

A SECOND  
AND MOST EXACT  
RELATION  
OF THOSE SAD  
AND LAMENTABLE  
Accidents, which happened in  
and about the Parish Church of

*Wydecombe neere the Dartmoores,*  
in *Devonshire*, on Sunday  
the 21. of *October* last,  
1638.

PSAL. 46. 8.

*Come, behold the workes of the Lord, what desolations  
hee hath made in the earth.*



LONDON,

Printed by G.M. for R. Harford, and are to be sold at his  
shop in *Queenes-head-alley* in *Pater-noster-row* at the  
guilt Bible, 1638.

A SECOND  
 AND MOST  
 RELATION  
 OF THE  
 AND LAMENTABLE  
 Accidents, which happened in  
 and about the Parish Church of  
 Westminster near the Darnmoor,  
 in the year of our Lord  
 1678.

Printed by G. M. for R. Hurford and are to be sold at his  
 shop in Great-Bridgewater in the Strand



LONDON

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 shop in Great-Bridgewater in the Strand

To the Reader.

thou shalt find here annexed fol-



*To the Reader.*

and please to observe what thou  
 hadst not before shall only be supplied



Here present thee with a  
 second Relation of that  
 wonderfull accident,  
 which the printing of  
 the former Book hath  
 given occasion of.

Having now received  
 a full and perfect Relation as is possible  
 to be hoped for, or procured, assuring  
 thee it is not grounded on information  
 taken up at second hand, but those per-  
 sons being now come to London, who  
 were eye witnesses herein, and the chief-  
 est discoverers of the effects of these ter-  
 rible accidents; although thou hadst the  
 truth in part before, yet not the title  
 thereof; the full relation whereof

*To the Reader.*

thou shalt finde here annexed following after the former Relation, supplied in all those particulars, wherein there was any defect before; supposing it better to annexe it then to dissolve and blend it with the former; what thou hadst not before shall onely be supplied now, and no more, and what thou findest not here, take to be true, as they are expressed there, and although it be larger then our former, yet wee desired in penning thereof not to trouble thee with many words, but onely the substance of this sad matter, as concisely as we could, and though the price be more, yet suspend thy censure till thou hast perused it, and then it may be thou wilt give him thanks, who hath bene at the paines to add this to the former, which hee would not have done, unlesse hee could render it upon very good authority and testimony of witnesses more then needfull: wee know fame and report varie exceedingly, not knowing wherein to pitch

*To the Reader.*

pitch our beleefe, for it much increaseth or diminisheth by flying, according to the apprehension and memory both of the givers out, and takers up; but take this on his word, who onely wisheth and intendeth thy good.

*Farewell.*



(1)



A TRUE  
RELATION OF  
those most strange and lamen-  
table Accidents, happening  
in the Parish Church of Wyde-  
combe in Devonshire on  
Sunday the 21. of October.  
1638.

**G**ODS visible Iudge-  
ments, and terrible  
remonstrances (which  
every morning are  
brought to light) com-  
ming unto our know-  
ledge, should bee our observation and  
admonition, *that thereby the inhabitants*  
of

(2)

of the earth may learne Righteous-  
nesse, for to let them passe by us (as wa-  
ter runnes by our doores) unobserved;  
argues too much regardlesnesse of  
GOD in the way of his Iudgements:  
not to suffer them to linke into our  
affections, and to proove as so many  
terrible warning pieces, which are shot  
off from a watch Tower, to give no-  
tice of an enemies approach, to  
awaken and affright us; are but a meanes  
to harden our hearts against the Lord,  
and to awaken his Iustice to punish us  
yet more: But to heare and feare and to  
doe wickedly no more; to search our  
hearts and amend our waies is the best  
use that can bee made of any of  
GODS remarkable terrors manife-  
sted among us. When GOD is an-  
gry with us, it ought to be our wisdom  
to meete him, and make peace with  
him: And where wee see legible Cha-  
racters of his power and wrath; to  
learne to spell out his meaning tou-  
ching

*Pena paucorū  
terror omnium.*

(3)

ching our selves; to leave off all busie, malitious, causlesse, and unchristianly censuring of others, and to turne in upon our selves, remembring, *Vel penitendum, vel pereundum*. Except wee repent, wee shall likewise perish. Certaine it is that wee doe in vaine expect immunity from GODS Judgements by sleighting, or contemning them, or increasing in our sinnings against him. If *Pharoah* by the terrour of thundring and lightning was so affrighted that hee saith to *Moses*, *Intreat the Lord (for it is enough) that there bee no more mighty thundrings and Haile*. And if *Caligula*, out of the feare of thunder, would runne under his bed to hide himselfe: How much more should we Christians learne to feare and tremble before the most mighty GOD, whose voice only can shake the mountaines and rend the rocks, and divide the flames of fire; rends Churches, amazeth, and strikes dead at his pleasure the sonnes of

Luk. 13. 5.

