knock'd down; but did not hear Coke fay any thing. He also fays, That upon his Death, One Hundred Pounds per Annum would have gone to Coke's Wife, as one of his Sisters and Co-heir.

The next Witness is Mr. Brown, who married Coke's Sister; and he says, That he, his Wife, and Daughter, were invited to sup at Mr. Coke's the Evening of New-Years-Day; that he came about Six-a-clock, and found Mr. Coke and Mr. Crispe drinking a Glass of Wine in the Parlour before Supper; that he sat down and drank with them 'till Supper; that after Supper, they Three came into the Parlour again, and sometime after Coke went out of the Room, and then came back again, and call'd Mr. Crispe out of the Room, who followed him; that Coke returned again in about Ten Minutes, and seem'd to be out of Breath, as if he had been walking faster than ordinary; that Coke's House is distant from the Churchyard about twice the Length of the Shire-House; that Coke, after he came in, drunk a Glass of Wine; and that Brown ask'd Coke, what was become of Mr. Crispe? And that Coke said, he believ'd he was

gone home in the Dark; and that in about two or three Minutes after, Mr. Crifpe came in much wounded and bloody; and that it was about half an Hour between the time of Mr. Crifpe's going out and returning

again.

Mr. Sturgeon, the Chyrurgeon, fwears, that being fent for, he came to Mr. Crifpe about eleven-a-clock that Night; that he had loft a great deal of Blood, and was very much wounded; and that in the whole he had received Seven distinct Wounds, which he apprehends were by so many several Blows. He hath given you a particular Description of the several Wounds; the second Wound is that which is alledged to be within this Statute; he tells you, That this Wound divided the Right side of the Nostril; and that tho' the Edge of the Nose was not cut through, yet it was cut through in another place; the Nose was slir; there was a Cut from without into the Nostril; indeed the Slit was not very great, for he sew'd it up with one Stitch; but he is sure, that a Slit there was, and you have seen Mr. Crispe's Nose. Now the slitting of the Nose is one of the particular Facts mention'd in the Statute.

Mr. Willet, the Constable, swears, That he was with Woodburne after his Commitment, and that he told him, he was concern'd in the wounding Mr. Crispe; that he had been there waiting for that purpose; and that when Coke whistled to him, he went up and made the Assault upon Mr. Crispe with an Hook or Bill, that was new-ground for that purpose, and directed him where to find it at his House, which he accordingly did, and brought it to Woodburne, who said that was the Hook, and the Hook hath been now produced before you, and you have seen

it.

The next Witness is Mr. Wetherell, the Goaler, who swears, that the Day after Coke was committed to his Custody, Coke fent for him up into his Chamber, and told him, That he and Woodburne had had a Defign to murder Mr. Crifpe, and had attempted it several times, and desir'd him to go and secure Woodburne, which he accordingly did. He hath given you an Account how and in what Manner he fecur'd him; and he fwears moreover, that Coke told him feveral times, that he had a Defign to murder Criffe, and that he employ'd Woodburne, and deliver'd Criffe into his Hands; that Woodburne did it with an Hook; and that he bad Woodburne to cut his Windpipe; and that if Woodburne had not been a Cow-hearted Dog, he would have so done, and secur'd Crispe from telling Tales. Wetherell likewise swears, that Coke told him, That he call'd Crifpe out of his House, went into the Church-yard with him, and there delivered him into Woodburne's Hands; and he farther fwears, as to Woodburne, That Woodburne own'd, that he and Coke had lain in wait feveral Times, and at feveral Places, to murder Mr. Crifpe; and as to this particular Fact, he gave him this Account, That he struck him a Blow with his Hook, and that not quite striking him down, he gave him a fecond Blow; and that as Crifpe was falling, he cried out, God damni him, and that then it griev'd him to kill a Man with an Oath in his

Robert Moone swears, That when he heard what was befallen Mr. Crispe, he said, that he knew the Person who did the Fact, or him who imploy'd the Person; and the Reason was, because about three Years and a Half before, Mr. Coke sent for him, and told him, That he wish'd

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Mr. Crifpe out of the World, and that some body would knock him in the Head; and that when he ask'd him what Advantage that would be to him? He replied, A very good Estate; and afterwards told him, he did not value Ten or Twenty Guineas to knock him in the Head: This made Moone reslect upon himself, and was concerned that he should have such an Opinion of him, and thereon told him, That he would not kill the greatest Villain in the World for Ten such Towns as Bury.

John Carter swears, That on Friday before New-years-day last, Coke fent Woodburne to him, to tell him that his Master Coke wanted to speak with him; that thereon he went to his House, and was ordered to come up to him in his Chamber, which he did, and there Coke first enquired, Whether he could help him to a good ftrong Horse? And then told him, that he heard he had loft much of his Bufiness; he had no Iron, nor Coal; and that he had a thing in agitation that would make a Man of him as long as he lived; and thereon ask'd him, whether he could keep a Secret, and one of the biggeft Secrets in the World? and upon his telling him that he could, he ask'd him whether he could cut five or fix Mens Heads off without Scruple of Confcience? And when he told him that that was too much for a Man's Confcience to bear, he told him, there were those above, meaning the South-Sea Gentlemen, who had done ten times worfe, ruin'd Families, and beggar'd Gentlemen; and that to cut Mens Heads off was but a Trifle to them. That hercon Carter told him, He believ'd he spoke only in Joak, and by way of Merriment; but Coke ask'd him, Whether he thought he fent for him only by way of Toak? And then ask'd him, Whether he could cut off one Man's Head without Scruple of Confcience? And when Carter told him, No; then Coke told him, If he could not cut off a Man's Head, and lay it down on the Table before him, he was not for his Turn; and then gave him a Glass of Brandy, and bid him consider of it for a Day or two; and if he could cut off a Man's Head without Scruple of Confcience, he should have Plenty of Gold and Silver, and any thing else he should ask: Whereto Carter replying, That he needed no Consideration, he could not do it; then he bid him fend Woodburne to him, which he did.

In all this Discourse between Carter and Coke, I do not find that Crispe was the Person named on whom this Outrage should be committed; but Carter who is a Tenant of a House of Mr. Crispe's, says, That Coke told him, he heard the House was out of repair; that it would be his after Mr. Crispe; and ask'd him, Whether he would not like it better for Coke to keep it in repair, as he had done before, whilst he was Crispe's Steward?

