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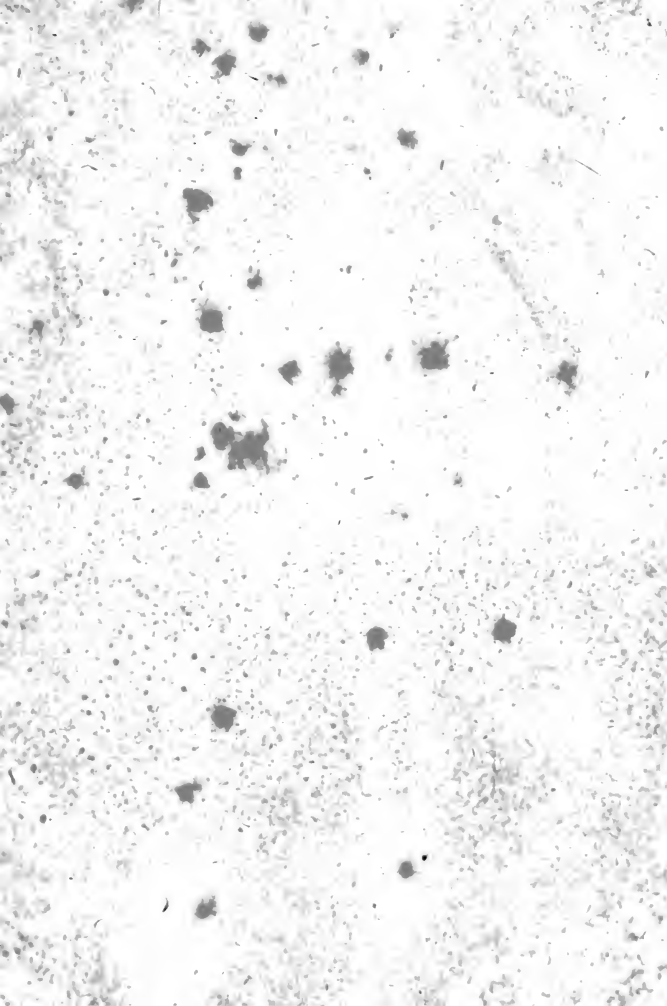
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Amboyna's Bloody Cruelty being such,
 That none unless the *Devil*, or the *Dutch*
 Durst either ask, or think on, here we do
 Present (Kind Reader) to thy Christian view !
 The two unruly Elements display,
 The *Dutch* are found more merciless then they ;
 Both Fire and Water taught by them begin,
 To swell the Body, and to scorch the Skin ;
 And both seem busie, rather then relent,
 To out-wit each other, who should most Torment .
 No Malice wants, No Force ; the Cord
 Comes in to Help, and Death with the Sword ;
 Whiles All, to aid the Innocent Blood, Comply
 To cry more loud for Vengeance to the Sky.

East India Company (English)

A TRUE
RELATION
OF THE
UNJUST,
CRUEL,
AND
Barbarous Proceedings against the
ENGLISH

AT
AMBOYNA;
In the *EAST-INDIES*, by the
Neatherlandish GOVERNOUR, and COUNCIL there.

The Third Edition.

London, Printed by *Tho. Mabb*, for *William Hope*, at the Anchor
over against *S^t Bartholomew's Church* near the *Royal Exchange*, 1665.

A TRUE

RELATION

UNJUST

CORRUPT

3095

ENGLISH

AMBOYNA

IN THE YEAR 1704

1704
18/3/32

Printed by...



TO THE
READER.



Entle Reader, Thou mayest (perhaps) wonder why this Relation of the business of Amboyna, so many Years since taken upon the Oath, and Depositions, of our People that camethence, and presented to His then Majesty, King James of blessed memory, and the Lords of His Privy Council, cometh now again to the Press. The truth is, the English East-India Company have ever been very tender of the Antient Amity, and good Correspondence held between this Realm and the Neatherlands, and have been very loath, by divulging of the private Injuries done them by the Neatherlands East-India Company, to give the least occasion of any distast or disaffection, which might happily grow between these Two Nations, for the sake, and on the behalf of the Two Companies respectively. For which cause, although the Wrongs and Injuries, or rather Contumelies done unto the English by the Dutch in the Indies, have been as intollerable as manifold; as to say nothing of those great heaps of them buried in the Amnety of the Treaty of the Year, 1619. and only to point at the General Heads of these committed since that Treaty, and grossely contrary to the maine intent, and expresse Words and Disposition of the same: First, in the point of Hostility; the Invasion of the Islands of Lantore and Polarooe, then and before in the quiet possession of the English, in the Name of the Crown of England; The taking of the same Islands by force; the Razing and Demolishing of the English Fort; The binding of the English (that had not so much as resisted

To the Reader.

them) to stakes with ropes about their necks, throttling them with the same; and flourishing their naked swords about them, as if they would presently have dispatched them; then taking them so amazed and bound, and tumbling down the Rocks; and after, carrying their crushed and bruised Carcasses away in Irons: Secondly, in the point of their Usurped Sovereignty; their taking upon them the Conusance of controversies between the English and the Indians, for matters passed far without the Compass of the Netherlands pretended Jurisdiction, and Executing their Sentences thereupon by plain force; seizing of the English Companies Goods, Fixing, Imprisoning, Stocking, yea, Whipping our people at a post in the open Market-place, and after, washing them with Vinegar and Salt: Thirdly, in point of partnership with the English, their putting great summs to the common account, which were disbursed to the private and sole behoof of the Dutch; giving great presents for the Glory of the Dutch, without consent of the English, and making War for the Enlargement of their own Dominion, yet bringing the Charge to the Common Account; together with infinite other the like, the particulars whercof would arise to a just and ample Volume: Nevertheless, the English Company from time to time contented themselves with Informing His Majesty, and His Honourable Privy Council with their Grievances privately in Writing, to the end, that necessary Relief and Reparation might be obtained, without Publishing any thing to the World in Print, thereby to stir up or breed ill blood between these Nations, which are otherwise tied in so many Reciprocal Obligations. And the same course they have hitherto holden also in this crying businesse of Amboyna; onely offering to the Manes of their murdered Countrey-men, Factors and Kinsfolks, their Effectual Endeavours in a Dutifull course unto His Majesty for Justice for their innocent blood, and Reparation of the Honour of the Nation herein Interestted. In which their wonted way they were so constant, that they could not be driven out of the same by the contrary course of some of the other party; that not glutted nor mollified with the blood of these Innocents, nor with all the other sufferings of the English in the Indies, published a Pamphlet in print in the Neatherlands Language, not onely in Justification of this Barbarous Butchery, but withall in disgrace of the English Nation, and the Lawes and Justice of the same. But behold now further, the same Pamphlet, being called in by an Ediēt of the States General, was yet afterwards Translated, and Printed in English, and dispersed even in this Realm it self, to Brave and Disgrace us at our own Doors, and in our own Language. This, no English patience can bear: The Blood of the Innocent cries out against it: The Honour of the Nation suffereth in it. Wherefore the English East-India Company

To the Reader.

pany is hereby enforced, contrary to their Desire and Custome, to have recourse also to the Press, to maintaine the Reputation of those their Country-Men and Servants, that lost their lives unjustly; and to acquaint the World with the naked truth of this Cause, hitherto masked, muffled, and obscured in a fog of Factions, Concealments, and crafty Conveyances of the Authour of this Pamphlet, and his Clients; the Governour and Council (so termed) of Amboyna.

