

& thus is it Rendered that the Wall when Built was Law-ful - & it is to be Built again, to the Length of two thousand Yards - from Cutthorpe Common unto Linacre Ponds at the sole expense of the Accused.

As witnessed & transcribed
by the Magistrate Wandley
August 1st.

[46]

Here indicted before this Assizes sat upon the nineteenth day of August in this Year seventeen hundred & sixty come one Husband & his wife - namely *Matthew Marchand & Sarah Marchand* of the new village of Nighthead in the District of Nighchester Town without Sheffield - Accused the Pair of Theft by Butchery of one Bullock (valued £15) the property of Simon Awlbatch - a cowman (& the Prosecutor) of that same place.

*** The Justices & Men of the Jury here Circuited have heard that of which they are Attainted - that they did do this thing the Both by some Ferocious & Obscure Method on or within the hour of mid-night upon Jul 26. of this Year while Abroad on the Chase of the Nighthead Heath - this place lying some quarter-league from their Home & where the Prosecutor is oft Grasing his Cattle as the Law permit him. The Prosecutor has spake that upon the morn of Jul 27^t. he did miss his Property - for the Bull (which was called fondly in the Districkt *Little John*, for its Size) was not found in St. Severus Wood with the other Animals where they did all commonly Shelter when there were Gales - & thus is agreed by all Witnesses Local that the night before there had been much Weather. The Prosecutor does testify that he was so Keen for it was the Market-day & the herd was to be drove to Nighchester by ten - & did he testify that he had some Queer Notions (so he spake it) for he had seen some great Bird flying over in the Night, making a strange Character in the Sky, & then some strangely Lights upon the High Ground (by his own Words here Recorded). Then did he gather to him some Men (who have deposed here to the Jury) & they did all come north & east some way from the village & did find there in the brake a fresh thwaite of grass flattered (so spake the Prosecutor) which all there agreed in their Experiences was the work of the Bull only some Hour before - & all did accord with the Prosecutor that no Bull should lie alike to that at Night unless it were Spent (so spake one *Mr. Horsham* of that same place). They did then come a little further north to the very Highest Portions of the Heath to the two great Stones which stand there & are known well by all those Local to that Place - & there did they find the Remainder of the Animal dead by some Terrific & Cruel Process.

*** All Present have testified that the Bull was Skinned asunder very compleatly & all Blood spirited off - & no Bone nor Horn left within the Flesh nor Organ - & the Flesh & tripe having been Addled unto a thick Rennett pulp-set - & that Rennett most Purposefully sheaped unto the form of a Cylinder fat & very Smoothed & rocking still there to & from upon the Ground gentle like to a cradle (as spake Mr. Horsham once more). It was then that the Prosecutor did hue to the Constable (here Represented) who did come from his Garrison at Nighchester Town to the Heath & viewed the Beast in such State - & it is Agreed by those Present that such was its Rendering that all Value had been robbed of it - for not even the Flesh could be sold in such Form Inconvenient - much less its Derivatives & Sperm which had been taken also.

*** The Prosecutor has confessed that he did suspect Foul deeds in the very first Instance as Answering to this Theft - for he spake that he knew no Distemper that could cause an Animal to re-configure So - & it has been heard also of *Master George Ableton* of the Loxley Hunt that there be no Beasts dwelling still upon that Heath that could cause such Desecration to a healthy Bullock - & indeed that (as it were heard direct of the Prosecutor) that it could be only the Overheading Mercies of the Lord, or the Cruel Arm of the Defil that would have Capacity for such Acts.

*** As to the motive it is placed into Admission that the Accused were Folk who did wish Ill publickly of the Prosecutor - we have heard testimony of a *Thomas Pickton* here Represented (a Clerk of the Magistrate's Court at Sheffield Town) who spake that the Prosecutor did stand upon May 12^t. of this same Year within the Sessions; Accused him-self of the

wilful Murder of one *Robin Marchand*, the son of those here Accused today, upon that same Heath on the Night of May 1^t. - & it were within those same Sessions that Mr. Awlbatch did confess to have Struck the Boy until dead that Night, & that it had Brought him little Pleasure - & that it were the just Verdict of that Jury that the boy did mean to Poach of Mr. Awlbatchs Herd & that the Killing was defensive in Nature - & that Mr. Awlbatch did stand gladly one month in gaol for the Breaking of the Peace. The clerk here Represented did spake that he did witness the great & unreasoned Fury of Sarah Marchand

that day - & that she did defy the Truthful rendering of the Court & did cause much Discord & Commotion - as indeed she has this Day in Kind. Despite such Warnings as to her Disgrace & the standing of the Facts in every Element so are her Words today against Mr. Awlbatch stood in Testament against her, & have been entered into the Record - that did Mrs. Marchand spake with great Harshness that her son were no Poacher yet did only come to the Moor for elf-caps which be the Common Right - & that he did carry a Light to see by & be known by, as no Poacher eer did - & that Mr. Awlbatch be a Liar & Mr. Pickton a Liar all-so.