This is the Substance of the Evidence given against the Prisoners at the Bar, to prove that they maliciously, and by lying in wait, have slit Mr.

Crispe's Nose, with an Intent to disfigure him therein.

Woodburne doth not deny the general Fact, that is, the defign'd lying in wait to affault Mr. Crifpe, nor the cutting or knocking him down with his Hook; his Confession is not Evidence against Coke, but it is against himself; and you hear what he hath own'd; that last Barley-Harvest Coke sent for him to mend his Copper, and then order'd him to meet him at another Place, which was accordingly done; where Coke told him, That he had a thing for him to do, but it was not to be done presently;

presently; and if he would do it, he should want for nothing. And when he ask'd him, What it was? He faid, To let Crifpe afide, that is, to kill him; and Coke gave him Eighteen Pence. That then he told him, He could not do it; that Coke folicited him feveral time afterwards to murder Crifpe; the Particulars whereof I do not enumerate, because they principally relate to Coke, against whom it is not Evidence; but yet they fo far relate to Woodburne, as to shew his Knowledge and Deliberation in this Matter; therefore to come to the Day whereon this Fact was done, Woodburne faith, That about Eight or Nine in the Morning, Coke fent for him, and told him, That that Day they should have the fairest Opportunity to kill Mr. Crispe; and it was agreed between them, that Woodburne should be in the Church-yard, at Mr. Morrice's Porch, about Eight-a-clock in the Evening. He accordingly went with his Hedge-Hook or Bill, which hath been here produced. Coke came out to him twice by himfelf, and the third time, a little after Ten-a-clock, Coke and Crifpe came out together; and then Coke whiftled, which was the Signal between them, and thereon Woodburne came up, and owns, that with his Hook he cut and knock'd down Crifpe, and that tho' he never heard Crifpe swear before, yet that now, as Crifpe was falling, he swore God damn him; whereon he gave him those several other Wounds and Blows that Crifpe received; and then reflecting on what he had done, immediately went to his own House, where he was about to take a Rope to hang himfelf.

By this Defence of Woodburne, you fee that he doth not deny the affaulting and wounding of Mr. Crifpe; but that that he chiefly infifts on is, that what he did was by the Solicitation and Procurement of Mr. Coke; which is no Justification or Excuse. However, he hath call'd two Witnesses, Ann, and Sarah Woodburne, his two Daughters, to prove that Coke did frequently send for their Father, and often came to him at his own House, and would be in private Conference together, which probably was about this Matter; but if it were, this only confirms what Woodburne insists on, That he was solicited, and hired by Coke to do this Fact; which, as I said, will neither justify nor excuse him; for no Man is to obey the unlawful Commands, or hearken to the illegal Ad-

vices of any other Person whatsoever.

As for Mr. Coke, that which he principally puts his Defence upon, is, that his Intent was to kill and murther Mr. Crifpe, but not to maim him, or to flit his Nose, or to disfigure him in so doing; and therefore, tho' in Pursuance and Execution of the Attempt to murther Mr. Crifpe, they flit his Nose, or might thereby disfigure him, yet that not being their Intention, and Defign, he is to be acquitted on this Indictment, wherein the Intent of the Party is one of the principal Ingredients to make him guilty. This fame Defence will ferve also for Woodburne, that they intended to murther, but not to main; and if they did main, it was with an Intention to kill, and not to disfigure. Now this Indictment is, as I told you, founded on the 22d and 23d Car. II. c. 1. for that on purpose, of Malice fore-thought, and by lying in wait, the Prifoners did unlawfully and feloniously slit the Nose of Edward Crispe, with Intention in fo doing to maim or disfigure him. Woodburne is charged as the Actor or principal Agent, Coke as being prefent, aiding, and abetting; which, in Point of Law, is the fame, as to the Guilt and Confequence, both being in Law Principals.

That this Attempt on Mr. Crifpe was design'd, malicious, and by lying in wait, the Evidence is very strong; there hath been also very strong Evidence given, that the Nose of Mr. Crifpe was slit by Woodburne, and that Coke was present on the same Design with Woodburne.

But the thing chiefly infifted on is, that the flitting of Mr. Criffe's Nose was not with an Intention in so doing to maim or disfigure him; and if it were not with that Intent, then the Prisoners will be not guil-

ty upon this Indictment.

Now Gentlemen, What the Intent of these Persons was in slitting Mr. Crispe's Nose, you are to try; this is a matter of Fact for your Confideration and Determination: It is the same in other Felonys, where the Intent of the Party makes the Crime. Burglary, is breaking open an House in the Night-time, with an Intent to commit a Felony; tho' no Felony be committed, yet if there was an Intent to do it, it is Burglary; which Intent is to be tried by the Jury. Larceny, or Theft, is taking away another Man's Goods, with an Intent to fleal; if it were without fuch an Intent, it would only be a Trespass, and no Larceny; but whether it were or were not with fuch an Intent, is a Matter of Fact to be enquired into and determin'd by the Jury. Nav. the Intent is fo necessary in all Felonics, that a Person who hath no Intent or Defign, as a Madman, Lunatick, Infant, &c. cannot commit Felony for that very Reason; because he cannot have any Intent or Defign in his Actions. So that in this Case you are to try no other Matter than what is tried in other Felonies, viz. The Intent of the Party.

Now how is the Intent of the Party discovered in other Cases? By the Facts themselves, by the precedent, concomitant, and subsequent Circumstances of the Facts, by the Manner of doing, and the like.

There are some Cases where an unlawful or selonious Intent to do one Act, may be carried over to another Act, done in Profecution thereof; and fuch other Act will be Felony, because done in Prosecution of an unlawful or felonious Intent: As, if a Man shoots at a wild Fowl, wherein no Man hath any Property, and by fuch shooting happens unawares to kill a Man; this Homicide is not Felony, but only a Misadventure or Chance-Medly, because it was an Accident that hapned in the doing of a lawful Act: But if this Man had shot at a tame Fowl, wherein another had Property, but not with Intention to fleal it, and by fuch shooting had accidentally kill'd a Man, he would then have been guilty of Manslaughter, because done in Prosecution of an unlawful Action, viz. committing a Trespass on another's Property: But if he had had an Intention of stealing this tame Fowl, then fuch accidental killing of a Man would have been Murder, because done in prosecution of a selonious Intent, viz. an Intent to steal. So a Man of Malice intends to burn one House, in Execution thereof he happens to burn another House; this is a malicious and felonious burning of this other House, because it sprung out of a malicious and felonious Intent. The like may be instanced where Poyfon is intended to be given to one Person, and another takes and eats it, and thereby dies. And other Cases there are of the like Nature, where Acts done in Profecution of felonious Intents, participate of the Nature of their Original, from whence they spring.

