

C. 55 4-20
A TRVE REPORT
Of the most gracious and
mercifull message of hir most ex-
cellent Maieſtie, ſent by the righte
honourable Sir Chriſtopher Hatton
Knight, Viſchamberlaine, & one of hir High-
neſſe moſt honourable priuie Counſell, to
the place where THOMAS APPEL-
TREE ſhould haue ſuffered for his
moſt Traitorlike action:

*With ſuch other diſcourſe as it pleaſed him to uſe
upon the matter at the ſame time: wherein no-
thing is added, but his onely ſpeech verba-
tim, as my weake memorie would
ſerue me to doe it.*



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Aster Carie, Hir

most excellent maiestie is pleased to sende me to deliuer hir commandement to you touching this man now here presently to die. And first, I thinke it not out of purpose, to

The people doubted of a pardon at his first speache.

notifie his offence to these good people, wherby he is not only worthy this punishment: but in iudgement of forraine nations, and by censure of forraine lawes, should bee deliuered to the tormentors, to endure such torture, as the qualitie of his offence in so high a case by good pollicie should cōdignlie deserue.

And to speake of this fact, such it vvas, and so feareful, as my heart quaketh, and my eyes can not refraine teares to repeate it againe amongst you. (God for his mercies sake shielde, and defende hir most excellent Maiestie, that most mightily hath digested the notable daunger.) And so I wil tell you

The people maruelous attentive to heare.

A.iiij.

of

2

of this tragedie in course as it fel out.

*The cause is
declared why
hir Maiestie
toke the water*

It liked hir highnesse in respecte of the great heate, to take the ayre of the vvater, vvher in graue and vvaightie negociation she passed the time in discourse vvith the French Embassadour by the space of an houre or tvvo. In hir returne it pleased hir to take diuerse pauses, and the rather, bycause she earnestly redde a Booke, vvherin it seemed for recreations sake she toke some delighte. By meanes vvhereof (euen as it pleased God vvith his holy hande, as it vvwere, to direct hir safetie) she commaunded the Bargemen to slacke their labour, and slowvly to passe on, vvhere if they had hasted but tvvo. stroakes more, they had brought hir royall person into the shotte it selfe.

Only gods providence in saving hir Maiesty from the shotte.

These vvordes vvere scarcely spoken out by hir Maiestie, but this caritie most vnhappye (I must say most diuellishly) discharged his Arquebuse, strongly charged vvith bullet, into the Barge vvhere hir Maiestie vvvas. (God that hath defended hir, God that hath defended hir, thou most mightie God euer vouchsafe to keepe hir.) With this blowv the

second

second mā to the bayles of the Barge, vvith
in fixe foote of hir royall person, vvvas stricke
dovvn from his seate, and vvounded through
both his armes, vvwhich hir maiestie behelde,
& kingly handled this cause, as euē straight
I vvill tel you.

*A strange
and a horrible
terror
never hard
nor scene the
like in Englad
before.*

My Lordes of hir Maiesties counsel dis-
pearsed abroad in their affaires, hearing of
this moste perilous accidente, returned to
Court, vvith suche speede as the vvaighte of
such a cause might moue them to doe, and
there vvith fearefull and louing applausure
tovvvard hir Maiestie, did most holily thanke
our God for his singular helpe in the pre-
seruation of our most deare and righteous So-
ueraigne.

*The sodaine
great feare of
the Lordes of
the Counsell
at the heering
of these terri-
ble newes.*

That done according, vvith their loues,
and duties of seruice to God, hir maiestie &
this vvhole estate: after deliberate, and moste
graue consultation of the cause, they al most
humbly on their knees besought the Queene
that this slaue might suffer, not this death,
but tenne thousand deaths (if so it vvwere pos-
sible in nature to do) for his so rash & feare-
full offence. Such, in deede, might the offence