Having thus Acquainted thee, Gentle Reader, with the Reasons why this businessse was no sooner published in print, it remaineth yet further, that thou be satisfied in an Objection or two more, which common reason will suggest unto thee. Without doubt, reading this Discourse, and being a true Patriot of thine own Country, and a Well-willer of the Neatherlands (as we presume and wish thee to be,) thou wilt wonder how it cometh to passe, that our Nation, which hath not been wont to receive such Disgraces, should now be so weak and unprovided in the Indies, as to suffer such Indignities, and to be so grossly Over-topped, Out-raged and Vilified there? As also thou wilt no lesse admire, that any of the Neatherlands Nation, which hath received such, and so many Favours, and Supports from hence, and held so Good and Antient Correspondence with our Nation, should now offer and commit such Odious Contumelies on English Men, their Partners and Allies by special Treaty. Herein thou wilt soon Answer thy self, if thou but consider the different end and Design of the English and Dutch Companies Trading in the Indies, appearing by their severall course and practise respectively. The English being Subjects of a peaceable Prince, that hath Enough of His Own, and is therewith content, without affecting of new Acquests; have aimed at nothing in their East-India Trade, but a Lawfull and Competent Gain by Commerce and Traffique with the people of those parts. And although they have in some places builded Forts, and settled some Strength, yet that hath not been done by force or violence, against the good will of the Magistrates, or people of the Country; but with their Desire, Consent, and good Liking, for the security onely of the Trade, and upon the said Magistrate, and Peoples voluntary yielding themselves under the Obedience and Sovereignty of the Crown of England; their own Antient Lawes, Customes and Priviledges, nevertheles reserved. Further, the same English had undoubted Confidence in the Neatherlands Nation there also Trading, especially being lately conjoynd with them in the strict Alliance, and social Confederacy of the year, 1619. and therefore attended nothing from them, but the Offices of good Affection and Partnership. Upon these Grounds, the English Company made their Equipages answerable onely to a course of Commerce, and Peaceable Traffique: not expecting;

To the Reader.

expelling any Hostility, members from the Indian, and respectably from the
Church (with the other side, the Neatherlanders, from the beginning of
their Trade in the Indies, not contented with the ordinary course of a fair
and free Commerce, invaded divers Islands, took some Ports, built Others,
and laboured nothing more, than the Conquests of Countries, and the Acqui-
ring of New Dominion: By which reason, as they were accordingly provided
of Shipping, Souldiers and all Warlike provision; as also of places of Rendez-
vous upon the shore, and thereby Enabled to wrong the English as well as
others: so the Cost and Charges of their Shippings, Ports, and Souldiers, em-
ployed upon these Designs, rose to such an height, as was not to be maintained by
the Trade they had in those parts. Wherefore, for a supply, they were forced
(as some of their own Countrey-men and Adventurers in their Company
affirm) so fill with dry Nets, that is to say, to pick quarrels with the Indians,
and so to take their Ships, and make Prize of their Goods. Which yet not
answering their Charge and Adventure, they proceeded also to quarrel with
the English, to debar them of Trade to free places; and for attempting such
Trade, to take their Ships and Goods. Touching which, when a good Order
was set by the said Treaty of the year, 1619. yet they saw, they could not make
their Reckoning to any purpose, unless they utterly drave the English out of the
Trade of those parts; thereby to have the whole and sole Traffique of the Commo-
dities of the Indies in these parts of Europe, in their own hands; and so to make
the price at their pleasure, sufficient to maintain and promote their Conquests,
and withall to yield them an ample benefit of their Trading. Which unlesse
they can, by this and the like worrying and wearying of the English bring to
pass, it is easie to be judged by those that understand any thing of the course
and state of the Trade of those parts, that albeit their returns hereafter should
prove as great continually, as of late extraordinarily they have happened to
be, yet the main Stock and Estate of the Company must needs abate and decay
by some Hundred Thousand Pounds yearly.

A True



A TRUE

RELATION

Of the late Vnjust, Cruel, and Barbarous Proceedings against the *ENGLISH* at *AMBOYNA* in the *EAST-INDIES*, by the *NEATHERLANDERS* there, upon a forged pretense of a Conspiracy of the said *ENGLISH*.



After the fruitless issue of two several Treaties: The first, *Anno 1613.* in *London*; and the other, *Anno 1615.* at the *Hague* in *Holland*, touching the differences between the *English* and *Dutch* in the *East-Indies*; at last by a third Treaty, *Anno 1619.* in *London*, there was a full and solemn Composition made of all the said differences, and a fair order set for the future proceeding of the Supports of both Companies in the *Indies*, as well in the course of their Trade and Commerce, as otherwise. Amongst sundry other points, it was agreed, That in regard of the great blood-shed and cost, pretended to be bestowed by the *Hollanders*, in winning

The Cruelty of the Dutch,

ning of the Trade of the Isles of the *Molluccos*, *Banda*, and *Amboyna*, from the *Spaniards* and *Portugals*, and in building of Forts for the continual securing of the same, the said *Hollanders* therefore should Enjoy two third parts of that Trade, and the *English* the other third; and the Charge of the Forts to be maintained by Taxes and Impositions, to be levied upon the Merchandize. Wherefore in consequence of this Agreement, the *English East-India Company* planted certaine Factories for their share of this Trade; some at the *Molluccos*, some at *Banda*, and some at *Amboyna*. Of the two former of these, there will be, at this present small occasion to speak further; But the last will prove the Scene of a sad Tragedy.

This *Amboyna* is an Island lying near *Seran*, of the circuit of forty Leagues, and giveth Name also to some other small Islands adjacent. It beareth Cloves; for gathering and buying in whereof the *English Company* for their part had planted five severall Factories; The Head and Rendevouze of all, at the Town of *Amboyna*; and therein, first Master *George Muschamp*, and afterward Master *Gabriel Towerson*, their Agents with Directions over the smaller Factories at *Hirt*, and *Larica* upon the same Island, and at *Lobo*, and *Cambello*, upon a point of their Neighbouring Island of *Seran*.

Upon these Islands of *Amboyna*, and the point of *Seran*, the *Hollanders* have four Forts, the Chief of all is at the said Town of *Amboyna*, and is very strong, having four Points or Bull-warks with their Curtains, and upon each of these Points fix Great Pieces of Ordnance mounted, most of them of Brass. The one side of this Castle is washed by the Sea, and the other is divided from the Land with a Ditch of four or five fathom broad, very deep, and ever filled with the Sea. The Garrison of this Castle consisteth of about Two Hundred *Dutch* Souldiers, and a Company of Free Burgers.

Pesides

to the ENGLISH at AMBOYNA.

Besides this, there is alwayes a matter of Three or Four Hundred *Mardiskas* (for so they usually call the Free Natives) in the Town, ready to serve the Castle at an hours warning. There lye also in the road (for the most part) divers good ships of the *Hollanders*, as well for the guard of the place by Sea, as for the occasions of Traffique: This being the chief Rendezvous, as well for the Island of *Banda*, as for the rest of *Amboyna*. Here the *English* lived; not in the Castle, but under protection thereof, in a House of their own in the Town; holding themselves safe, as well in respect of the ancient Bonds of amity between both Nations, as of the strict conjunction made by the late Treaty before mentioned.

They continued here some two years, Conversing and Trading together with the *Hollanders*, by virtue of the said Treaty. In which time there fell out sundry differences and debates between them: The *English* complaining that the *Hollanders* did not only lavish away much money in building, and unnecessary expences, upon the Forts and otherwise, and bring large and unreasonable reckonings thereof to the common account; But also did, for their part, pay the Garrisons with victuals and cloath of *Coromondell*, which they put off to the Souldiers at three or four times the value it cost them, yet would not allow of the *English* Companies part of the same charge, but only in ready money; thereby drawing from the *English* (which ought to pay but one third part) more than two thirds of the whole true charge. Hereupon, and upon the like occasions, grew some discontents and disputes, and the complaints were sent to *Jaccatra*, in the Island of *Java* Major, to the Council of defence of both Nations there residing: who also, not agreeing upon the points in difference, sent the same hither over into *Europe*, to be decided by both Companies here; or, in default of their agreement, by the Kings Majesty, and the Lords the States General, according to an Article of the Treaty of the year, 1619. on this behalf. In

A. The Cruelty of the Dutch,

the mean time the discontent between the *English* and the *Dutch*, about these and other differences, continued, and daily increased, untill at last there was a sword found, to cut in funder that knot at once, which the tedious disputes of *Amboyna* and *Jaccatra* could not untie. And this was used in manner as followeth.

About the Eleventh of *February*, 1622. *Stilo veteri*, a *Japoner* Souldier of the *Dutch* in their Castle of *Amboyna*, walking in the night upon the wall, came to the Sentinel (being a *Hollander*,) and there, amongst other talk, asked him some questions touching the strength of the Castle, and the people that were therein. It is here to be noted, that those *Japoners* (of whom there is not thirty in all the Island) did, for the most part, serve the *Dutch* as Souldiers, yet were not of their trusty bands alwayes lodged in the Castle, but upon occasion called out of the Town to assist in the Watch. This *Japoner* aforesaid, was for his said conference with the Sentinel apprehended upon suspicion of Treason, and put to the Torture. Thereby (as some of the *Dutch* affirmed) he was brought to confess himself, and sundry others of his Country-men there, to have contrived the taking of the Castle. Hereupon, other *Japoners* were Examined and Tortured, as also a *Portugal*, the Guardian of the Slaves under the *Dutch*. During this Examination, which continued three or four dayes; some of the *English-men* went to and from the Castle upon their business, ~~the~~ the Prisoners, heard of their Tortures, and of the Crime laid to their Charge; But all this while suspected not, that this matter did any whit concern themselves, having never had any conversation with the *Japoners*, nor with the *Portugal* aforesaid.