But now the Indictment on this Statute, is for a certain particular Intent; for purposely, maliciously, and by lying in wait, fitting Mr. Crispe's Nose, with an Intention in so doing, to maim or disfigure : And you are to confider, whether the Ingredients necessary to make this a Felony within the Statute, have been proved to your Satisfaction. The Facts necessary to be proved on this Indictment are, That on Purpose, and of Malice forethought, and by lying in wait, they unlawfully flit the Nose of Mr. Crifpe, with Intention, in so doing, to maim or disfigure. As to the Fact of flitting the Nofe, that is directly and politively fworn: There can be no doubt but that it was an unlawful flitting. Then the next thing for your Confideration will be, whether this unlawful flitting was on Purpole, of Malice forethought, and by lying in wait. As to this, a great deal of Evidence hath been given; and what pass'd before, and at the Time of the Fact, will guide you herein. And if on a Review of the Evidence, you shall be of Opinion, that this unlawful flitting of the Nofe was on Purpose, of Malice forethought, and by lying in wait; then the next Question will be, Whether this was with an Intention to disfigure? Facts do in some measure explain themselves; and the Circumstances preceding and accompanying those Facts, and the Manner of doing them, do many times more fully explain and declare the Intent of the Party. The Prisoner, Mr. Coke, which Defence goes both to him and Woodburne, infifts, That their Intention was to murder, and not to maim; and that if they did maim or flit the Nose, it was with an Intention to kill, and not with an Intention to maim or disfigure. On the other Side, it is infifted on by the King's Counsel, That tho' the ultimate Intention might be to murder, yet there might be also an Intention to maim and disfigure; and tho the one did not take effect, yet the other might: An Intention to kill, doth not exclude an Intention to maim and disfigure. The Infrument made use of in this Attempt was a Bill or Hedge-hook, which in its own Nature is proper for cutting and maiming; and where it doth cut or maim, doth necessarily, and by Consequence disfigure. The Attempt intended on Mr. Crifpe was immediately to his Person, to do him a personal Injury. Besides, the Manner of doing and perpetrating this Fact is proper to be confidered; That it was done done by Violence, and in the dark, where the Affailant could not well make any Distinction of Blows; but knock'd and cut on any Part of Mr. Crifpe's Body where he could, till he had funk him down, and done to him whatever else he pleas'd. And if the Intention was to murder, you are to confider, whether the Means made use of, in order to effect and accomplish that Murder, and the Consequences of those Means, were not in the Intention and Defign of the Party; and whether every Blow and Cut, and the Confequences thereof, were not intended, as well as the End for which it is alledg'd those Blows and Cuts were given.

All these several things, which I have mentioned, are proper for your Consideration: You will add to them your own Observations; and if, upon the whole, you are satisfied from the Evidence, that Woodburne did on purpose, and of Malice forethought, and by lying in wait, unlawfully slit the Nose of Edward Crispe, with Intention, in so doing, to maim or dissigure; and that Arundel Coke was seloniously present at the Commission of this Fact, and aiding and abetting therein; then you

will find them Guilty: But if this hath not been prov'd to your Satisffaction, then you are to acquit them, and find them Not Guilty.

> Then the Jury withdrew to consider of their Verdiet, and in about half an Hour returned again.

Cl. of the Arr. Gentlemen, Answer to your Names.

Here, and so the rest. Cl. of the Arr. Gentlemen, Are you all agreed of your Verdict?

Jury. Yes.
Cl. of the Arr. Who shall say for you?

Fury. Our Foreman.

Cl. of the Arr. John Woodburne, Hold up thy Hand (which he did.) Look upon the Prisoner. How say you, Is John Woodburne Guilty of the Felony whereof he stands indicted, or Not Guilty?

Foreman. Guilty.

Cl. of the Arr. What Goods or Chattels, Lands or Tenements?

Foreman. None to our Knowledge.

Cl. of Arr. Arundel Coke, alias Cooke, Hold up thy Hand, (which be did.) How fay you? Is Arundel Coke, alias Cooke, Guilty of the Felony whereof he stands indicted, or Not Guilty?

Foreman. Guilty.

Cl. of the Arr. What Goods or Chattels, Lands or Tenements?

Foreman. None to our Knowledge.

Cl. of Arr. Then hearken to your Verdict, as the Court hath recorded it. You fay, that John Woodburne is Guilty of the Felony whereof he stands indicted: You say, that Arundel Coke, alias Cooke, is Guilty of the Felony whereof he stands indicted; and that neither they, nor either of them, had any Goods or Chattels, Lands or Tenements at the Time of the Felony committed, or at any Time fince, to your Knowledge. And fo you fay all.

fury. Yes.

Mr. Coke. I defire to know of your Lordship, whether the Noie can be faid to be flit within the Meaning of this Statute, when the Edge of

it was not cut through?

Lord C. J. It is true, the Edge of the Nose was not slit, but the Cut was athwart the Nose; which Cut separated the Flesh of the Nose, and cut it quite through into the Nostril: This I take to be a Slitting of the Nose; and the Chirurgeon swore the Nose was slit.



to which it appears to have been ever a

On Wednesday the Fourteenth of March. John

On Wednesday the Fourteenth of March, John Woodburne, Arundel Coke, alias Cooke, and one Edward Shorter, who was Convicted of Burglary, were brought to the Bar, in order to receive their Sentence; and the Court proceeded thus.

Lerk of Arr. John Woodburne, Hold up thy Hand (which he

Thou hast been Indicted of Felony, on the Statute; for purposely, maliciously, and by lying in wait, slitting the Nose of Edward Crispe, Gent. with Intention in so doing, to maim or disfigure him. Thou hast been thereupon Arraigned, thou hast pleaded thereunto Not Guilty, and for thy Tryal, thou hast put thy self upon God and thy Country; which Country hath sound thee Guilty; what hast thou to say for thy felf, why the Court should not proceed to give Judgment of Death upon thee, and award Execution according to the Law?

To which Woodburne faid nothing.