*The Counsell
most desirous
to punishe this
facte.*

haue

*It was strange
to see the peo-
ple staring in
M. Vitzcham-
berlains face,
some weeping
some trembling
at the speaking
of these words*

haue bene, vvhich God for his mercies sake
hath moſte fauourablye forbidden, that it
might haue roughte vppe to heauen, and
ſhould moſt miſerably not only haue plaged
this hir ovvn land, but al the true ſeruaunts of
God diſpearſed through Chriſtendome: our
Religion, & true faith in Ieſus Chriſt, vvhich
vve enioy vvvith vnſpeakeable comfort of free
conſcience, might hereby haue ſuffered con-
fuſion, and perſecution of bloude, and ven-
geaunce amongſt vs. Our peace, and ſecure
eſtates, encreaſed vvvith exceeding vvellthes,
and nourished vvvith moſt ſvvete quietneſſe
of life by this hir moſt happie gouernment,
and raigne of tvventre yeares, might hereby
haue bene turned to blouddie vvarres, the
fruites vvhereof is burning and ſpoyling of
houſes and goods, rauiſhing and deſtroy-
ing of our vvives and children. And vvhat
vengeaunce ſoever the vvorld can bring forth,
the ſame ſhould haue fallen on vs, I ſaye on
vs, then the moſt miſerable mē in the vvorld.
And therefore heare me I pray you. Let vs
acknowvledge before God vvvith all humble
thankfulneſſe theſe vnſpeakeable benefits,
vvhich

*Here they liſt
all both hands
and eyes to
heauen, ſaying
God bleſſe hir
Maieſtie, god
bleſſe hir, ma-
ieſtie. &c.*

which we haue inioyed, and still shal doe,
while God vpholdeth his blessed life, and
state amongst vs. The losse, and lacke of
whom, can not but bring on vs all these ca-
lamities, and ten thousand moe, which I can
not foresee. If then by these, and all other be-
nefits, which you possesse, feelee, and tast of;
you finde how inestimable, and precious a
iervell this our deare Soueraigne is for vs, and
amongst vs, vvhath plague, torment, or pu-
nishment, could suffice you for reuenge on
him, that by any means should deprive you
of such heavenly, and worldly felicities, as
daylye by his holye hande are ministred a-
mongst you. But I will meddle no further
with these matters. I know you thanke god
for them, and vvith true and faithfull obedi-
ent hartes vvill cuer serue his most excellent
Maiestie, vvhom he hath made his minister
to distribute all these blessings into your
bosomes.

And now, if it please you, you may vvith
mauel heare the message I come of. I bring
mercie to this man, the gracious pardon of
our most deare Soueraigne, vvho vvith his

B.

merciful

*Here the peo-
ple vvith tears
shewed them-
selues moste
sorrowfull
of these tragi-
call speeches.*

*This sodaine
strange par-
don amazed
the people.*

*The gretnesse
of hir Maie-
sties mercye
seemed such,
as the people
betwixt ioyes
and sorrowes
were amased.*

mercifull eie, beholding the cleauesse of
this mans hart, free from euill thoughte, and
consequently from prepenion of anye ma-
licious fact against hir person, vouchsafeth
to pull him from the Gallows. A notable ac-
tion of compassion proceeding from a hea-
uently minde, and so farre different from the
common nature of man, forced into a feare-
full, ialousie of losse of life, as hath neuer bin
read nor heard of.

*A true descri-
ption of mans
fraile nature
in seeking re-
uenge, confir-
med with ex-
amples.*

If casually a man suffer hurt in the fieldes
by an arrowe shotte by chaunce at bounding
markes, how reuengefully the partie offen-
ded will followe his proceffe of felonie, I
haue oft scene, and the law doth wel allow
it. If in the Court the meanest serving man
strike his felovv vwith his fist so that he bleed,
he is to loofe the same hand. Manye other
examples may be giuen you, both touching
the casualtie in this mans fact, and touching
the place, and presence, vwherein it chanced
to be done.

*Here bee no-
teth the hea-
uentie disposi-
tio of hir Ma-
iestie, far dif-
ferente from*

But our Queene looketh neither on hyr
prerogatiue, on the pover of hir lawes, nor
on the perill of hir person, but vwith the no-
bilitie

bilitie of hir hearte, the danger onely done *the nature of*
 to hir selfe; doth as you heare, freely pardon *man, in par-*
 it. And in the sacred word of his kinglie *doning so gret*
 estate I protest it vnto you, she hath firmly *an offence a-*
 auowed that she had rather haue suffered the *gainst lawe*
 wounds the Barge-man now hath, ten folde; *and nature.*
 than the meaneft of vs al, or of any subiects, *See the exco-*
 should suffer the flaunder of so tyrannous or *ding loue of a*
 trayterous a facte; yea, or of the prepenſion; *prince toward*
 or forethoughte of so horrible a forfaiture *hir subiectes,*
 warde hir, though it were in facte neuer ex- *in excusing all*
 ecuted. *accidents*
without anye
suspition of ill
meaning.