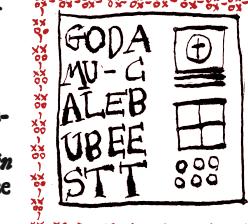
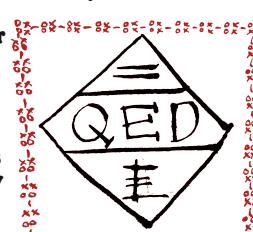
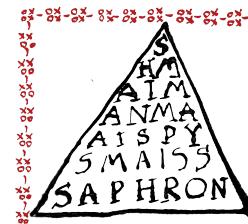
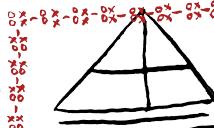
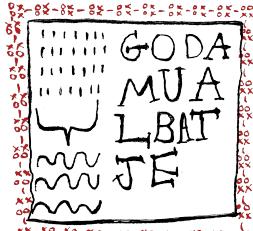
*** The Prosecutor has Tendered that in Vengeful Frame upon the day in Question the Accused did seek Recourse for their Son - & that to this End they did purchase the aid of one *Anne Latch* (here Represented), wife to *John Latch* & daughter of *Caleb & Mary Mason* (now the both deceased) - who has some minor Reputation in that District as an enchantress & Empirick & who Vends as such. It is spake by the Prosecutor & many others here Today that Mrs Latch does keep some Hound or other about her house that many Folk from that place & from a greater Distance do visit to seek some vain Satisfaction to their Troubles. Thus it is the Claim President of the Prosecutor that it was this Beast which was sent Abroad by the Command of Mrs. Latch & in Paid Compak with the Accused to satisfy its Appetites & deliver them their Satisfaction.

*** The charges thus noted the Justices & Jury have heard the Deposition of the Evidence against the Accused - & an Examination as to their Lives & Conversation. We have heard no Testimony that may suggest that either the Two be of much previous Character - aside from Events of this May mentioned never have either been

before the Law. We have heard all-so most Extensive of *Mr. Elijah Knole*, well-known to the District as he who does own the Mill and the village both; a Mill in which both the Accused have had their most recent Employ. It has been asked of them where they did take their Employment before

these past six Years with Mr. Knole - & it was answered that Sarah Marchand did keep House & raise the Son aforementioned - & was Matthew Marchand a beater & Woods-man for the *Lord Aubern* (being the Marquis of Nottingham) who did own the Heath surrounding the village until that Time, before he did foresake this work.

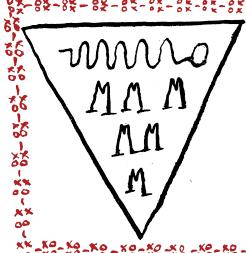
*** Mr. Knole did testify that he did never have any trouble Direct of either by Vow of his Faith (so spake); & that they both were unremarkable,



most Consistent & much full of Industry despite their Years. Mr. Knole spake that they worked their Stations with much Resignation & Diligency - & attended each of his Sermons daily with never Shirk nor Weariness. Mr. Knole does yet Profess that he did some-time hear Report that Sarah Marchand did speak Foully of Mr. Awlbatch to the Common Ear upon the working-floor.