Cl. of Arr. Arundel Coke alias Cooke, Hold up thy Hand (which be

did)

Thou hast been Indicted of Felony, on the Statute; for being feloniously present, aiding and abetting John Woodburne, in purposely, maliciously, and by lying in wait, slitting the Nose of Edward Crispe, Gent. with Intention in so doing, to maim or disfigure him. Thou hast been thereupon Arraigned, thou hast pleaded thereunto Not Guilty, and for thy Tryal thou hast put thy felf upon God and thy Country; which Country hath sound thee Guilty; what hast thou to say for thy felf, why the Court should not proceed to give Judgment of Death upon thee, and award Execution according to the Law?

Mr. Coke. Tho' your Lordship did not think it proper Yesterday to assign me Counsel, yet I hope your Lordship will now give me leave to speak for my self; especially since I am the first unhappy Instance of an Indictment on this Statute; no Indictment, as far as it appears by the Law-Books, was ever yet sounded on this Statute, and therefore ought

to be very well weighed.

Lord C. J. Call the King's Counsel, that they may hear what is faid.

Then the King's Counsel were fent for, and being come:

Lord C. J. Mr. Coke, you may now go on with what you have to

Mr. Coke. My Lord, I was faying, that I am the first unhappy Instance of an Indictment on this Statute; no Indictment as far as appears by the Law-Books, was ever yet founded on this Statute, and therefore it ought to be very well weigh'd, especially in the first Instance

to

to which it appears to have been ever applied. It is a very penal Statute, and consequently by the known Rule of Law, not to be carried beyond the express Letter of it; consequently no Crime, of what Nature or Magnitude soever, can fall within the Purview of it, but such as is Identically the same in every Circumstance, with that describ'd by the Words of the Statute its self.

The Crime describ'd by the Statute, is the unlawful cutting out, or disabling the Tongue, putting out an Eye, slitting the Nose, cutting off a Nose or Lip, or disabling any Limb or Member; attended with these

particular Circumstances:

First, On Purpose and of Malice forethought.

Secondly, By lying in wait.

Thirdly, With Intention in fo doing, to maim or disfigure in any of

the Manners before mentioned in the Statute.

These Circumstances must all concur to constitute that particular Crime described by the Statute; and where any of them are wanting, of what Magnitude soever the Offence may be, its not the Offence which the Statute has specified.

If the first Circumstance be wanting, no Man can say that any Offence, the attended with the two other, can fall within the Statute;

this is sufficiently plain of its felf.

As to the fecond; A and B, of Malice forethought, appoint and meet to fight a Duel; A in the Rencounter, runs B into the Eye, and puts it out; no body has ever imagined this to be within the Statute, because

the Circumstance of lying in wait is here wanting.

As to the third; suppose A lies in wait to rob B, B resists, and in the Scussel is wounded, as the Statute describes, but gets off. This is a Case which very frequently happens, yet no one ever thought it to be within the Statute, nor was any one ever Indicted for this upon it: The only Reason of which must be, because the Intention was to rob, and not to maim and disfigure the Person.

In my Case, If it be taken upon the Evidence of Mr. Crispe, nothing more appears than the Assault it self: If my Confession be read, the lying in wait, and the Malice forethought, will be proved; but then it will be likewise proved, that I had no other Intention but to Kill, and had no other Part, but by giving Orders to Woodburne for that Purpose;

and my Confession must be taken together.

Nor is it an Objection to fay, that the Crime which is proved by the Evidence is much worse than that which is described by the Statute; for if it is worse, then it cannot be the same. Even in Cases of Crimes by the Common Law, if upon an Indictment for a Crime of an inferior Nature, the Evidence proves the Fact attended with Circumstances which brings it within the Description of a Crime of a superior Nature; the Person Indicted must be acquitted. At Summer Assizes at Dorchester, Anno 1712. a Woman was Indicted before Mr. Justice Eyre, for the Murder of another Woman; upon this Evidence it appeared, that the Person murdered was her Mistress, which made the Crime Petty Treason. The Judge directed this Matter to be specially sound, and upon Conference with all the Judges it was held, she ought to be acquitted upon this Indictment, as she accordingly was; and was afterwards Indicted for Petty Treason, and Convicted and Executed thereupon.

Where a new Offence has been created by Statute, or an old one made more penal, the utmost Strictness has always been us'd to comply with the Letter of the Statute, whatever Inconveniencies might result from such a Restraint.

As for Example:

By the Statute of the 39 Eliz. cap. 15. Clergy is taken away from any Person or Persons, who shall be convicted of taking any Money, Goods, or Chattels out of any Dwelling-house, &c. in the Day-time, to the Value of five Shillings. One Evans and one Finch, were indicted on this Statute. 1 Croke, 473. Evans, and Finch's Case: The Case was thus upon the Evidence, That Evans by a Ladder climbed to the upper Window of one Audley's House, and took out thereof Forty Pounds; and that Finch stood upon the Ladder in View of Evans, and saw Evans in the Chamber, and was affisting and helping to the committing of the Robbery, and took Part of the Money; upon a special Verdict it was adjudged, that because Finch did not actually enter the Chamber, and take the Money; tho' what he did amounted to a taking by Construction of Law, and was such a taking as made him a Felon; yet the very Letter of all penal Statutes must be pursued, and therefore he, id est, Finch, had his Clergy, and Evans was hanged.

Numerous Cases might be put of this Kind of Nicety in the Con-

struction of Penal Statutes.

To mention but one more: By the Statute of I Edw. 6. cap 12. Clergy is taken away from such Persons, as shall be convicted for the felonious stealing of Horses, Geldings or Mares. — So scrupulously did the Judges adhere to the Letter of this Law, that there was forced to be another Statute made, viz. 2 & 3 Edw. 6. cap. 33. To enact, That a Person convicted for seloniously stealing one Horse, should be ousled of his Clergy in the same Manner as if he had stole two.

Nor is it in this Case enough to say, the Jury are Judges of all this: For as the Evidence now appears; and is admitted, it is matter of Law, how far this Evidence thus admitted on all Hands, is sufficient to support this Indictment. If it were in a Civil Case, the Party might demur to the Evidence. But if he is not allowed that Liberty in criminal Cases, it is upon the common Notion, That the Judges are the Prisoner's Counsel; and are obliged to determine all the Matters in Law arising upon the Evidence; as much as if the Persons had demurred to that Evidence.