At the same time there was one *Abel Price*, Chyrurgion of the *English*, prisoner in the Castle, for offering in his drunkenness to set a *Dutch* mans House on fire. This Fellow the *Dutch* took, and shewed him some of the *Japoners*, whom they had

to the ENGLISH at AMBOYNA.

had first most grievously tortured, and told him, they had confessed the *English* to have been of their Confederacy for the taking of the Castle, and that if he would not confess the same, they would use him even as they had done those *Japoners*, and worse also. Having given him the Torture, they soon made him confesse what ever they asked him. This was the Fifteenth of *February*, 1622. *Stila veteri*. Forthwith, about nine of the clock the same morning, they sent for Captain *Towerson*, and the rest of the *English* that were in the Town to come to speak with the Governour in the Castle. They all went, save one that was left to keep the House. Being come to the Governour, he told Captain *Towerson*, that himself, and others of his Nation were accused of a Conspiracy to surprize the Castle, and therefore, untill further Tryal, were to remain prisoners. Instantly also they attached him that was left at home in the house, took the Merchandize of the *English* Company there into their own custody by Inventory, and seized all the Chests, Boxes, Books, Writings, and other things in the *English* House. Captain *Towerson* was committed to his Chamber with a Guard of *Dutch* Souldiers. *Emanuel Tomson* was kept prisoner in the Castle; the rest, (*viz.*) *John Beomont*, *Edward Collins*, *William Webber*, *Ephraim Ramsey*, *Timothy Johnson*, *John Fardo*, and *Robert Brown* were sent aboard the *Hollanders* Ships then riding in the Harbour, some to one Ship, and some to another, and all made fast in Irons. The same day also the Governour sent to the two other Factories in the same Island, to apprehend the rest of the *English* there. So that *Samuel Colson*, *John Clark*, *George Sharrock*, that were found in the Factory at *Hitto*, and *Edward Collins*, *William Webber*, and *John Sadler*, at *Larica*, were all brought prisoners to *Amboyna*, the sixteenth of *February*. Upon which day also *John Powl*, *John Wetheral*, and *Thomas Ladbroke*, were apprehended at *Cambello*, and *John Beomont*, *William Grigs*, and *Ephraim Ramsey*, at *Loho*, and brought in Irons to *Amboyna* the twentieth of the same

The Cruelty of the Dutch,

moneth. In the mean time, the Governour and Fiscal went to work with the prisoners that were already there : And first, they sent for *John Beomont*, and *Timothy Johnson*, from aboard the *Unicorn* ; who being come into the Castle, *Beomont* was left with a Guard in the Hall, and *Johnson* was taken into another room. Where, by and by, *Beomont* heard him cry out very pittifully ; then to be quiet for a little while, and then loud again. After tast of the Torture, *Abel Price* the Chyrurgion, that was first Examined and Tortured (as is above remembred) was brought in to confront and accuse him : But *Johnson* not yet confessing any thing, *Price* was quickly carried out, and *Johnson* brought again to the Torture ; where *Beomont* heard him some times cry aloud, then quiet again, then roar afresh : At last, after he had been about an hour in this second Examination, he was brought forth wailing and lamenting, all wet, and cruelly burnt in divers parts of his body, and so laid aside in a by-place of the Hall, with a Souldier to watch him that he should speak with no body.

Then was *Emanuel Tomson* brought to Examination ; not in the room where *Johnson* had been, but in another, something farther from the Hall. Yet *Beomont* being in the Hall, heard him roar most lamentably, and many times. At last, after an hour and an half spent in Torturing him, he was carried away into another Room another way, so that he came not by *Beomont* through the Hall. Next, was *Beomont* called in, and being demanded many things, all which he denied with deep Oaths and Protestations, was made fast to be Tortured, a cloath tied about his Neck, and two men ready with their Jarres of water to be poured on his Head. But yet for this time the Governour bad loose him, he would spare him a day or two, because he was an Old Man. This was all Saturdays work, the fifteenth of *February* aforesaid.

Upon Sunday the sixteenth of *February*, *William Webber*, *Edward Collins*, *Ephraim Ramsfey*, and *Robert Brown* were fetcht from
aboard

to the ENGLISH at AMBOYNA.

aboard the *Rotterdam*, to be Examined. At the same time came *Samuel Colson*, *William Grigs*, and *John Clark*, *George Sharrock*, and *John Sadler*, from *Hitto* and *Larica*, and were immediately, upon their Arrival, brought into the Castle Hall.

Robert Brown Tailor was first called in; and being Tormented with water, confessed all in order as the Fiscal asked him. Then was *Edward Collins* called in, and told, that those that were formerly Examined, had confest him as accessary to the Plot of taking the Castle. Which when he denied with great Oaths and Execrations, they made his Hands and Feet fast to the Rack, bound a cloath about his throat, ready to be put to the Torture of Water. Thus prepared, he prayed to be respited, and he would confesse all. Being let down, he again vowed and protested his innocency; yet said, that because he knew that they would by Torture make him confess any thing, though never so false, they should do him a great favour, to tell him what they would have him say, and he would speak it, to avoid the Torture. The Fiscal hereupon said; What, do you mock us? and bad, Up with him again; and so gave him the Torment of Water: which he not able long to endure, prayed to be let down again to his Confession. Then he devised a little with himself, and told them, That about two moneths and a half before, Himself, *Tomson*, *Johnson*, *Brown*, and *Fardo*, had Plotted, with the help of the *Sappers*, to surprize the Castle. Here he was interrupted by the Fiscal, and asked whether Captain *Towerson* were not of that Conspiracy. He answered, No. You lye, said the Fiscal; Did not he call you all to him, and tell you, That those daily Abuses of the *Dutch* had caused him to think of a Plot, and that he wanted nothing but your Consent and Secrecy? Then said a *Dutch* Merchant, one *John Iooft* that stood by, Did not you all swear upon a Bible to be secret to him? *Collins* Answered with great Oaths, That he knew nothing of any such matter. Then they bad make him fast again: whereupon he then said,

All

The Cruelty of the Dutch,

All was true that they had spoken. Then the Fiscal asked him whether the *English* in the rest of the Factories, were not consenting to this Plot. He Answered, No. The Fiscal then asked him, Whether the President of the *English* at *Iaccatra*, or Mr. *welden* Agent in *Banda*, were not Plotters, or privy to this Business? Again he answered, No. Then the Fiscal asked him, By what means the *Iaponers* should have Executed their purpose? Whereat, when *Collins* stood staggering and devising of some probable Fiction, the Fiscal helpt him, and said, Should not two *Iaponers* have gone to each point of the Castle, and two to the Governours Chamber door; and when the hurly-burly had been without, and the Governour coming to see what was the matter, the *Iaponers* to have killed him? Here one that stood by, said to the Fiscal, Do not tell him what he should say, but let him speak of himself. Whereupon the Fiscal, without attending the Answer to his former Question, asked what the *Iaponers* should have had for their Reward. *Collins* Answered, *One Thousand Ryals* apiece. Lastly, he asked him, when this Plot should have been effected? whereunto, although he answered him nothing (not knowing what to devise upon the sudden) yet he was dismissed, and very glad to come clear of the Torture, though with certain belief that he should dye for this his Confession.

Next was *Samuel Colson* brought in, being newly arrived from *Hitto*, as is before touched, and was the same day brought to the Torture, who, for fear of the pain wherewith he saw *Collins* come out, in such a case, that his eyes were almost blown out of his Head with the Torment of Water; chose rather to confess all they asked him: and so was quickly dismissed, coming out weeping, lamenting, and protesting his innocency.