Exo 9. 28.

Psal. 29.

(4)

of men? as the Prophet *David* saith, *Hee doth whatsoever hee pleaseth in Heaven and Earth, Hee causeth the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth, and maketh lightnings for the raine, and bringeth the winde out of the treasures of the earth, so unsearchable is his Wisedome, and his waies past finding out*. Therefore this should awe and humble our hearts before the LORD, rising up unto more perfection in godlinesse, doing unto our GOD, more and better service then ever hitherto wee have done, reverencing and sanctifying his dreadfull Name in our hearts: especially when his Judgements breake in upon men, even in his owne house, mingling their bloud with their sacrifices, and that in a most terrible manner smiting, and wounding, and killing, as in this ensuing Relation may appeare: which for the suddennesse and strangenesse thereof, and in a manner miraculous, considering the many circumstances, I

B 2

beleve

(5)

believe few Ages can paralell, or produce the like. The Lord teach thee to profit thereby, that it may bee as a Sermon preached to thee from Heaven by the Lord himselfe.



pon Sunday the 21. of October last, In the Parish Church of Wydecombe neere the Dartmoores in Devon-

shire, there fell in time of Divine Service a strange darknesse, increasing more and more, so that the people there assembled could not see to reade in any booke, and suddenly in a fearefull and lamentable manner, a mighty thundering was heard, the rattling whereof did answer much like unto the sound and report of many great Cannons, and terrible strange lightening therewith, greatly amazing those that heard and

believe

B

saw

(6)

saw it, the darknesse increasing yet more, till they could not see one another; the extraordinarie lightening came into the Church so flaming, that the whole Church was presently filled with fire and smoke, the smell whereof was very loathsome, much like unto the sent of brimstone, some said they saw at first a great fiery ball come in at the window and passe thorough the Church, which so affrighted the whole Congregation that the most part of them fell downe into their seates, and some upon their knees, some on their faces, and some one upon another, with a great cry of burning and scalding, they all giving up themselves for dead, supposing the last Iudgement day was come, and that they had beene in the very flames of Hell.

The Minister of the Parish, Master George Lyde, being in the Pulpit or seate where prayers are read, however hee might bee much astonished

lest

B 3

hereat,

(7)

hereat, yet through **G O D S** mercy had no other harme at all in his body; but to his much griefe and amazement, beheld afterward the lamentable accidents; and although himselfe was not touched, yet the lightening seized upon his poore Wife, fired her ruffe and linnen next to her body, and her cloathes; to the burning of many parts of her body in a very pitifull manner. And one Mistresse *Ditford* sitting in the pew with the Ministers wife, was also much scalded, but the maid and childe sitting at the pew dore had no harme. Beside, another woman adventuring to run out of the Church, had her cloathes set on fire, and was not only strangely burnt and scorched, but had her flesh torne about her back almost to the very bones. Another woeman had her flesh so torne and her body so grievously burnt, that she died the same night.

Also one Master *Hill* a Gentleman of good account in the Parish, sitting in his  
seate

(8)

seate by the Chancell, had his head suddenly smitten against the wall, through the violence whereof he died that night, no other hurt being found about his body; but his sonne sitting in the same seate had no harme. There was also one man more, at the same instant, of whom it is particularly related, who was Warriner unto Sir *Richard Reynolds*, his head was cloven, his skull rent into three peeces, and his braines throwne upon the ground whole, and the haire of his head, through the violence of the blow at first given him, did sticke fast unto the pillar or wall of the Church, and in the place a deepe bruise into the wall as if it were shot against with a Cannon bullet.

Some other persons were then blasted and burnt, and so grievously scalded and wounded, that since that time they have died therof; and many other not like to recover, notwithstanding all the meanes that can bee procured to helpe them.

