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MARYLAND GAZETTE,

Containing the freshest Advices foreign and domestic.

THURSDAY, July 23, 1752.

LONDON, April 13, 1752.

The Legislature having passed a very subsistent Act in the last Session of Parliament, for the better preventing the horrid Crime of Murder, it is thought the following Extract of the same, may be of public Utility.

IT is enacted, that after the first Day of Easter Term (which begins on Wednesday next), all Persons who shall be found guilty of Wilful Murder, to be executed according to Law on the next Day but one after Sentence passed, unless the same shall be Sunday, and in that Case, on the Monday following. It is further enacted, that the Body of every Murderer convicted and executed in London, or Middlesex, or Liberties thereof, be immediately conveyed by the Sheriffs, or their Deputies, to Surgeons Hall, or to such Place, or delivered to such Person as that Company shall appoint, who are to give the Sheriffs a Receipt for the same; and the said Body to be anatomized by the Company of Surgeons, or by whom they shall appoint. In the other Counties of England, the Judges or Justice of Assize, shall award the Sentence to be put in Execution the next Day but one after such Conviction, excepting it be on Sunday as abovementioned, and the Body of the Murderer shall be delivered by the Sheriff, or his Deputy, to such Surgeon as the Judge shall direct, to be anatomized.

Sentence of Death shall be pronounced in Court immediately after the Conviction of such Murderer, and before the Court proceeds to any other Business; unless the Court see reasonable Cause for postponing the same; in which Sentence shall be expressed not only the usual Judgment of Death, but also the Time appointed by the said Act for the Execution thereof, and the Marks of Infamy therein directed for such Offenders; in order to impress a just Horror in the Mind of the Offender, and on the Minds of such as shall be present, of the heinous Crime of Murder.

A Discretionary Power is given to the Judge or Justice that tries any Murderer, where he sees reasonable Cause to stay the Execution of the Sentence, regard being always had to the true Intent of the said Act.

The Judge or Justice is empowered to appoint the Body of any Criminal to be hung in Chains; but in no Case whatsoever the Body of any Murderer is to be suffered to be buried; unless after it has been first dissected and anatomized as aforesaid; and every such Judge or Justice is thereby required to direct the same to be disposed of as abovementioned, or to be hung in Chains, as is now done for the most atrocious Crimes.

Immediately after Conviction, every Murderer is to be confined in a Cell or safe Place separate from the other Prisoners, and no Person whatsoever, except the Goaler or his Servants, shall have Access to any such Prisoner, without Leave first obtained under the Judge's Hand who tried such Offender, or else under the Hand of the Sheriff, or his Deputy.

A further Discretionary Power is given to such Judge, in Case he see Cause, to respite the Execution of such Offender, to relax or release any or all the Restraints abovementioned, to be observed by the Goaler of the Prison where such Prisoner may be confined, by License signed by such Judge or Justice during the Stay of such Execution.

After Sentence of Death is passed, the Offender shall be fed with Bread and Water only, and with no other Food or Liquor whatsoever (unless in receiving the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, or in Case of any violent Sickness or Wound); in which Case, some known Physician, Surgeon, or Apothecary, is to be admitted to administer Necessaries; and such Physicians, &c. Name and Place of Abode, is to be first entered in the Books of the Prison, there to remain; and if the Goaler offends against, or neglects to put into Execution

any of the above Directions, he is to forfeit his Office, to be fined 20*l.* and suffer Imprisonment until the 20*l.* be paid.

If any Person shall by Force set at Liberty, rescue, or attempt to set at Liberty any Murderer out of Prison, or as he is going to Execution, or during Execution, he shall be deem'd guilty of Felony, and suffer Death, without Benefit of Clergy.

If any Person rescue, or attempt to rescue the Body of any Murderer after Execution, out of the Custody of the Sheriff, or his Officers, during the Conveyance of it to any of the Places abovementioned, or rescue or attempt to rescue it from the Company of Surgeons, or their Officers, or from the House of any Surgeon, where the same shall be deposited in Pursuance of the said Act, such Person shall be guilty of Felony, and be liable to be transported for seven Years as other Felons are; and be subject to the same Punishment and Method of Conviction as other Felons are subject to, in Case of unlawfully returning from Transportation.

The abovementioned Act is not to extend to, or repeal so much of an Act made in the eleventh Year of King George I. entitled, An Act for the more effectual disarming the Highlands, &c. in Scotland, as relates to the Suspension of the Execution of Persons convicted of capital Offences in Scotland.

LONDON, March 24.

LAST Saturday Night, at Twelve o'Clock, the Assizes ended at Maidstone for the County of Kent, when sixteen Criminals received Sentence of Death.