Then was *John Clark*, that came with *Colson* from *Hitto*, fetcht in; and a little after was heard (by the rest that were without in the Hall) to cry out amain, they Tortured him with

with Water and with Fire, by the space of two hours. The manner of his Torture (as also of *Johnsons* and *Tomsons*) was as followeth : First they hoysed him up by the hands with a Cord on a large door, where they made him fast upon two staples of Iron, fixt on both sides at the top of the door-posts, haling his hands one from the other, as wide as they could stretch. Being thus made fast, his feet hung some two foot from the Ground ; which also they stretcht afunder as far as they would reach, and so made them fast beneath unto the door-trees on each side. Then they bound a cloath about his neck and face so close, that little or no Water could go by. That done, they poured the Water softly upon his Head untill the Cloath was full up to the Mouth and Nostrils, and somewhat higher ; so that he could not draw breath, but he must withal suck in the water : Which being still continued to be poured in softly, forced all his inward parts, to come out of his Nose, Ears, and Eyes, and often, as it were stifling and choaking him, at length took away his breath, and brought him to a swoon or fainting. Then they took him quickly down, and made him vomit up the water. Being a little recovered, they triced him up again, and poured in the water as before, est-soons taking him down as he seemed to be stifled. In this manner they handled him three or four severall times with water, till his body was swoln twice or thrice as big as before, his cheeks like great bladders, and his eyes staring, and strutting out beyond his fore-head : yet all this he bare, without confessing any thing ; Insomuch as the Fiscal and Tormentors reviled him, saying, that he was a Devil, and no Man, or surely was a Witch, at least had some Charme about him, or was Enchanted, that he could bear so much. Wherefore they cut off his hair very short, as supposing he had some Witchcraft hidden therein. Afterwards they hoysed him up again as before, and then burnt him with lighted Candles in the bottom of his feet,

The Cruelty of the Dutch,

untill the Fat dropt out the Candles; yet then applyed they fresh lights unto him. They burnt him also under the Elbows, and in the palms of the hands; likewise under the arm-pits, untill his inwards might evidently be seen. At last, when they saw he could of himself make no handsome confession, then they led him along with questions of particular circumstances, by themselves framed. Being thus wearied, and overcome by the Torment, he Answered, Yea, to whatsoever they asked: whereby they drew from him a body of a Confession to this Effect; to wit, That Captain *Towerson* had upon New-Years-Day last before, sworn all the *English* at *Amboyna* to be secret and assistant to a Plot that he had projected, with the help of the *Japoners*, to surprize the Castle, and to put the Governour, and the rest of the *Dutch* to death.

Having thus Martyred this poor man, they sent him out by four Blacks: who carried him between them to a Dungeon, where he lay five or six dayes, without any Chyrurgion to dress him, untill (his flesh being putrified) great Maggots dropt and crept from him in a most loathsome and noysome manner. Thus they finished their Sabbath dayes work; and it growing now dark, sent the rest of the *English* (that came that day from *Hitto*, and till then attended in the Hall) first to the Smith's shop, where they were loaden with Irons, and then to the same loathsome Dungeon, where *Clark* and the rest were, accompanied with the poor *Japoners*, lying in the putrefaction of their Tortures.

The next morning being Munday the seventeenth of *February*, old stile, *William Griggs*, and *John Fardo*, with certaine *Japoners*, were brought into the place of Examination.

The *Japoners* were first cruelly Tortured, to accuse *Griggs*, which at last they did: and *Griggs*, to avoid the like Torture, confessed all that the Fiscal demanded. By and by, the like
also

also was done by *John Fardo*, and other *Japoners*: but *Fardo* himself endured the Torture of Water, and at last confessed whatsoever the Fiscal asked him; and so was sent back to prison.

The same day also *John Beomont* was brought the second time to the Fiscal's Chamber; where one Captain *Newport*, a Dutch Mans Son (born in *England*) was used as an Interpreter. *William Griggs* was also brought in to accuse him; who said, that when the consultation for taking of the Castle, was held, then he (the said *Beomont*) was present. *Beomont* denied it with great earnestness and deep Oaths. At last being triced Up, and drenched with Water till his inwards were ready to crack, he answered affirmatively to all the Fiscals Interrogatories: yet as soon as he was let down, he clearly demonstrated to Captain *Newport*, and *Johnson* a Dutch Merchant, then also present, that these things could not be so. Nevertheless he was forced to put his hand to his Confession, or else he must to the Torture again, which to avoid, he subscribed; and so had a great Iron bolt, and two shackles riveted to his legs, and then was carried back to prison.

After this, *George Sharrock*, Assistant at *Hitto*, was called in question; who, seeing how grievously others were Martyred, made his earnest prayer to God (as since upon his Oath he hath acknowledged) that he would suffer him to make some such probable lies against himself, as the *Dutch* might believe, and so he might escape the Torment. Being brought to the Rack, the Water provided, and the Candles lighted, he was by the Governour and Fiscal Examined, and charged with the Conspiracy. He fell upon his Knees, and protested his Innocency. Then they commanded him to the Rack, and told him; Unless he would confess, he should be Tormented with Fire and Water to Death, and then should be drawn by the heels to the Gallows, and there hanged up. He still persisting in this his innocency, the Fiscal bad him be hoysed up.

The Cruelty of the DUTCH,

Then he craved respite a while, and told them, that he was at *Hitto*, and not in *Amboyna*, upon New-Years-Day, when the consultation was pretended; neither had been there since *November* before, as was well known to sundry of the *Hollanders* themselves that resided there also with him. Hereupon, they commanded him again to the Rack: but he craving respite as before, now told them, that he had many times heard *John Clark* (who was with him at *Hitto*) say, That the *Dutch* had done them many unsufferable wrongs, and that he would be revenged of them: to which end, he had once broken with *Captain Towerson* of a brave Plot. At which word the *Fiscal*, and the rest were attentive, encouraging him to proceed. So he went on, saying, that *John Clark* had intreated *Captain Towerson*, that he might go to *Maccasser*, there to Consult and Advise with the *Spaniards* to come with Gallies, and Robb the small Factories of *Amboyna* and *Serang*, when no Ships were there. Here they asked him, what *Captain Towerson* said to this: He answered, that *Captain Towerson* was very much offended with *Clark* for the motion; and from thenceforth could never abide him. Hereupon the *Fiscal* called him Rogue, and said he prated all from the matter, and should go to the Torture. He craved favour again, and began another Tale; to wit, that upon Twelv-Day then last past, *John Clark* told him at *Hitto*, that there was a practise to take the Castle of *Amboyna*; and asked him, whether he would consent thereunto. Whereupon he demanded of *Clark*, whether *Captain Towerson* knew of any such matter. Which, *Clark* affirming, then he (the said *Sharrock*) said, that he would do as the rest did. Then the *Fiscal* asked him, what time the Consultation was held? He Answered, In *November* last. The *Fiscal* said, That could not be; for, the Consultation was upon New-Years-Day. The Prisoner said as before in the beginning, that he had not been in *Amboyna* since the first of *December*, till now that he was brought thither. Why then,

then, quoth the Fiscal, have you belied your self? Where-
to the Prisoner resolutely Answered, that all that he had spoken,
touching any Treason, was false and feigned, onely to
avoid Torment. Then went the Fiscal out into another room
to the Governour, and anon returned, and sent *Sharrock* unto
the Prison again. The next day he was called again, and a
writing presented him, wherein was framed a formal Con-
fession of his last conference with *Clark* at *Hitto*, touching the
Plot, to take the Castle of *Amboyna*: which being read over
to him, the Fiscal asked him, whether it were true, or no. He
Answered, No; Why then, said the Fiscal, did you confess
it? He Answered, For fear of Torment. The Fiscal and the
rest in a great rage told him he lied; his mouth had spoken
it, and it was true, and therefore he should subscribe it.
Which as soon as he had done, he fell presently into a great
passion, charging them bitterly to be guilty of the innocent
blood of himself and the rest, which they should look to An-
swer for at the day of Judgement: withall he grappled with
the Fiscal, and would have stopped him from carrying in the
Confession to the Governour, with whom he also craved to
speak; but was instantly laid hold on, and carried away to
Prison.