Some

Some had their cloathes burnt and their bodies had no hurt, and some on the contrary, had their bodies burnt, and their cloathes not touched, and some their stockings and leggs burnt and scalded, and their outward buskings not one thred singed. But it pleased GOD yet in the midst of judgement to remember mercy, sparing some and not destroying all, yet very many were sorely scalded in divers parts of their bodies, and as all this hurt was done upon the bodies of men and women, so the hurt also that was then done unto the Church was remarkable.

There were some Seates in the Body of the Church turned upside downe, and yet they which sate in them had little or no hurt; also a Boy sitting on a seate had his hat on, and neare the one halfe thereof was cut off, and he had no hurt. And one man going out at the Chancell doore, a Dogg running out before him, was whirled  
about

about towards the doore and fell downe starke dead: at the sight whereof hee stepped backe within the doore, and GOD preserved him alive. Also the Church it selfe was much torne and defaced by the thunder and lightning; and thereby also a beame was burst in the midst, and fell downe betweene the Minister and Clarke and hurt neither; and a weighty great stone, neare the Foundation of the Church is torne out and remooved, and the steeple it selfe is much rent, and there where the Church was most rent, there was least hurt done to the people, and not any one was hurt either with the wood or stone, but a maid of *Manaton*, which came thither that afternoone to see some friends, whom Master *Frynd* the *Coroner* by circumstances, supposed shee was kild with a stone. There were also stones throwne from the Tower and carried about a great distance from the Church, as thick as if a hundred men had beene  
C there

there throwing, and a number of them of such weight and bignesse, that the strongest man cannot lift them. Also one Pinacle of the Tower was torne downe and broke through into the Church.

Moreover the Pillar against which the Pulpit standeth, being but newly whited, is now by this meanes turned black and sulphry. Furthermore, one man that stood in the Chancell, with his face toward the Bellfrey, observed as it were the rising of dust or lime, in the lower end of the Church, which suddenly (as with a puffle of winde) was whirled up and cast into his eyes, so that hee could not see in twelve houres after; but now his sight is restored, and hee hath no other hurt. The terrible lightening being past, all the people being in a wonderfull maze, so that they spake not one word, by and by one Master *Raph Rouse*, Vintner in the Towne, stood up, saying these words, Neighbours, in the name of God shall

shall we venture out of the Church, to which *M. Lyde* answering, said, it is best to make an end of prayers, for it were better to die here then in another place, but they looking about them, and seeing the Church so terribly rent and torne, durst not proceed in their publike devotions, but went forth of the Church.

And as all this was done within the Church, and unto the Church; so there were other accidents without the Church; of which I will give you a touch. There was a Bowling-alley neare unto the Church-yard, which was turned up into pits and heapes, in manner almost as if it had beene plowed. At the same time also at *Brixston* neare *Plymouth*, there fell such store of Haile, and such Haile-stones, that for quantity they were judged to be as big as ordinary Turkies eggs; some of them were of five, some of six, and others of seven ounces weight.

We are also certainly informed that

at the same time, as neare as it can be guessed, there fell out the like accident unto the Church at Norton in Somersetshire, but as yet wee heare of no persons hurt therein: Also it is related by a Gentleman who travelled in those parts at that time, hee being since come to London, that where he was the lightening was so terrible, fiery and flaming, that they thought their houses at every flash were set on fire, in so much that their horses in the stable were so affrighted that they could not rule them.



His Church of Wydecombe being a large and faire Church newly trim'd, and there belonging to it a very faire Steeple or Tower, with great and small pinacles thereon, it being one of the famousst Towers in all those Westerne parts;

parts; and there being gathered a great Congregation, to the number, as is verily beleev'd, of at least 300. persons.

Master Lyde with many others in the Church did see presently after the darknesse, as it were a great ball of fire, and most terrible lightening come in at the window, and therewithall the rooffe of the Church in the lower part against the Tower to rend and gape wide open, whereat he was so amazed, that hee fell downe into his seate, and unspeakeable are the mighty secret wonders the Lord wrought immediately, of which, because thou hast the generall Relation before; I will give thee this as neare as can be discovered in the order and course thereof, which first began in the Tower, and thence into the Church, the power of that vehement and terrible blast struck in at the North-side of the Tower, tearing through a most strong stone-wall into the staires, which goes up round with stone steps to the top of the leades, and

being gotten in, struck against the other side of the wall, and finding not way forth there, it rebounded back againe with greater force to that side next the Church, and piercing through right against the higher window of the Church, rooke the greatest part thereof with it and likewise some of the stones, and frame of the window, and so struck into the Church, comming with a mighty power it struck against the North-side wall of the Church, as if it were with a great Cannon bullet or somewhat like thereto, and not going through, but exceedingly shaking and battering the wall, it tooke its course directly up that Ile strait to the Pulpit or Seate where Master Lyde sate, and in the way thence going up it tooke all the lime and sand of the wall, and much grated the stones thereof, and tore off the side desk of the Pulpit, and upon the Pulpit on the side thereof it was left as black and moist as if it had beene newly wiped with Inke.