Wherein to all our singular comfortes, in
 pleased hir with most princelie affection &
 earnestnesse, graciously to assure, that ne-
 ther Prince had better, nor more kindly true
 Subiectes. God for his mercurie to us; se-
 ner to be so, and with our due gratefulness
 to sacrifice at hir kinglie fete on bloud and
 lyues for hir seruice sake, when occasion shall
 call vs thereto.

One other thing I find hir Matie trou-
 bled with, that is, the sorow this noble yong
 Gentleman, M^r Henrie Carie, hath suffered
 in continual grieve of his hart for the offend-
 en.

B.ij.

M. Carie was
master to his
leud man.
See the exco-
ding loue of a
prince toward
hir subiectes,
in excusing all
accidents
without anye
suspition of ill
meaning.

of his man, who through the vaine ielofie of
some euill dysposed persons, hath lyke wyse
borne some sclaunder, of the cause. But it
suffiseth to cleare him, that no intent of ma-
lice, nor forethought of this facte, is founde
in the partie him selfe. His conuersion be-
sides vwith exceeding fayth and diligence in
hir highnesse seruice, vvil euer deliuer him, as
a most acceptable Gentleman free from this
and all other euil in the sight of hir Maiestie
and all the worlde : I shall not need therefore
to speake of him, for his cause needeth none
excuse.

*He reciteth
the Queenes
vertues, and
most worthily
commendeth
hir rare cou-
rage in such a
pious chance.*

Here may you beholde the rare goodnes
of our greate and gracious Mistresse, full of
Religion & pietie, Iustice and mercie, Tem-
perance and magnanimitie (and that I can-
not but tell you) of the most constant and
noble courage that euer liued : the prooffe
vwhereof (the cause hard, vwhereat I was pre-
sent) I leaue to your iudgements.

*Behold hir
princely stout-
nesse nothing
dismayed at*

Hir Maiestie taking prospecte out of the
bales of hir Barge, at the very instant did see
the man stroken, and behelde his fall, and
heard, as it vvere, his deadly scrutche, vvhom
the

he immediately commaunded to bee taken
vppe, and then beholding him all embued
wvith bloud, commaunded his vvoundes to
be lapped vp vvith a scarffe of hir ovne, and
so vvith hir most constant and amiable coun-
tenance, continued hir entertainement of the
Embassadour, as though there had bene no
such matter. Aftervvardes the man began
to fainte, hir highnesse then commaunded a
cloke to be put on his body, vvith other such
necessarie reliefes as vv ere there presently to
be had, vvithout alteration of countenance.

*this sodaine
terror, but
vvith such
care to this
poore wounded
man and vvith
such counte-
nance to the
Embassadour,
that shee see-
med a mother
to the one and
a Queene to
the other.*

Beholde this kinglie heart, and courage of
rare magnanimitie, seing, as it vv ere, the pre-
sent death of the next to hir, neyther feared
hir ovnelife, nor vv as dismayed vvith this
treasonable chaunce. An action more than
maruellous in hir sexe. Hereof hovv much
vve may reioyce, I vvant vvitt to tell you. But
in one vvorde, hir highnesse, that vvith hir
singular vv isdome and policy hath preserved
hir Empire these tventie yeares in most ioy-
full peace, vvith this courage and magnani-
mitie vvill (no doubt) as mightily defend vs
in the most cruell vv arres. God therefore

*Hir highnesse
magnanimitie
mingled vvith
mercie, the
one most com-
fortable to
hir subiectes,
and the other
most terrible
to hir foes.*

etier blisse hir, and let vs with oure handes
 stretched vp to heauen, and oure eyes fixed
 on the seate of God, pray for his long lyfe,
 and moste prosperous raigne ouer vs.
 THOMAS ARDELTREE receyvie thy lyfe from
 his most excellent Maiestie, and praye vnto
 God vpon thy knees for his all thy dayes to
 come. &c.

*An earnest
 exhortation
 to pray.*

*Here Mr. F. R.
 chamberlaine
 kneled on his
 knees, with
 all the people
 praying God
 for his ma-
 iesties safe
 conuerye.*

And so the people being moued to prayer
 for his Maiesties moste happie escape, and
 for the blessing of God to lengthen his
 dayes for many and many yeares,
 he fell downe on his knees
 with greate deuotion
 amongst them,
 and so departed with exceeding
 ioy to the people, and a
 thousand blessings
 on himselfe.

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