And as in this Case, the Prisoner admits the Evidence given to be true, and insists upon it, that it doth not support the Indicament; and therefore has a Right to have the Opinion of the Judges thereupon, as much as if the Evidence were stated at Length upon the Record (as it must be in the Case of a Demurrer to Evidence) and nothing ought to be lest to the Jury, but under the Judges Directions as to Point of Law.

In all these Cases therefore, my Lord, it has been usual to allow the Fact to be specially found; which gives the Prisoner the Advantage

he might have had by the Demurrer to the Evidence.

Serjeant Selby. My Lord, I do agree with the Prisoner at the Bar, that this is a very penal Statute, and that these Facts must be made out to bring his Case within the Letter of the Act, viz. An Intention or Purpose of Malice forethought, to maim or disfigure in such a Man-

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maining or disfiguring accordingly; and an abetting and being privy to these Facts: These are all Facts which the Jury only could determine, either by positive, presumptive, or circumstantial Evidence; for no Man's Thoughts or Intentions can be otherwise proved, than by his Actions. My Lord Chief Justice hath lest the whole Evidence of these Facts to the Jury, who by their Verdict have found all these Facts as laid in the Indictment, against which no body can now open his Mouth: We apprehend therefore, that no Matter of Law hath arisen, and that what hath been insisted on by the Prisoner, is beside his Case, and needs no Answer.

Serjeant Branthwait. My Lord, the Jury have found him Guilty. I apprehend nothing can properly be alledged now by Mr. Coke, that is contrary to the Verdict: If there is any Fault in the Indictment, we are ready to answer any Objection he shall make against it. That he does not pretend to. What is now offered by him is against the Verdict, and contrary to what is found by the Jury. I beg your Lordship's Leave, to give an Answer to the Objections he is pleased to make against the Verdict, however improperly and out of Time made, for the Satiffaction of himfelf, and of the Persons here present. I agree, a penal Act shall not be construed by Equity, or carry d further than the Words or Letter of the Act, as the Cases mentioned by him do prove; but affirm, that this present Case is within the Words, and Meaning of the Act: For the the ultimate Intent of Mr. Coke might be to murder Mr. Crifpe, (as by him is alledged in Excuse of himself) all the Means made use of to effect that Intent were also on Purpose, and such Blows could not be given by an Instrument, without an Intent to maim and disfigure. They were given by one lying in wait on Purpose; and the Fact and Manner of doing the same sufficiently prove, and are a certain and neceffary Indication of the Intent. The Defendants might have an Intent to cut off, or flit the Nose; put out an Eye, or dismember; and an Intent also to kill and destroy : One Intent did take effect, the other not. The Defendants ought not to answer for what was not done, but ought to answer for what was done; which was the slitting of Mr. Crispe's Nose, on Purpose to maim and disfigure him, by one lying in wait; which is all that is required by the Act.

As to the Objection; That if A and B go together to fight a Duel, if A flit the Noie of B, this is not within the Act; the Reason is, be-

cause there is no lying in wait.

As to the Case of A lying in wait to rob B; I with great Submission do say, that if A lie in wait to rob B, and to effect that Purpose with the greater Ease, A on purpose dismembers B, or puts out his Eyes, or does any other Fact prohibited by the ACt; tho A be hindred from robbing B, he is within the ACt of Parliament; for the Intent and Purpose to rob, will be no excuse to one that shall commit the FaCts prohibited by the ACt.

As to the Case of Evans and Finch, Cr. Car. 473. on 39 El. which takes away the Clergy from him that Enters and Steals: Finch was not within the Statute, and had his Clergy; for the express Words of the Statute take away the Clergy from him that enters the House, which Finch did not. As to the Indicament of a Servant for Murder, in killing

killing her Mistress; it is plain, that it is a Grime of a higher Degree than Murder, it is an Offence of another Species, it is Percy Treafor and not Murder.

The same Answer may be given to the other Cases mentioned, where the Words of an Act of Parliament are express: No Case shall be construed within a Penal Act, but what is within the Words: But as to the present Case, the Jury have found every Fact that the Act of Parliament requires, That an unlawful Assault was made on Mr. Crispe by the Prisoners; that his Nose was slit on Purpose to main and dissignre him, by lying in wait. And all these Facts were proved by plain, clear, and I believe convincing Evidence, to every Person that heard the Tryali I am sure the Prisoners can't complain of any Hardship done them; the Prosecution was carried on for the sake of Justice, for the Sasety of his Majesty's Subjects. This being the first Instance of a Crime so heinous, cruel, barbarous and inhuman, that has been committed fince the making the Act of Parliament; it is hoped by this Prosecution, a second will never be committed; for which Reason, I pray your Lordship's Judgment for the King, against the Prisoners.

Mr. Raby. My Lord, I did expect at this time I should have heard, from this unhappy Gentleman, something in Arrest of Judgment; something to shew that this Indictment and Record, now before your Lordship in Judgment, had been insufficient, and such as your Lordship could not have proceeded upon to give Judgment against the Prisoners: But I don't perceive any thing has been objected to this Indictment or Record; and therefore since nothing appears, or is objected, they must be taken to be sufficient, and such as your Lordship ought by Law to

give Judgment upon against the Prisoners now at the Bar.

But this Gentleman has been pleased to take notice of the Act of Parliament, on which this Prosecution is sounded: He has also made some Mention of the Facts which have been given in Evidence against him; and cited some Cases (as I apprehend) to shew, that Penal Statutes, and Criminal Acts of Parliament, ought not in Construction to be carried beyond the Letter and Words of the Act. This which he has offer'd (as I take it) is now meant to shew (or at least that he apprehends) that from the Evidence given, it has not fully appear'd he is Guilty of the Offence with which he stands charged, within the strict Words and Meaning of this Act of Parliament: And for this End, he has been pleased to make some Observations from the Words of the Statute, what Things he apprehends to be necessary to bring him within the Compass of this Act, viz. That such Wound or Maiming, as is described by the Statute, ought to be,

I. On Purpose, and of Malice forethought.

2. By lying in wait.

3. With Intention to disfigure.

All these have been already admitted to him; and he will see every one of these Circumstances not only taken notice of by us, in our Observations upon the Evidence, but also more fully by your Lordship,

before the Jury gave their Verdict.