Then

Then it goes strait up in the same Ile, and strook off all the hinder part of the Warriners head, the braines fell backward intire and whole into the next seate behind him, and two peeces of his scull, and dast his blood against the wall, the other peece of his scull fell into the seate where he sate, and some of the skin of his head, flesh and haire was carried into the Chancell, and some of his haire to the quantity of a handfull, stuck fast as with lime and sand newly tempered upon one of the barres of the timber-work partission betweene the Church and Chancell. And one man who sate next to the Warriner in the same seate, was scalded and all burnt on that side next the Warriner, from the very head to the foot, and no hurt at all on the other side. And in the second seate behind him was another struck, in a most fearefull manner; for he was so burned and scalded all over his body, from his forehead downward below his knees,

in

in so much that hee was all over like raw flesh round about, and which is most wonderfull his cloathes not once hurt; neither his head nor haire, who notwithstanding died not then, but lived in great misery above a week after.

But to goe on in our Relation. It is supposed (it having beene since by divers judiciously viewed) that here the power or force divided it selfe two waies; one part whereof struck out of the window over their heads, vvhich tore out and carried away some great stones out of the vvall vvith the vwindow, and further they could not trace it, but vvith the force of the stroake at going forth, it struck the lime and sand on the vvall vvith many small stones, or grit, so forcibly, that the lime, sand, and grit returned backe like haile-shot to the other side of the vvall vvhere men did sit, and struck into their faces, much disfiguring them, and smote into the vvall,  
and

and into the timber of the partition, some of vvhich stones could not bee pickt out till the next day following.

But the other part of the force descended to the bottome of the wall just before the Warriners seate, and there peirced in, heaving up all the vvall in that place, rending and tearing it from the very ground, as high almost as the height of a man, there it broke through into the Chancell, and about the number of eight boyes sitting about the rayles of the Communion Table, it tooke them up from the seates and threw them all on heapes vvithin the rayles, and not one of them hurt, and one of them having his hat lying upon the raile, it was cut and burned halfe away.

Then it went directly over to the other side of the Chancell, and struck Master Hill mortally in his head, so that hee died that night; but his Sonne,

sitting as close by him as one man can fit by another, for the seate would hold but two, hee had no harme at all, not so much as once singed. But it struck against the vvall so forcibly, that it beate in the vvall behind him as if it had beene shot against with a Cannon bullet, as it is expressed in the former Relation; but there not going through, it recoiles backe againe, coming about the Chancell, as it is conceived, and tore out violently one of the great side stones of the Chancell doore against vvhich it smote, cleaving it all to peeces, and there it is supposed it went forth; but some reasons there are to thinke it did not, for none of the peeces of the side stone were carried out with it, but fell downe within the Chancell: besides, the consideration of the mighty strange and secret workes thereof in the body of the Church, for there it had rent and tore and flung about marvellously.

The

The seates where men and women sate were rent up, turned upside downe, and they that sate in them had no harme; also many of those pewes and seates rent quite from the bottome as if there had beene no seates there, and those that sate in them, when they came to themselves, found that they vv ere throwne out their owne into other seates three or foure seates higher, and yet had no harme. And moreover all the wood, timber and stones were torne all to peeces, and violently throwne every way to the very walles of the Church round about.

One man sitting upon the Church-Beere, at the lower end, the Beere was struck and torne, and hee that sate thereon was throwne into one of the pewes by the wall side, a good distance off.

Many also both men and women being very much burned and scalded in diuers places of their bodies, and

after divers manners, to the number of fiftie or sixtie; among whom *Mistresse Eyde* the Ministers wife was one, who suffered herein as it is related in the former. And also *Mistresse Ditford* her gowne, two waistcoates, and linnen next her body, burned cleane off; and her back also very grievously downe to her waste burned and scalded, and so exceedingly afflicted thereby, shee could neither stand nor goe without helpe, being lead out of the Church. And one antient woman was so terribly burnt, and her flesh torne, especially her hand, the flesh was so rotten and perished, her hand is cut off that it might not endanger her arme; and many of those that were then burned and scalded have since died there of.