*** The Court has heard all-so of the Rector Whitbread, who has known all Parties concerned well since he took up the rectorage of Nighthead - & does he Testify that in the Months before the Accident that the Prosecutor had come to him in his Chambers & spoken of Fears for his Life; & when the Rector had asked Mr. Awlbatch of their nature, had he spake that he had been most affrighted upon the Moor at several Occasions by some unknown Party following him at some Distanse when none did have business There. The Evidence President of the Rector is that upon the Night in question (when out upon his ministrations) did he view the Accused out & close to the Heaths edge. He does spake that they kept upon no Path yet were amongst the wettened brake & without any Lamp. It has been put to him as to how he did Re-call the Pair in the Darkness - & the Rector has spake that upon the Taller of the Figures was spied an Adam of Apple alike a beetles Horn for which Matthew Marchand is known well - & is viewsome in the Stand to-day for those Justices who are Strangers to him. The Rector all-so spake that he saw upon that Figures belt a thing shining which did catch the Moon well; & when he was asked whether he could posit a Blade he spake that he did neer veew its Point - yet that it were well-known to him & many others that it was only Matthew Marchand who did yet keep a knife very clean & Sharp upon his Person - & that it were a skinners knife though he has not been at that Trade these past six Years. The Rector did final spake that he did know the Pair by their Voices for did they Sing in Church when did they Attend - though did the Rector spake that they sang no Christian Hymn that Night but instead some Dark Words (so he spake) of which even he did not know the Origin.

*** The Accused are afforded the right of Reply to such Details - & thus has Sarah Marchand spake that indeed both were upon the Heath that night - & that they did both have much Dudgeon for the Prosecutor. Mrs. Marchand did spake again that Mr. Awlbatch were a Liar & a Jack Adams since he was a boy, & a bellshine else - & when asked if she wished such Words entered into the Record, she spoke Yea. When Mrs.



Marchand was asked of their Purpose when the Rector did view them Abroad did she spake that it were not Wrongly nor Proof of Mischief to come Abroad upon Common Land of an Eve - & did she spake that there were many others Abroad that Night at their own businesses, as always there be when the Moon is out. It is noted by the Clerk

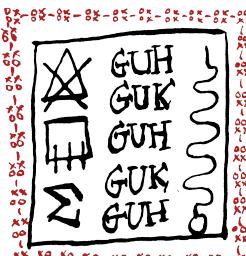
that Matthew Marchands knife has been given to the Court willingly, & no Blood be found upon it - & when it were asked if he did carry it that Night did Mrs. Marchand recall that he did - for they had gone about to cut crockuses & have their seed, that they may be gotten to sprout into their Yard - & that Mr. Marchand was the only Man who did know where they might be got upon the Heath. Was it asked why they did neither carry a Light to announce them-selves - & did Sarah Marchand answer again that a Light does spoil the Eye 'gainst the Stars - & further that no Lamp had aided her Son one piece & nor should it they. The Justices here Present did re-quest that Sarah Marchand should silence her-self then - & did they turn to her husband who had been with-out Word as yet - to query of him these queer speakings which the Rector professed to hear In-canted. Mr. Marchand did then spake thus that it had been only the old gobbley-cant

what old lovers do make,
& Petting Words which
no other may ken; &
that to a Man of God
who has neer known
Love on Earth it should
be alike to the summons
of the Defil. When order
re-storeed the Accused
were asked Direct if it
was by their hands that
the Bullock was
destroyed; & they did both answer
nay & that they did neer een see it
(so they spake).

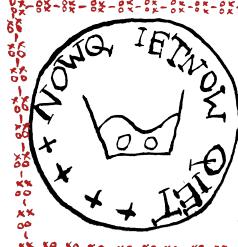
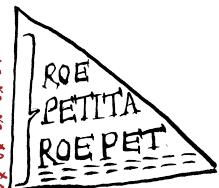
*** The Prosecutor has also made Complaint against Mrs. Latch as an Accessary to the Act - & states that she did provide to the Accused some Receipt containing some shapes of Words (so spake the Prosecutor) which when spoke should command this Beast she keeps to go out upon the Wilds & do whatever is Desired of it. It is well-known in that District that Mrs. Latch has been kept as a daughter by the Accused since the Issue with her Mother well-known to this Court in the Record; & subsequent the Passing of her Father of Sepcis in the Yeers following (the Magistrate notes that Sarah Marchand did spit upon the Bench at this Mention) - & that untill two Years before this date to-day had Anne