But with what Intent this Fact was done, whether of Malice forethought, by lying in wait, and with Intent to disfigure, are Circumflances only to be collected from the Evidence and the Facts themselves; of which neither we nor the Court can determine, but can only be en-

quired

nesellary to make out the Offence

quired of, and determined by the Jury; and therefore, tho' it wou'd be a full Answer to what is now objected, to say, That the Jury have confider'd of the Evidence, have determin'd upon it, and sound you Guilty of the Indictment, with all those Circumstances which the Prisoner objects are necessary to bring the Offence within the Statute; tho' this, I say, might be an Answer, yet for the Justice of this Proceeding, and to satisfy the Prisoner in his own Objections, and that they should not pass unanswered, your Lordship will permit me to take notice of the Cases cited, and also to recollect the Evidence, so far as the Prisoner has made it necessary to repeat it.

I confess, 'tis with Concern I mention it again; for I would not do any thing which might add to the Weight of those Afflictions which this unhappy Gentleman is under, had not he himself made it necessa-

ry to take further notice of it.

As to the Cases cited, only Two of them which he mentions are cited to be adjudged; that at Dorchester by Mr. Justice Eyre, That a Woman was indicted for Murther, and upon Evidence it appear'd to be a different Offence, viz. Petit Treason, for she had kill'd her Husband; and that thereupon Mr. Justice Fyre caused her to be indicted for Petit Treason, and she was convicted. Certainly, my Lord, that Judgment was right, and very just; for when it appear'd upon Evidence, that she was Guilty of a diffinct and different Offence than that of which she flood indicted, could any thing be more just, than to cause her to be indicted for that Offence, of which, upon the Nature of the Evidence, fhe appear'd to be Guilty ? The Second Cafe cited, of Evans and Finch (which is reported in Cro. Car.) is no more than this: Evans went up a Ladder, open'd a Chamber Window in the Temple, went in and robb'd the Chamber in the Day-time; Finch held the Ladder, and flood at the Foot of it when Evans enter'd: Evans was hang'd, Finch had his Clergy, and was only burnt in the Hand; and with great Reason: For the Statute, 39 Eliz. which takes away Clergy, takes the Clergy only from him that enters: And therefore to have taken the Clergy from Finch who did not enter, had been unjust and unreasonable. And as to what is mentioned of the Statute, 2 & 3 Ed. 6. cap. 33. made in Explanation of the Statute which took Clergy from him who stole Horses, and to take Clergy from him who stole only one Horse; there is such an Act of Parliament; but this Act and the Cases cited, only thew that Regard has alway been had, not to extend Penal Statutes beyond the Words of them. But before these Cases were mentioned, (and indeed had they never been cited) this Rule of Construction had been allowed to the Prisoner; for all the Particulars now infifted on by the Prisoner were before taken notice of by the Court, as Circumstances necessary to make out the Offence against the Prisoner: Nor has one of those Circumstances pass'd without Observation; but the Court did with great Justice before declare those Circumstances to be necessary Ingredients to prove this Offence. And as to the other Cases, they are to the fame Purpose, and not cited as Cases adjudged; and therefore I need not take further notice of them. But certainly no Inferences can be drawn from the Cases cited, or any the least Colour to say, those Cases prove that the Prisoner is not guilty of the Offence he stands charg'd with, and of which he is convicted.

I am forry he has given this Occasion to mention again the Fact which has been proved, from whence it appears that the Jury have given

an impartial and just Verdict.

It cannot be forgot, that this was confulted and premeditated for Three Years and more before it was put in Execution, and therefore it was certainly purpos'd and of Malice forethought: Also that it was by lying in wait. Certainly this unhappy Gentleman cannot have forgot the Signal he gave: And to what Purpose was that Signal, if none was in waiting to hear it? And that this was with an Intent to disfigure, must be fubmitted upon the Fact and the Evidence. A Man uses a Weapon fit to maim and to disfigure, he cuts another on the Face and does disfigure him; shall he afterwards be at Liberty to say, It was not his Intent fo to do? How dangerous that would be, is obvious to every one: This Act would then be cafily eluded, if it should be sufficient, if it should avail an Offender, who has maim'd and disfigur'd another, to fay, Prove that I intended it: It would be easy then to be out of the Reach of this Act of Parliament; indeed if that prevailed, none would be within it, it would be an easy Repeal of this Law. 'Tis objected, his Intent was to kill: He that intends the End, certainly intends the Means, especially those Means which he uses; and the Means used were cutting Mr. Crispe on the Face, and disfiguring him; and the Weapon is fuch, that by cutting him on the Face with that Weapon, could less be intended or expected? And if the Intent does not appear from this Fact, fure it never can from any: The Intent of a Man's Mind cannot appear but from the Act which proceeds from his Mind.

Tis faid, this is the first Indictment on this Statute: I believe there have not been many; for this is an Offence so barbarous, that I must agree it is such as seldom happens, and that by the general Laws of our Country, there was not a Punishment provided equal to this Offence: For our Laws (as the Laws of most Nations also do) provide against Offences which most frequently happen: But this is an Attempt so barbarous, that it was scarce imagin'd any Man could be so base and wicked as to attempt any thing like it, until it happined in the Case of Sir John Coventry; and then such an Abhorrence was shewn by the Parliament, that this Law was made to punish it, and to prevent the like for the suture: And as this is the like Offence, it ought in Justice to have

the like Punishment.

I shall add no more, but pray your Lordship's Judgment

Mr. Lee. My Lord, The Observations made at the Bar, being after a Verdict, and therefore out of Time, I shall not trouble your Lordship with a Repetition of the Facts that have been proved, further than the Prisoner has made it necessary for me to mention some Particulars, in order to make the Answers to what he hath insisted on the more clear and plain.

I believe it has been truly faid by the Prisoner, that the present Profecution is the first Instance of any Proceedings on this Statute, and I hope it will be the last; because it is to be hoped there never will be found any other Person so wicked, as to give Occasion for a Prosecution

on this Statute.

I believe likewife, that the true Design of making this Statute, was to subject Persons to Death, who intended to main only, where the maining was in such Manner as is mentioned in the Statute; but I

can't think that it does from thence follow, that a Person, who intends to Murder, and only Maims, is not within this Statute; for though it should be taken that there was an Intention to Murder, yet from the Fact done, from the Manner of doing it, and from the Weapon made use of, it seems apparent, that the Prisoner intended to Maim; and the Jury have now found that he did so intend.