Yesterday the sixteen Malefactors were executed at Tyburn, pursuant to their Sentence. When they were called down into the Press yard, Broughton and Hayes refus'd coming, without having a clean Shirt and Stockings to be hang'd in. At the Place of Execution they behav'd with Decency: Gale, an old Man for Forgery, fell on his Knees, and hang'd himself before the Cart drew away. Broughton, Hayes, and Agnew, the three Conspirators, were executed in their double Irons, and by order of the Sheriffs their Bodies were delivered to Mr. Harrison, Surgeon of the London Hospital, to which Place they were guarded by some of their Officers. To the great Honour of our worthy Sheriffs, Slingby Bethell, and Marsh Dickenson, Esqrs. no Soldiers were permitted to guard those intrepid Criminals to Tyburn. The amazing Pitch of Villainy of every Species, to which Multitudes among us are arriv'd at, proves the great Want of a well disciplin'd National Militia.

Great Numbers of sensible and considerate Ladies, have lately resolv'd to discontinue the absurd Custom of lacing up themselves and their Daughters so tight in those unnatural Machines called STAYS, as heretofore has been the Fashion; by which many fine Shapes have been ruined, many a Woman's Health destroyed, and many a poor Infant murder'd, maim'd, or disfigur'd, before its Birth.

March 26. They write from Paris, that a Ship is arriv'd at Havre de Grace, from St. Domingo, with Letters dated the 15th of January, N. S. which bring Advice, that they had violent Shocks of an Earthquake in that Island, till the 20th of December, which is twelve Days later than was mentioned in the first Account; and that the Damage done thereby was very considerable: And that those Earthquakes were succeeded by very heavy Rains, which had caused all the Rivers to overtop their Banks, and laid vast Tracts of Land under Water; so that the Damage occasioned by the Inundations was as great as the Mischief done by the Earthquakes.

April 2. We hear that the Negotiations with Spain have a favourable Turn, and some who pretend they have Opportunities of being well informed, seem to be pretty confident that the Freedom

of Navigation in the West Indies, will speedily be the Subject of a final Arrangement with the Spanish Court; it appearing that most of the Captures were disowned by the Guarda Costas, as Incidents which they were no ways concerned in, nor had they any Knowledge of; but that those Captures were made by Pyrates, who infest the West India Seas, who under the Pretext of Contraband Trade, take such English Ships as are not strong enough to make a Defence; on which Account the Court of Madrid has ordered, that an effectual Stop should be put to those Pyrates, and that the Ships sent out to cruize in the West India Seas shall be provided with Commissions of his Catholic Majesty; and Permission is given to treat as Enemies those that shall be found cruizing without such Commissions. So that our West India Merchants need only put themselves to the Expence of arming their Vessels to fight the Spanish Pyrates; for as to the Guarda Costas, they will for the future behave with as much Honesty and Civility as can be expected.

According to Advices from Vienna, it is certain, that several Camps will be formed in Bohemia next Summer, tho' the Places for them are not assigned, nor the General Officers named. It is still given out, that there are very important Affairs on the Tapis; the Regulation of the Barrier and the Tariff in the Netherlands; seems to engage the Attention of the Ministry, a grand Council having been lately held upon it in Presence of their Imperial Majesties, which lasted from Nine in the Morning 'till Three in the Afternoon, after which a Courier was dispatched to Brussels, and another to London. As it is but a few Days March from Silesia to the Gates of Vienna, the Court has at last resolv'd to put the Imperial Residence in a better Posture of Defence than it has been, and for this Purpose to follow the Plan of the late Field Marshal Count Kevenhuller.

April 4. Affairs are very alarming in Corsica; where the Marquis de Cursay, ordered Duty to be done at the Harbour of Bastia by French Soldiers; this the Marquis Grimaldi oppos'd so far as to send a Detachment of Switzers to cause them to withdraw; upon which, the Marquis de Cursay dispatched a Party of Grenadiers to sustain his Centinels; and at this critical Point stood their Misunderstanding at the coming away of the Letters. Francis Loredano, a Noble, from whose Administration the Republic may promise itself every Happiness dependent on human Wisdom and Goodness, was elected Doge of Venice, on the 18th ult.

April 9. On Sunday last a Maid Servant in a Gentleman's Family in Carey Street, having had a few Days before some Difference with her Mistress, came up into her Room before she was stirring, with a large Case Knife in her Hand, and told her that the Washer-woman and she had contriv'd a Scheme to murder her and all her Family the first Opportunity; but that she had considered better of it, and her Conscience would not suffer her to conceal so horrid an Intention. Upon this Confession the Washerwoman and she were secured, and carried before a Magistrate, who committed both of them to New Prison.

Last Week a very cruel Revenge was attempted, by an Apprentice to a Tradesman in Old Street, on his Master (who for some Misdemeanor had pretty severely corrected him), in the following Manner. He procur'd some Arsenic, or white Powder, of a poisonous Quality, and convey'd it into the Water in the Tea Kettle, whereof the Breakfast of his Master and Family was to be made; but luckily, when the first Water was pour'd out, it was observed to be foamy and thick, which at once alarm'd their Suspicion, and prevented their using it. That Morning the Apprentice absconded, which confirm'd the Family, that he had convey'd the Powder into the Tea Kettle, as he did not appear as usual at Breakfast. His Bedfellow was strictly examined, who protest'd his Innocence, but told them he had observed the Apprentice