ROBYNAI
COMIN



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GUH



Latch & her Husband Worked alongside the Accused at Mr. Knole's Mill previous Mentioned in the Record. Mrs. Latch has kept very Silent in the Court to-day & her husband is Recorded as refusing to Represent her here - yet has the Court Heard from many of her Neighbours & a Dr. William Wainscote (a gentleman & a benefactor) of her goodly Character despite the Troubles of her Youth & the Charges lain against her Father then. Of her current Practise has the Court had testimony of Mr. Elijah Knole afresh who did spake that she were a goodly Worker until this Beast came - when did she quit her Station at the Mill with little Heed nor Graciousness in order to treat with this Animal in place of any Honest Industry - & to erect Figures before it & spake to it in Phrases & make abortives of its Product (so he spake). Mr. Knole did testify that he had witnessed many poor Souls of that District to miss the Luncheon that he does Provide at the Mill - even to miss the Bells that call them to their Labours - & rush to spend their Wage as soon as they may get it & fetch of her Animal some Cury for their ills, een upon the Sabbath (so he spake). He has told of much ungodly bickring & Remonstrance amongst his Workers where none was had before; & spake that even his own daughter, a Miss Charlotte Knole, had taken to Visiting with this Woman to ask from her premonitions of her own Future; neglecting then of her studies & her Prayers. The Court has it noted in the Record of several other Cases of complaint in which Mrs.

Latch is Recalled; from the Jealousies of Husbands to the Wrecking of Navies.

*** The Court has received only Few who shale admit Direct to having business with Mrs. Latch & the Treatments of her Hound. A Mr. Johnson (of that same Place & all-so in Mr. Knoles employ) has testified afore this Court that he is a sober Man of good Scruples & little Enthusiasm - & that Mrs. Latch had neer said to him that her Beast (which did he call Long Yocto) was some spirit or any unnatural thing. He spake that he never seen any Defil that looked alike (so spake) & that those of Local Habitanse were not Fools to heed those Stories that do call this Beast Old Scratch or some Hairy Star fallt to Earth (in his Words). It was asked of Mr. Johnson what Business he had of Mrs. Latch - & did he speak that he had only come to let the Hound lick his Hand & to spake to it, for he had sore Missed his wife's voice since her Passing, & came Lonesome in some Evenings (so spake), & that he gave his Coyn of Free Mind for the Pleasure. It was asked of him whether he had come to believe that the Beast gave succour as such, by unearthly Means - & did Mr. Johnson spake that it were no more unearthly than to have succour of the meat & milk

of a Cow gladly Given. The Witness did say nothing further - & was he asked final if he had ever viewed this Beast given to viciousness or the rumours of its License Abroad - & he spake that he had not even seen it take of any Meat - only some little Water with a Tonick within it - & had only ever seen it kennelled in Mr. Latch's house. Indeed (so he spake) he did think that it had come even Sickly in recent times, when he had been with it, for it did move very Slow & seeming Wearied.

*** It was then asked to Mrs. Latch if she did ever send her Beast to worry Mr. Awlbatches bull - & this were the only thing she spake in the Trial entire, being as quiet as a finch elsewhere (so said the Justice); did Mrs. Latch spake that she had never sent it to do such a thing.

*** Were it final asked of the Accused if Mrs. Latch had ever sold any Promise or Papers to them - & did they spake that the Truth was only that they had had of Mrs. Latch a blessing for their dead Son, & of which they had insisted to Fee a Guinea.

*** The Jury has heard all-so from Parties several of the Prosecutor & his own Character - both the Rector Whitbread & Mr. Elijah Knole had been Keen to stand for Mr. Awlbach of whom they did claim Friendship & Stewardship. Both spake with Eloquence & Lyrics as to the Dignity of the Man. Of Mr Knole was it heard that the Prosecutor is as Honest as Endymion (so spake) & a Paragon Authentick to all Present in the Art of living Plainly & by the truest Industry that God might intend. The Rector did spake that the Prosecutor has alike to all herdsmen a Soul Incorruptible & keeps both of Gods churches; being one of the few Men of this County still Fear-full of the Lord (in his very Words). Both did make Testimony as to his Charity & Purity - & how it was sore-tested by the Travails & Avarice of Current

Times. Mr. Knole did spake of the many inclosures about the Heath that do impede the Prosecutor's Ansient businesses & Rights - & the Rector did spake of meetings he had taken with the Prosecutor in which the man spoke his fear of theft & poaching each day Afresh, for there be few who remain that do respect those Trades closest to God (so spake). Mr. Knole was afforded the final Matters - & did he take this time to avail the Court of a Motto Of God, which did he learn in his youth & has now painted upon the walls of his Busyness - OUT THERE IS THE METHOD OF THE LORD (he spake). Mr. Knole then spake that he saw Gods Method most keenly in Mr. Awlbach, most diligent and Stoick - & how that Method might be stalled in the loss of his Crude Materials - & did the Witness fear that such a Loss may mark the Fall of the last true

Operator of this Land.