As to the Cases which the Prisoner has cited, I beg leave to consider

each of them, and offer fuch Answers to them as now occur.

The first Case he has been pleas'd to cite, is thus put:

A and B, of Malice forethought, appoint and meet to fight a Duel; A in the Rencounter, runs B into the Eye, and puts it out: The Prisoner fays, such a Case would not be within this Statute.

I agree it would not, because this Case has not the Circumstances which the Statute requires; for in the Case thus put, there is no lying

in wait, which is a Circumstance required by the Statute.

It is faid, that if A lies in wait to rob B, B refifts, and in the Scuffle, is maim'd in the Manner describ'd by the Statute, that such maiming wou'd not be punishable by this Statute; but I don't observe any Case is cited to prove this Assertion: And I am, with submission to your Lordship, inclin'd to think, that if there are a lying in wait, with Malice forethought, with Intent to rob, and in Prosecuting this Intent the Robbers should assault and maim in the Manner describ'd by the Statute,

that such maining would be within this Statute.

It is faid, That though the Intent to Murder makes the Offence worse than if the Intent had been only to Maim, yet such Intent proves it not to be the same Offence which is mentioned in the Statute: And if a Man be Indicted of an Offence of an inferior Nature, and upon the Evidence it appears, that he is guilty of an Offence of a superior Nature, the Person Indicted must be acquitted; and to prove this, a Case is cited, which is said to have been before Mr. Justice Eyre at Dorchester Assizes. The Case as put, is this: A Woman is Indicted for the Murder of another Woman, on the Evidence it appear'd, that the Person Murder'd was her Mistress, which made the Crime Petty Treason: This was sound specially; and upon Conference with the Judges, they were of Opinion, that the Woman ought to be acquitted upon this Indictment.

Admitting this Case to have been adjudged, I apprehend it does not

affect the prefent Cafe.

The Law has diftinguished Crimes under different Denominations; and as Offences are rank'd under different Species, so the Indictment must be suited to that fort of Crime, whereof the Party is guilty; and therefore proving a Person guilty of a Fact, known in the Law by the Name of Petty Treason, does not prove him guilty of an Indictment for Murder; Murder being an Offence which the Law has distinguish'd from Petty Treason, and to which it has assign'd a different Punishment.

But in the present Case, that Offence which is charged in the Indictment is proved in every Circumstance, and the Facts proved, do constitute that Crime which is made Felony without Clergy by the Statute. The Statute requires lying in wait, it requires Malice forethought, it requires slitting the Nose, &c. with Intent to maim, &c. The Indictment charges these Facts, the Witnesses have provid these Facts to the Satisfaction of a Jury, who have found the Desendant guilty of the Charge as laid.

The Prisoner says farther, That this is a very Penal Statute, and that Penal Statutes are always taken with the utmost Strictness; and to prove this, cites a Case adjudged on the Statute 39 Eliz. by which Statute, Clergy is taken away from any Person or Persons, who shall be convi-Aed of taking away Money, &c. in any Dwelling-house, &c. in the Day-time, to the Value of Five Shillings: And to prove the same Matter, an Instance is likewise put of the Construction on the Statute, 1 Eliz. 6. cap. 12. which takes away Clergy from such Persons as shall be convict of feloniously stealing Horses, &c. The Case in the Statute 39 Eliz. is the Case of Evans and Finch, Cro. Car. 473. in which Case Fineb had his Clergy, because he did not actually enter the Chamber, and take the Money. The Construction on Ed. 6. was, That Clergy was not taken awayfrom a Person, who feloniously stole one Horse.

But I apprehend, neither of these Cases come up to the Case now before your Lordship. As to the Case of Evans and Finch, which was a Case upon the Statute 39 Eliz. By that Statute, a Person is ousled of Clergy, who takes away Money to the Value of Five Shillings in any Dwelling-house, &c. Finch did not enter into the House, for he only flood on the Ladder; and therefore he was not within the Words of that Statute, which spoke only of Persons who took away Goods in an

House, O.c.

As to the Construction upon the Statute I Ed. 6. 'tis plain that the felonious flealing one Horfe could not be within an Act of Parliament, which took away Clergy only from fuch Persons as feloniously stole Horses. The Reason therefore of these Cases was, That the Facts prov'd did not bring the Persons accus'd within the Words of the Sta-

But it is not fo in the Case now before your Lordship; for the Prifoner is found guilty of a Fact, which is within the Words of the Statute upon which he is indicted; and every Circumstance required to make him guilty of the Felony mentioned in the Statute, has been very fully provid.

My Lord, I am very fensible that the Objections taken at the Bar being after Verdict, did not require these particular Answers; but this being a Case wherein Life is concern'd, I hope the Impropriety will be

excus d.

Lord C. 7. I do agree with the Prisoner, that this is a Penal Law, and not to be extended by Equity: That he that is guilty within this Statute, must be guilty of all the Circumstances within it; and if any one of the Circumstances prescribed by the Statute be wanting, he is Not Guilty. And therefore in all those Cases put by you, if any one of the Circumstances prescribed by the Statute be wanting in any one of them, such Case is out of the Statute. But whether all the Circumstances required by the Statute did not concur in your Case, was a Matter of Fact, which the Jury, who are the proper Judges, have tried; and on fuch Trial they have found them all to concur. You feem to argue upon a Supposition of this Fact to be otherwise than the Jury have found it. The Jury have found you Guilty of all the Circumflances within the Statute. There was no Matter of Law in this Cafe, but Matter of Fact; Whether on Purpose, and of Malice forethought, and by lying in wait, the Nose of Mr. Criffe was not flit, with Intenver fooke to Macs about any fuch thing.

tion, in so doing, to maim or disfigure; and whether you were not feloniously present, aiding, and abetting. The Jury had the whole Evidence before them; they considered of the whole Matter, of the Preparation and lying in wait to do the Fact, of the Fact it self, of the Means and Instrument made use of to do it, of the Manner of doing it, and of all the other Circumstances and Particulars relating to the Fact: And on the whole, after they had withdrawn, and consider'd amongst themselves for some time, they have sound you Guilty within the Terms and Circumstances of the Statute; so that tho' all the Cases put by you shou'd be very good Law, yet they do not any wise affect yours, because you are actually sound Guilty of the Crime its self: Have you therefore any thing to say against the Indicament its self:

Mr. Coke. No, my Lord; I hope I have one Glimpse more from the King's most gracious Pardon, that was published in the Gazette.