William Webben, being next Examined, was told by the
Fiscal, that *John Clark* had confessed him to have been at *Am- Ex*
boyna on New-Years-Day, and sworn to *Captain Towerson's*
Plot, &c. All which he denied, alledging, he was that day
at *Larica*: yet being brought to the Torture, he then confessed
he had been at the consultation at *Amboyna* upon New-Years-
Day, with all the rest of the circumstances in order as he was
asked. He also further told them, he had received a Letter
from *John Clark*; after which was a Post-script, excusing his
brief writing at that time, for that there was great business
in hand. But one *Renien*, a *Dutch* Merchant, then standing
by, told the Governour, that upon New-Years-Day, the

The Cruelty of the Dutch,

time of this pretended Consultation, *Webber* and he were merry at *Larica*. So the Governour left him, and went out. But the Fiscal held on upon the other point, touching the Post-script of *Clark's* Letter, urging him to shew the same. Which when he could not do, though often terrified with the Torture, he gave him respite; promising to save his life, if he would produce that Letter.

Then was Captain *Towerson* brought to the Examination, and shewed what others had Confessed of him. He deeply protesting his Innocency, *Samuel Colson* was brought to confront him: who being told, that unless he would now make good his former Confession against Captain *Towerson*, he should to the Torture, coldly re-affirmed the same; and so was sent away. They also brought *William Griggs*, and *John Fardo*, to Justifie their former Confessions to his face. Captain *Towerson* seriously charged them, that as they would Answer it at the dreadfull Day of Judgement, they should speak nothing but the Truth. Both of them instantly fell down upon their knees before him; praying him for Gods sake to forgive them, and saying further openly before them all, that whatsoever they had formerly confessed, was most false, and and spoken onely to avoid Torment. With that the Fiscal, and the rest offered them again to the Torture; which they would not endure, but then affirmed their former Confessions to be true.

When *Colson* (who had Accused Captain *Towerson* before) was required to set his hand to his Confession, he asked the Fiscal, upon whose head he thought the sin would lie; whether upon his that was constrained to confess what was false, or upon the constrainers. The Fiscal, after a little pause upon this question, went into the Governour then in another room, but anon returning, told *Colson* he must subscribe it: which he did; yet withall made this protestation: Well, quoth he, you make me to Accuse my self, and others of that which is as
false

false, as God is true: for, God is my witness, I am as Innocent as the Child new born.

Thus have they Examined all that belong to the *English* Company in the several Factories of the Island of *Amboyna*.

The one and twentieth of *February*, they Examined *John Wetheral*, Factor at *Cambello* in the Island of *Seran*. He confessed, he was at *Amboyna* upon *New-Years-Day*: but for the Consultation, whereof he was demanded, he knew of no other but touching certain cloath of the *English* Company, that lay in the Factories rotting and worm-eaten, which they advised together how to put off to the best avail of their Employers. The Governour said, they questioned him not about Cloath, but of Treason: whereof, when he had protested his Innocency, he was for that time dismissed. But the next day he was sent for again, and Captain *Towersson* brought to Confront and Accuse him, having before (it seems) confessed somewhat against him. But Master *Towersson* spake now these words onely: Oh, Master *Wetheral*, Master *Wetheral*, speak the truth, and no more but the truth, as God shall put into your heart. So Captain *Towersson* was put out again, and *Wetheral* brought to the Torture of Water with great threats; if Water would not make him confess, Fire should. He prayed them to tell him what he should say, or to write down what they would, he would subscribe it. They said, he needed no Tutor; they would make him confess of himself. But when they had triced him Up four several times, and saw he knew not what to say, then they read him other Mens Confessions, and asked him from point to point, as they had done others; and he still Answered, Yea, to all.

Next was called in *John Powl*, *Wetherals* Assistant at *Cambello*: but he, proving that he was not at *Amboyna* since *November* (save now when he was brought thither Prisoner) and being spoken for by one *John Joost*, who had long been well acquainted with him, was dismissed without Torture.

The Cruelty of the Dutch,

Then was *Thomas Ladbroke*, servant to *Witheral*, and *Powl* at *Cambello*, brought to be Examined: but proving that he was at *Cambello* at the time of the pretended Consultation, and serving in such quality, as that he was never acquainted with any of the Letters from the Agent of *Amboyna*, he was easily and quickly dismissed.

Ephraim Ramsay was also Examined upon the whole pretended Conspiracy, and particularly questioned concerning Captain *Welden* the English Agent in *Banda*, but denying all, and proving that he was not at *Amboyna* at New-Years-Tide, being also spoken for by *John Iooft*; was dismissed, after he had hanged in the Rack a good while, with Irons upon his legs, and the cloath about his mouth.

Lastly, *John Sadler* servant to *William Griggs* at *Larica*, was Examined; and being found to have been absent from *Amboyna* at New-Years-Tide, when *Griggs* and Others were there, was dismissed.

Thus have we all their Examinations, Tortures, and Confessions, being the work of eight dayes; from the fifteenth to the twenty third of *February*. After which, was two dayes respite before the Sentence. *John Powl*, being himself acquitted as before said, went to the Prison to visit *John Fardo*; one of those that had Accused Captain *Towerson*. To him *Fardo* Religiously protested his Innocency; but especially his sorrow for Accusing Master *Towerson*: for, said he, the fear of Death doth nothing dismay me; for, God (I trust) will be mercifull to my Soul, according to the innocency of my Cause. The onely matter that troubleth me, is, that through fear of Torment I have Accused that Honest and Godly Man, Captain *Towerson*, who (I think in my conscience) was so Upright and Honest towards all men, that he harboured no ill will to any, much less would attempt any such business as he is Accused of. He further said, he would before his Death receive the Sacrament, in acknowledgement that he had Accused Captain

Towerson

to the ENGLISH at AMBOYNA,

Towerson falsely and wrongfully, onely through fear of Torment.

The five and twentieth of *February*, old stile, all the Prisoners, as well the *English*, as the *Portugal* and the *Japoners*, were brought into the great Hall of the Castle, and there were solemnly Condemned, except *John Powl*, *Ephraim Ramsey*, *John Sadler*, and *Thomas Ladbroke*, formerly acquitted, as aforesaid.

Captain *Towerson* having been (during all his Imprisonment) kept a part from the rest, so that none of them could come to speak with him; writ much in his Chamber (as some of the *Dutch* report,) but all was suppressed, save only a Bill of debt, which one *Thomas Johnson*, a free Burgher got of him by favour of his Keepers for acknowledgement, that the *English* Company owed him a certain sum of money. In the end of this Bill he writ these words: *Firmed by the Firm of me Gabriel Towerson, now appointed to dye, guiltless of any thing that can be justly laid to my Charge. God forgive them their Guilt, and receive me to his Mercy: Amen.* This Bill being brought to Master *Welden* the *English* Agent at *Banda*, he paid the money, and received in the acknowledgement.

William Griggs (who had before Accused Captain *Towerson*) writ these words following in his Table-Book: *We, whose names are here specified; John Comont, Merchant of Loho, William Griggs Merchant of Larica, Abel Price, Chyrurgion of Amboyna, Robert Brown, Taylor, which do here lye Prisoners in the Ship Rotterdam, being apprehended for Conspiracy, for blowing up the Castle of Amboyna: We being judged to Death this fifth of March, Anno 1622. which we through Torment were constrained to speak, that which he never meant, nor once imagined; the which we take upon our Deaths and Salvation: they Tortured us with that extreme Torment of Fire and Water, that Flesh and Blood could not endure: and this we take upon our Deaths, that they have put us to Death guiltless of our Accusation. So therefore we desire, that they that shall understand this; that our Employers may understand these Wrongs, and*

The Cruelty of the DUTCH,

that your selves would have a care to look to your selves : for their intent was to have brought you in also ; they askt concerning you ; which if they had Tortured us, we must have confessed you also : And so farewell ; Written in the dark.

This Table-Book was afterwards delivered to Master *Welden* afore-named, by one that served the *Dutch*.

Samuel Colson also, another that Accused Captain *Towerson*, writ as followeth in the wast leaves of a Book, wherein were bound together the Common-Prayers, the Psalms, and the Catechism.

In one Page Thus ;

March 5. *Stilo novo*, being Sunday, aboard the *Rotterdam*, lying in Irons.

Understand that I *Samuel Colson*, late Factor of *Hitto*, was apprehended for suspicion of Conspiracy ; and for any thing I know, must die for it : wherefore, having no better means to make my Innocency known, have writ this in this Book, hoping some good English Men will see it. I do here upon my Salvation, as I hope by His Death and Passon to have Redemption for my sins, that I am clear of all such Conspiracy ; neither do I know any English Manguilty thereof ; nor other Creature in the world. As this is true : God bleſs me.