*** The Justices & Jury have thus heard these Indictments against the Accused, & the Depositions about this Matter & all the Views Various - & it is the Justice Preston who does rise to Present the Verdict. The Justice spake sternly of the number of Incidents to which he has been called to Preside in this District in the Year past - as he

spake, mayhap it is vengeance & spookings & thieving the only crop that will take in these Hills. Then the Justice spake well to state, that alkye to the Night in Question that there be many shadows &

darknesses about the business & the Central Act of this Case unseen - & yet by the Presentation of Reasonable Fact in the Truest Process of the Kings Court - & by Deduction Inescapable - the missing Taper may be Applied.

*** It is known that the Bullock did die by a Frightful & most Precise manner; of the Accessory of Mrs. Latch & her Hound has there been much Doubt, & had she been not Abroad that night yet was seen keeping to her Husband's house; indeed did Mr. Johnson spake that she is rare seen Beyond it. The Justice spake that he should not credit a syphilitic Dog (nor anie Great Bird) with Victory over an ungelded Bullock - & were it plainly viewed that only much & Skilled application by a Blade might manufacture such Wounds.

*** A Disruption of some Minutes proceeded thence by which the Prosecutor did make many Dangerous &

Superstitious Ejaculations upon such Matters, so vexed was he - & which pertained not to any of the charges at Hand - & did the Justice dismiss them & arraign the Prosecutor to Quiet lest they be entered in Record against him.

*** The Justice then spake that it was also known that the Accused had openly caused the small Matters of Mr. Awlbach's transgression (long since settled) to Grow within their Minds before that day - & had made Publick Designs upon him & open wished him Ruin - While words may have no Agency upon their own (so the Justice spake) the out-bursts & scolding Insolence of Mrs. Marchand this day has been no Friend to her - & it is had by the faithful View of a Man of God that she & her husband were upon the Heath disguised by an absence of Light that Night where none of their Sort had a busyness to be - & is it all-so known that Matthew

Marchand did always carry with him a Knife of which he has much Historic & sole skill & Practise.

*** It is rendered that the Accused did do this Thing - & that under Statutes current shall be taken to the gaol at Nighchester Town, & from that gaol upon the 30th of this month to a place of Execution - where shall they be hung the both by the necks until they are dead. Of Mrs. Latch it is required that she does repay to the Accused afore this date the fee of one Guinea, which did they pay to bless of their Son - for so spake the Justice that it may be plainly viewed that she had made false Advertizement of its Abilities. Mrs. Latch shall then be left to the mercy of the County, and (spake the Justice) that this had best be the end of such foolish Mattres in the Nighchester District.

*As witnessed & transcribed
by the Magistrate Wandley
August 1st.*

[47]

Here indicted before this Assizes sat upon the nineteenth day of August in this year seventeen hundred & sixty comes one Father - namely James Mockett of the village of Dunsley in the District of Lincoln Town - accused of the Rape by Negligence of his daughter Sally Mockett of that same place.

*** The Justices & men of the Jury here Circuited have heard of William Tenter (a physician of that District) - who did spake that the Prosecutor is grave with Child which has quickened this month gone, though she is but a Maid not fifteen years of Age - & that all who have Witnessed her spake that she has never been wanton & has kept herself to the House chaste & has never had any Man upon her. The Prosecutor did spake that one Month before she did view her Father plainly coming from his Work mining of ironstone in Nettleton -

which does lie beyond the hillock standing behind the House in which they both Dwell. The Prosecutor testified that the Accused was most drunken with Ale & standing atop the hillock's Peak & making his raw Water upon the Slope & singing much. All-so did she re-call that it did rain much in the days that Followed & much Liquid did come down off the hillock by way of Nature. The Prosecutor then did spake that her Chamber did lie upon the Backmost walls of the house which do abut the foot of that Hillock - & that for some Month had there been a great Hole in the plaster which did admit the Damp. She did profess that she had asked her Father to repair the hole many Times for she oft woke surrounded by soiled Watre - yet lately had he still not. It was viewed that upon that Week & some days afre her Fathre had made his Watre thus the Weather had been very hot & Muggish in that Place & had the Prosecutor been drove to sleep upon the bare floor of the Chamber that Night to cool her Flesh &