Lord C. J. If you offer any Pardon by Act of Parliament, or under the Great Seal, I must take notice of it, and allow it to you; but if you mean only a Promise of a Pardon in the Gazette, or other publick Advertisement, you must apply for that in another Place: this doth not belong to me.

Mr. Coke. I hope that I shall have the Benefit of the Pardon that was promised, and that His Majesty will be graciously pleased to grant

it me.

Lord C. J. If you have a Right to it, you need not doubt but you will have it; His Majesty is so just, that He will make good whatsoever he hath promised; but for this, your Application must be immediately to His Majesty.

Mr. Coke. I beg of your Lordship, that you will give me Time,

that I may not be hurried out of the World prefently.

Lord C. J. I shall consider of it, and give you a convenient time.

Cl. of Arr. Cryer, make an O Tes.

Cryer. Our Sovereign Lord the King doth straitly charge and command all manner of Persons to keep Silence, whilst Judgment is giving

upon the Prisoners convicted, upon Pain of Imprisonment,

Lord C. J. You that are the Prisoners at the Bar, you have been indicted and convicted of very great and heinous Offences; I am very forry that you have been the Occasion of bringing your selves to unfortunate Ends, and that there is this melancholy Necessity on me to pronounce the Sentence of Death upon you: But on fair Trials the Jury have found you guilty, and by the Law you have forfeited your Lives.

Mr. Coke. My Lord, I am asham'd of my self; I did not expect to appear at this Time in this Place, where I have appear'd in another

manner.

Lord C. J. I am fure, Mr. Coke, you ought feriously to reflect on your past Life: You cannot but own that you have been a great Sinner; you have had Malice in your Heart against this Gentleman above three Years.

Mr. Coke. Indeed, my Lord, I know nothing of it. I noon sugar

Lord C. J. Moon hath sworn, That Three Years, or Three Years and a half ago, you fent to him, and propos'd to him the knocking Mr. Crispe on the Head.

Mr. Coke. I do declare it, my Lord, as I shall answer it at the

Great Day, I never spoke to Moon about any such thing.

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L. C. J. Supposing what Moon hath said to be too much, yet the Crimes you own and cannot deny are exceeding heinous. You own that you invited your Brother to sup at your House, on purpose that you might have an opportunity of murdering him. This is fuch a Crime as shocks human Nature : The bare mentioning of it is frightful and terrible. The deeper therefore your Crime is, the deeper your Repentance ought to be. You have need to humble your felves before Almighty God. Besides the Judgment of the Law, there is also his Judgment-Sear, before which you must likewise appear: There all things are naked and bare, without colour or difguife; every Man must there appear, and receive according to the Truth of his Actions, as they were good or bad. How far it may please God to extend his Mercy to you, I know not; he is infinite in Mercy as well as in every other Perfection: and this we are fure, that he never denies it to any who are prepared to receive it. Endeavour therefore to reconcile your selves to him; improve with Diligence the little time that may be allotted you; send for proper Persons who may advise and asfift you : For as to the Judgment of the Law which is to be now pronounced upon you all, it is this;

That you, and each of you, go from hence to the Place from whence you came, and from thence to the Place of Execution, where you shall be severally hanged by the Neck till you be severally and respectively dead; and the Lord have mercy upon your Souls.

Then the Keeper carried away the Prisoners to the Goal to be referved till their Execution. And on Saturday the 31st of March, 1722, they were executed at Bury St. Edmonds.

committeens. O perpetrand, Et fit fur. pract dieunt fager Sarrie funca pract, que pract. John Wordburne & drumdel, dicto primo die famuse, dieno ettavo fapractit, apud Burg, pract, in Com. pract. vo o armie, o e expropolita at ex malitus fuit pracogitat. O per infidits felou, pract in force.

FINIS.

A COPY of the Indictment.

SUFFOLK J. Daus' Rex ver. Coke & Woodburne.

TUR' pro Dno' Rege super Sacrum' suum presentant qu' Johes' Woodburne J nuper de Burgo de Bury Sti Edi' in Com. Suff. Lab. & Arundel Coke alias Cooke nuper de Burgo prad. Arm. post vicesimum quartum diem Junii Anno Dni' millimo' sexcentimo' septuagesimo, scilt. primo die Januar. Anno regni Dni' Georgii nunc Regis Magn. Britan. &c. octavo, machinantes quendam Edrm' Crifpe Gen. adtunc & adhuc existen. Subdit. dicti Dni Regis nune mahemare & deformare apud Burg. prad. in Com. prad. wi & armis, &c. in & super prad. Edrm' Crispe in pace Dei, & dicti Dni Regis adtunc & ibm' existen. ex proposito, anglice on purpose, ac ex malitiis Suis precogitat. & per insidias, anglice by lying in wait, illicite & felonice insult, fecer. Et qu' prad. Johes' Woodburne cum quadm' Secure, anglice a Bill, valor. un. denar. qm' ipse idem Johes' in manu sua dextra adtunc & ibm? habuit & tenuit, nasum prefat. Edri Crispe ex proposito ac ex malitia sua precogitat. & per insidias adtunc & ibid. illicite & felonice fidit, anglice did flit, cum intention. ad eund. Edr' Crifpe ita faciendo modo prad. mahemand. & deformand. Quodq; prad. Arundel tempore felon. prad. per prafat. Johem' Woodburne modo & forma prad. illicite & felonice commiss. & perpetrat. scilt. eod. primo die Januar. Anno ottavo Supradict. apud Burg. prad. in Com. prad. ex proposito ac ex malitia sua precogitat. & per insidias illicite & felonice fuit prasens, auxilians, & abettans prefat. Johem' Woodburne ad felon, prad. in forma prad. felonice committend. & perpetrand. Et sic Jur. prad. dicunt super Sacrm' suum prad. qd' prad. Johes' Woodburne & Arundel, dicto primo die Januar. Anno octavo supradict. apud Burg. prad. in Com. prad. vi & armis, &c. ex proposito ac ex malitiis suis pracogitat. & per insidias felon. prad. in form. prad. illicite & felonice commiser. & perpetraver. & uterque ecr. commisit & perpetravit contra Pacem dict. Dni Regis nunc Coron. & Dignitat. Suas, necnon contra form. Statut. in hujusmodi casu edit. & provis.