Sam. Colson.

On the other side, upon the first Page of the Catechism, is thus Written.

In another leaf you shall understand more, which I have written in this Book.

Sam. Colson.

In the beginning of the Psalms, and in the leaf so referred unto, is thus written, (*viz.*)

THe Japons were taken with some Villany, and brought to Examination : being most Tyrannously Tortured, were asked if the English

English had any hand in their Plot. Which Torture made them say, *Yea*. Then was Master Tomson, Master Johnson, Master Collins, John Clark brought to Examination, and were burned under the Arms, Arm-Pits, the Hands, and Soals of the Feet, with another most miserable Torment, to drink Water; some of them almost Tortured to Death, and was forced to confess that which they never knew, by reason of the Torment, which Flesh and Blood is not able to enaure. Then were the rest of the English Men called one by one (amongst which I was one) being wisked to confess, or else must go to Torment; withall caused Master Johnson, who was before Tormented, to witness against me, or else he should be Tormented again; which rather than he would endure, he said, what they would have, he would speak. Then must I confess that I never knew, or else to go to Torment, which rather than I would suffer, I did confess that, which (as I shall be saved before God Almighty) is not True, being forced for fear of Torment. Then did they make us witness against Captain Towerfon, and at last made Captain Towerfon confess all, being for fear of most Cruel Torment: for which we must all dye. As I mean and hope to have pardon for my sins, I know no more than the Child unborn of this Business. Written with my own hand the first of March, *Stilo novo*.

Samuel Colson.

Yet in another page were these words:

I Was born in New-Castle upon Tyne, where I desire this Book may come, that my Friends may know of my Innocency.

Sam. Colson.

This Book he delivered to one that served the *Hollanders*, who sowed it up in his Eed, and afterward, at his opportunity delivered it to Master *Welden* before named.

All these said writings are yet extant under the hands of the several parties, well known to their Friends here in *England*.

The six and twentieth of *February*, *Stilo veteri*, the Prisoners were all brought into the great Hall of the Castle (except Cap-

The Cruelty of the Dutch,

tain *Towerson* and *Emanuel Tomson*) to be prepar'd for death by the Ministers. The *Japoners* now all in general, as some of them had done before in particular, cry'd out unto the *English*, saying; *Oh you English Men, where did we ever in our lives eat with you, talk with you, or (to our remembrance) see you?* The *English* Answer'd, *Why then have you Accus'd us?* The poor men, perceiving they were made believe each had Accus'd others, before they had so done indeed; shew'd them their Tortured bodies, and said, *If a stone were thus burnt, would it not change his Nature? How much more we that are Flesh and Blood?*

Whil'st they were all in the Hall, Captain *Towerson* was brought up into the place of Examination, and two great Jarrs of water carried after him. What he there did or suffered was unknown to the *English* without: but it seemeth they made him then to under-write his Confession. After Supper, *John Powl*, *Ephraim Ramsfey*, *Thomas Ladbroke*, and *John Sadler*, who were found not guilty, as aforesaid, were taken from the rest, and put into another room. By and by also were *Samuel Colson* and *Edward Collins* brought from the rest, into the room where *Emanuel Tomson* lay: The Fiscal told them, it was the Governours mercy, to save one of them three: and it being indifferent to him, which of them were the man, it was his pleasure, they should draw Lots for it, which they did, and the free Lot fell to *Edward Collins*; who then was carried away to the Chamber, where *John Powl*, and the rest that were quit, lodged; and *Samuel Colson* back into the Hall. Anon also *John Beomont* was brought out of the Hall into the Chamber, where *John Powl*, and the rest of the acquitted persons were, and was told, that he was beholden to *Peter Johnson* the *Dutch* Merchant of *Lohio*, and to the Secretary; for they two had begged his life.

So then there remained in the Hall Ten of the *English*; for Captain *Towerson*, and *Emanuel Tomson* (as is said before) were kept in several rooms apart from the rest. To these that remained in the Hall, came the *Dutch* Ministers, who telling them

them how shorr a time they had to live, admonished and exhorted them to make their true Confessions; for it was a dangerous and desperate thing, to dissemble at such a time. The *English* still professed their Innocency, and prayed the Ministers that they might all receive the Sacrament, as a seal of the forgiveness of their sins; and withall, thereby to confirm their last Profession of their Innocency. But this would by no means be granted. Whereupon *Samuel Colson* said thus unto the Ministers; You manifest unto us the danger of Disimulation in this case: But tell us, if we suffer guiltless, being otherwise also true believers in Christ Jesus, What shall be our reward? The Preacher Answered, By how much the clearer you are, so much the more Glorious shall be your Resurrection. With that word, *Colson* started up, imbraced the Preacher, and gave him his purse, with such money as he had in it, saying; *Domine*, God bless you: tell the Governour, I freely forgive him; and I intreat you, to exhort him to repent him of his bloody Tragedy, wrought upon us poor Innocent Souls. Here all the rest of the *English*, signified their consent to this Speech. Then spake *Iohn Fardo* to the rest, in presence of the Ministers, as followeth: My Countrey-Men, and Brethren, all that are here with me Condemned to Dye, I charge you all, as you will Answer it at Gods Judgement Seat, If any of you be guilty of this Matter; whereof we are Condemned, discharge your Consciences, and confess the Truth for satisfaction of the World. Hereupon *Samuel Colson* spake with a loud voice, saying, According to my Innocency in this Treason, so Lord pardon all the rest of my Sins: and if I be guilty thereof more or lesse, let me never be partaker of thy Heavenly Joyes. At which words every one of the rest cryed out, Amen for me, Amen for me, good Lord. This done, each of them knowing whom he had Accused, went one to another begging forgiveness for their false Accusation, being wrung from them by the pains or fear of Torture. And they all freely forgave one another:

The Cruelty of the Dutch,

for none had been so falsely Accused, but he himself had Accused another as falsely. In particular, *George Sharrock* (who survived to relate this nights passage) kneeled down to *John Clark*, whom he had Accused of the Tale at *Hitto* above-mentioned, and craved forgiveness at his hands. *Clark* freely forgave him, saying; How should I look to be forgiven of God, if I should not forgive you, having my self so falsely Accused Captain *Towerson*, and others?

After this, they spent the rest of the dolefull night in Prayer, singing of Psalms, and comforting one another; though the *Dutch* that Guarded them, offered them Wine, bidding them drink *Lustick*, and drive away the sorrow; according to the custom of their own Nation in the like case; but contrary to the nature of the *English*.

Upon the morrow morning, being the Execution day, the 27. of *February*, *Stilo veteri*, *John Powl* being freed (as is above recited) came into the room where the *Condemned* persons were, and found them at Prayer. They all requested him to relate unto their Friends in *England*, the Innocency of their Cause; taking it upon their deaths, that what they had confessed against themselves and others touching this Crime, was all false, and forced by fear of Torture.

The same morning *William Webber* was called again into the *Fiscals* room, and there pressed to produce the Letter, which he had before confessed to have received from *John Clark*, in the *Post-script* whereof some great business was intimated. They promised him his Life, if he would deliver or produce them that Letter: which although he did not, nor indeed could, yet at last they pardoned him, and sent him to the rest that were saved, and *Sharrock* with him.

That morning *Emanuel Tomson* understanding that *John Beomont* was pardoned, made means to have him come and speak with him; which, with much ado, he obtained. *Beomont* found him sitting in a Chamber, all alone in a most miserable fashion;

to the ENGLISH at AMBOYNA.

on; the wounds of his Torture bound up, but the matter and gore-blood issuing through the Roulers. He took Master *Beomont* by the hand, and prayed him, when he came into *England*, to do his Duty to the Honourable Company, his Masters, to Master *Robinson*, and to his Brother *Billingsley*, and to certifie them of his Innocency, which (said he) you your self know well enough.

All things being prepared for the Execution, the Condemned were brought forth of the Hall along by the Chamber where the quit and pardoned were; who stood in the door, to give and take the farewell of their Country-Men now going to Execution. Staying a little for this purpose, they prayed, and charged those, that were saved, to bear witness to their Friends in *England* of their Innocency, and that they died not Traytors, but so many Innocents, meerly Murthered by the *Hollanders*, whom they prayed God to forgive their blood-thirstiness, and to have mercy upon their own Souls.

Being brought into the Yard, their Sentence was there read unto them from a Gallery, and then they were thence carried unto the place of Execution, together with nine *Iapans*, and a *Portugal*: not the ordinary and short way, but round about in a long procesion, through the Town; the way guarded with five Companies of Souldiers, *Dutch* and *Amboyners*, and thronged with the Natives of the Island, that (upon the summons given the day before by the sound of the Drum) flocked together to behold this Triumph of the *Dutch* over the *English*. *Samuel Colson* had conceived a Prayer in writing, in the end whereof he protested his Innocency: which Prayer he read to his Fellows the night before, and now also at the place of Execution devoutly pronounced the same; then threw away the paper, which the Governour caused to be brought to him, and kept it.

Emanuel Tomson told the rest, he did not doubt but GOD would shew some sign of their Innocency; and every one of the

The Cruelty of the Dutch,

the rest took it severally upon their Death, that they were utterly guiltless; and so one by one with great cheerfulness suffered the fatal stroke.

The *Portugal* prayed over his Beads very devoutly, and often kissed the *Crois*; wearing thereupon, that he was utterly Innocent of this Treason: yet confessed, that God had justly brought this punishment upon him, for that having a Wife in in his own Country, he had, by the perswasion of the *Dutch* Governour, taken another in that Country, his first being yet living.

The *Japons* likewise (according to their Religion) shut up their last Act with the like profession of their Innocency. So there suffered Ten *English* Men, (*viz.*) Captain *Gabriel Tower-son* the Agent of the *English* at *Amboyna*, *Samuel Colson* Factor at *Hitto*, *Emanuel Tomson* Assistant at *Amboyna*, *Timothy Johnson* Assistant there also, *John weatheral* Factor at *Cambello*, *John Clark* Assistant at *Hitto*, *William Griggs* Factor at *Larica*, *John Fardo* Steward of the House, *Abel Price* Chyrurgian, and *Robert Brown* Tailor.

The *Portugal* also suffered with them. His name was *Augustin Perez*. He was born at *Bengala*.

The names of the *Japoneses* that suffered (if any be curious to know them) were as followeth:

<p><i>Hititso,</i> <i>Tsiosa,</i> <i>Sinsa.</i></p>	}	All born at <i>Firando</i> .	<p><i>Sidney Migiél,</i> <i>Pedro Congie,</i> <i>Thome Corea,</i></p>	}	Born at <i>Nagansac-</i> <i>que.</i>
<p><i>Quiandayo,</i> <i>Tsabinda,</i> <i>Zanchoe.</i></p>	}	<p>Native of <i>Coraets</i>. Of <i>Tsoncketgo</i>. Of <i>Fisen</i>.</p>			

Besides these, there were two other *Japoneses*; the one named *Soysimo*, born at *Firando*; and the other *Sacoube*, of the same place: the former of which being Tortured, confessed both to have been privy to this pretended Treason, and to have offered his

to the ENGLISH at AMBOYNA.

his service unto the *English* to aid them in taking of the Castle : and the latter confessed to have had knowledge of the consultation of the other *Japans* to this purpose. But neither of them was Executed, nor so much as Condemned. The reason whereof was not known to the *English* that were saved.

They had prepared a cloath of black Velvet, for Captain *Towerson*'s body to fall upon ; which being stained and defaced with his blood, they afterwards put to the account of the *English* Company.

At the instant of the Execution, there arose a great darkness, with a sudden and violent gust of Wind and Tempest ; whereby two of the *Dutch* ships, riding in the Harbour, were driven from their Anchors, and with great labour and difficulty saved from the Rocks. Within a few dayes after, one *William Dunckin*, who had told the Governour, That *Robert Brown*, the *English* Sailor, had a few Months before told him, he hoped that within six Months the *English* should have as much to do in the Castle of *Amboyna*, as the *Dutch* : This Fellow, coming upon an Evening to the Grave where the *English* were buried, being all (save Captain *Towerson*) in one Pit, fell down upon the Grave ; and having lien there a while, rose up again stark mad, and so continued two or three dayes together, and then died. Forthwith also fell a new sickness at *Amboyna*, which swept away about a thousand people *Dutch* and *Amboyners* : in the space wherein, there usually died not above thirty at other seasons. These signs were by the surviving *English* referred to the confident prediction of *Emanuel Tomson* above-named, and were by the *Amboyners* interpreted as a token of the wrath of God for this Barbarous Tyranny of the *Hollanders*.

The next day after the Execution, being the 28. of *February*, *Stilo veteri*, was spent in Triumph for the new General of the *Dutch* then Proclaimed, and in publick rejoycing for the deliverance from this pretended Treason. The day following, being the first of *March*, *John Beomont*, *George Sharrock*, *Edward Collins*,

The Cruelty of the Dutch;

Collins, and *William webber*, were brought to the Governour; who told *Webber*, *Beomont* and *Sharrock*, that they were pardon- ed in Honour of the new General; and *Collins*, that he was to go to *Jaccatra*, there to stand to the favour of the General. So the Governour made them drink Wine with him, and curte- ously dismissed them; willing them to go and consult with the rest that were saved, who were fit to be placed in the sever- al Factories. Which done, and their opinions reported to the Governour, he accordingly commanded each to his place; adding, that he would thenceforth take upon him the Patro- nage and Government of the *English* Companies business. To which purpose, he had within a few dayes past opened a Letter that came from the *English* President at *Jaccatra*, directed to Captain *Towerson*; being (as he said) the first *English* Letter that ever he intercepted; further, saying, that he was glad that he found by that Letter, that the *English* at *Jaccatra* were innocent touching this business.

The Governour and Fiscal having thus made an end at *Am- boyna*, dispatched themselves for *Banda*; where they made very diligent enquiry against Captain *Welden*, the *English* Agent there; yet found no colour nor shadow of guilt to lay hold on: but at last entertained him with courteous speeches, pro- fessing to be very glad, that they found him, as well as the *English* at *Jaccatra*, to be without suspicion of this Treason (as they term it.) Captain *Welden*, perceiving the disorder and confusion of the *English* Companies Affairs at *Amboyna*, by means of this dealing of the *Dutch*; forthwith hired a *Dutch* Pinnace at *Banda*, and passed to *Amboyna*: where, instantly up- on his Arrival, he re-called the Companies Servants, sent (as before) by the *Dutch* Governour to the upper-Factories.

Having enquired of them, and the rest that were left at *Am- boyna*, of the whole proceedings lately passed, he found, by the constant and agreeing Relation of them all, that there was no such Treason of the *English* as was pretended: as also under- standing

to the ENGLISH at AMBOYNA.

standing what strict command the Governour had given to the surviving *English*, not once to talk or confer with the Country people concerning this bloody business, although the said Country people every day reproached them with Treason, and a Bloody Intention to have Massacred the Natives, and to have ripped up the bellies of Women with child, and such like stuff; wherewith the *Dutch* have possessed the poor Vulgar, to make the *English* odious unto them. The said Master *Welden* therefore finding it to sort neither with the Honour nor Profit of the *English* Company, his Masters, to hold any longer residence in *Amboyna*, he took the poor Remnant of the *English* along with him, in the said hired *Pinnace* for *Iaccatra*; whither the Governour had sent *John Beomont*, and *Edward Collins* before, as Men Condemned, and left to the Mercy of the General.

When this heavy News of *Amboyna* came to *Iaccatra*, and the *English* there, the President forthwith sent to the General of the *Dutch*, to know by what Authority the Governour of *Amboyna* had thus proceeded against the *English*, and how he and the rest of the *Dutch* there at *Iaccatra*, did approve these proceedings. The Governour returned for Answer, that, The Governour of *Amboyna*'s Authority was derived from that of the Lords States General of the United *Neatherlands*; under whom he had Lawfull Jurisdiction both in Criminal and Civil Causes, within the district of *Amboyna*; further, that such proceeding was necessary against Traytors, such as the *English* Executed at *Amboyna*, might appear to be by their own Confessions: a Copy whereof he therewith sent to the *English* President; who sent the same back to be Authentickly certified, but received it not again.

Hitherto hath been recited the bare and naked Narration of the progress and passage of this Action, as it is taken out of the Depositions of Six several *English* Factors; whereof Four were Condemned, and the other two Acquitted in this Process of

The Cruelty of the DUTCH,

Amboyna: All, since their return into *England*, Examined upon their Oaths in the Admiralty Court. The particular of Captain *Towerfon*'s, as also of *Emanuel Tomson*'s Examinations, and Answers, are not yet come to light, by reason that these two were kept apart from all the rest, and each alone by himself; nor any other of the *English* Suffered to come to speak with them, except only that short Farewell, which *John Beomont* took of *Tomson* the morning before the Execution before mentioned. The like obscurity is yet touching the Examinations, and Answers of diverse of the rest that are Executed; being, during their Imprisonment, so strictly lookt to, and watched by the *Dutch*, that they might not talk together, nor mutually relate their miseries.

But because the *Hollanders* defend their own Proceedings by the confessions of the parties Executed, acknowledging severally under their hands, that they were guilty of the pretended Crime; it will not be amiss to recollect and recall unto this place, as it were unto one sum and total, certain circumstances dispersed in several parts of this Narration; whereby, as well the Innocency of the *English*, as the unlawful proceedings against them, may be manifested.

First therefore it is to be remembered, that the *Japons* were Apprehended, Examined, and Tortured three or four dayes, before the *English* were Attached; and the Fame as well of their apprehension, as Torture, was rise and notorious in the Town of *Amboyna*, and the parts adjoining. *Tomson*, in this interim, and the very first day of the Examination of the *Japon*, went to the Castle to ask leave of the Governour to land some Rice, and brought back the news with him to the *English* house of the cruel handling of these poor *Japons*. This had been Item enough to the *English*, if they had been guilty, to shift for themselves: whereto also they had ready means by the Curricurries, or small Boats of the *Amboyners*, which lie along the Strand in great number, wherewith they might easily have trans-

to the ENGLISH [at AMBOYNA.

transported themselves to *Seran*, to *Bottoom*, or to *Maccassar*, out of the Reach and Jurisdiction of the *Dutch* : but in that they fled not in this case, it is a very strong presumption, that they were as little privy to any Treason of their own, as suspicious of any Treacherous train laid for their bloods.

In the next place let it be considered, how impossible it was for the *English* to atchieve this pretended enterprize.

The Castle of *Amboyna* is of a very great strength (as is before declared;) the Garrison therein two or three hundred men, besides as many more of their free Burgers in the Town. What their care and circumspection in all their Forts is, may appear, not only by the quick Alarm they now took at the foolish question of the poor *Iapons*, made to the Sentinel above recited; but also by that which a little before happened at *Iaccatra*, where one of their Souldiers was shot to death for sleeping in the watch.

Durst Ten *English* Men (whereof not one a Souldier) attempt any thing upon such a strength and vigilancy? As for the assistance of the *Iapons*, they were but ten neither, and all un-armed as well as the *English* : For, as at the seizure of the *English* house, all the provision therein found was but three Swords, two Musquets, and half a pound of Powder : so the *Iapons* (except when they are in service of the Castle, and there armed by the *Dutch*) are allowed to have no Arms, but only a *Catan*, a kind of short Sword : and it is forbidden to all the *Dutch*, upon great penalty, to sell any hand-Gun, Powder, or Bullets to the *Iapons* or *Amboyners*. But let it be imagined, that these Twenty persons, *English* and *Iapons*, were so desperate as to adventure the Exploit; How should they be able to Master the *Dutch* in the Castle, or to keep possession when they had gotten it? What second had they? There was neither Ship nor Pinnace of the *English* in the Harbour. All the rest of the *Iapons* in the Island, were not Twenty persons; and not one *English* more. The nearest of the rest of the *English*

The Cruelty of the Dutch,

were at *Banda*, forty leagues from *Amboyna*; and those but nine persons, all afterwards cleared by the Governour and Fiscal themselves from all suspicion of this pretended Crime, as were also the rest of the *English* at *Iaccatra*.

On the other side, besides the strength of the Castle and Town of *Amboyna*, the *Hollanders* have three other strong Castles, well furnished with Souldiers in the same Island, and at *Cambello* near adjoining. They had then also in the road of *Amboyna* eight Ships and Vessels, namely, the *Rotterdam* of 1200 Tun, the *Unicorn* of 300 Tun, the *Free-mans Vessel* of 100 Tun, the *Calck* of 60 Tun, Captain *Gamals Junck* of 40 Tun, the *Flute* of 300 Tun, the *Amsterdam* of 1400 Tun, and a small Pinnace of about 60 Tun; and all these well furnished with Men and Ammunition. It is true, that the Stories do record sundry valiant and hardy enterprises of the *English* Nation, and *Holland* is witness of some of them; yea, hath reaped the fruit of the *English* resolution; yet no Story, no Legend scarcely reporteth any such hardines, either of the *English* or others, That so few persons, so naked of all provisions and supplies, should undertake such an adventure upon a counterparty, so well and abundantly fitted at all points.

But let it be further granted, that they might possibly have overcome all these difficulties; yet to what end and purpose should they put themselves into such a Jeopardy? They knew well enough, that it was agreed between both Companies at home, That the Forts in the *Indies* should remain respectively in the hands of such, as had possession of them at the date of the Treaty, *Anno 1619*. and that the same was ratified by the Kings Majesty, and the Lords States General. They knew likewise, and all the World takes knowledge of His Majesties Religious observation of Peace and Treaty with all his Neighbours, yea, with all the World: what reward then could these *English* hope for, of this their Valour and Danger? Certainly none other than that which is expressly provided by the Treaty

to the ENGLISH at AMBOYNA.

itself, that is, To be punished as the disturbers of the Common Peace, and Amity of both Nations.

But let these *English* Men have been as foolish in this Plot as the *Hollanders* will have them; is it also to be imagined, that they were so graceless, as when they were condemned, and seriously admonished by the Ministers to discharge their consciences, yet then to persist in their dissimulation, being otherwise of such godly behaviour, as to spend the time in Prayer, singing of Psalms, and spiritual comforting one another, which the *Dutch* would have had them bestow in drinking, to drive away their sorrow? Let *Colsons* question to the Minister be considered: his and the rest offer and desire to receive the Sacrament, in sign and token of their Innocency; their mutual asking forgiveness for their like false Accusations of one another, forced by the Torture; *Tomsons* last farewell to *Beomont*; *Colsons* Prayer, and his writing in his Prayer-book; *Fardo's* farewell to *Powl*; also his conjuring exhortation to his Fellows, to discharge their consciences, and all their Answers thereunto; craving Gods Mercy or Judgement, according to their Innocency in this Cause; their General and Religious profession of their Innocency, to their Country-men, at their last parting with them, and finally, the sealing of this profession with their last breath and blood, even in the very Article of Death, and in the stroke of the Executioner. What horrible, and unexampled dissimulation were this? If some one, or more of them had been so fearfully disparate, yet would not there one amongst ten be found to think of the Judgement to come; whereunto he was then instantly summoned without Effoin, Bail, or Mainprize? What? had they hope of Reprieve and Life, if they kept their countenance to the last? Yet what hope had *Tomson* and the rest, when Captain *Towersons*'s head was off? Nay, what desire had *Tomson* and *Clark* to live, being so mangled and martyred by the Torture? They were Executed one by one, and every one several took it upon his death, that he was guiltless.

Now

The Cruelty of the Dutch, &c.

Now to blanch and smooth over all this rough and Barbarous proceeding; it is here given out, that the Governour and Fiscal found such Evidence of the Plot, and dealt so evenly in the process, that they spared not their own people; having used some of their Native *Hollanders*, partakers of this treason, in the same manner as they did the *English*. But this, as well by the Relation here truly and faithfully set down, grounded upon the sworn testimony of six credible witnesses, as also by other sufficient reports of diverse (lately come out of those parts) appeareth to be a meer tale, not once alledged by any in the *Indies* in many moneths after the Execution, but only invented and dispersed here, for a *Fucus* and a fair colour upon the whole cause, and to make the World believe, that the ground of this Barbarous and Tyrannous proceeding was a true Crime, and not the insatiable covetousness of the *Hollanders*, by this cruel Treachery to gain the sole Trade of the *Mullocos*, *Banda*, and *Amboyna*, which is already become the event of this bloody process.

To add hereunto by way of Aggravation, will be needless; the Fact is so full of Odious and Barbarous Inhumanity, executed by *Hollanders* upon the *English* Nation, in a place where both lived under Terms of Partnership and great Amity, confirmed by a most solemn Treaty.

F. I. N. I. S.