And furthermore, all the rooffe of the Church is terribly torne, and a great part thereof broken into the Church by some great stones, that were torne  
off

off the Tower; and all the other part hangs fearefully, all ragged and torne in divers places, ready to drop downe; it tore likewise all the windowes, shooke and rent the Church walls in divers places, but the Chancell rooffe had little or no hurt. Moreover a Beame was burst in sunder vvhich fell downe betweene the Minister and Clarke, yet hurt neither. Nor vvas there in all this time any one hurt either vvith stick or stone, but onely one man that had a little bruise on his backe; and as there vvas least hurt done where the timber and stone fell most; so on the contrary; vvhere no timber nor stone fell, there vvas most hurt done. And all this vvhile, after the first terrible noise and lightening, not one in the Church can remember they either heard or saw any thing, being all deadly astonished.

And vvhen the lightening vvas past, the people being still in a maze, not  
one

one could speake a word to another, but by and by Master *Rouse* came a little to himselfe, standing up, spake as in the former Relation, and speaking to Master *Lyde*, hee also thereupon began to recover himselfe, and answered as well as hee could tremblingly, as is expressed before, not knowing of any hurt that vvas done either to his Wife or any else; but they looking about them, saw a very thick mist, with smother, smoake and smell, in so much, that they nor any there saw the danger over their heads. But they two going forth together at the Chancell doore, they saw the Dogg whited up some height from the ground, taken up and let downe againe three times together, and at last fell downe stone dead, all the lightening being past, neither could they see any thing at all neare the Dogg.

Then presently the rest of the people scrabled forth the Church as well

as

as they could; the mist and smother going away by degrees, but not quite gone in halfe an houre after: And being come forth they saw their danger, which before they knew not; for the Tower and Church was grievously crackt, and shattered; And some of the stones on the Church and Tower torne off, and throwne every way round about, and huge waighty stones split all too pecces, some throwne distant from the Church at least an hundred yards. And one great stone like a massie rocke, vvas carried off the pinnacle all over the East end of the Church, and over the Church-yard, and into another close over the hedge, there it grays'd, breaking up the ground deeply; and as it is imagined, it was done by that massie stone, which was carried at least ten yards beyond, and there bruised the ground very deepe, where it lay unmooveable.

And on the other side of the Church, there

there is a bowling-greene, torne up  
and spoyled with stones as before;  
Among many others there fell therein  
one great broad stone, like a Table,  
and in the fall was broken all to peeces,  
they being struck edge-waies into the  
ground, also many great stones were  
sunke so deepe on all sides the Church,  
that some were struck in even with  
the ground, and some lower. Some  
stones were throwne over Master *Rouse*  
his house an hundred yards from the  
Church, and sunke into the earth not  
to bee seene, but onely the hole  
where the stone went downe; and Ma-  
ster *Rouse* his House, on that side next  
the Church, was torne up, the cove-  
ring carried off, and one of the rafters  
broke into the House.

Then a while after, before night,  
they adventured into the Church to  
ferch out the dead bodies, some where-  
of being brought forth, and laid in  
the Church-yard; there was then  
pre-

present a woman, being till that time  
much aston'd, comming better to her  
selfe, upon sight of the dead bo-  
dies remembred, that shee brought  
her childe to Church with her, they  
then going in to seeke for it, found her  
childe going hand in hand with ano-  
ther little childe, being met comming  
downe one of the lles, and had no  
hurt, nor seemed not to bee any thing  
frighted by their countenances; nei-  
ther was there any children in the  
Church hurt at all: but the other  
childs mother was gone home, never  
remembring shee had a childe till it was  
brought to her.

But as strange a thing as any of  
these was that, concerning *Robert Meade*  
the Warriner; he being not mist all this  
while, immediatly Master *Rouse* his  
deare acquaintance remembred him,  
and seeing him not, nor none know-  
ing what was become of him, Master  
*Rouse* stepping to the window, looked  
E into

into the Church where the Warriner  
 used to sit, and there saw him sitting  
 in his Seate, leaning upon his elbow,  
 his elbow resting upon the deske be-  
 fore him, hee supposed him to bee a  
 sleepe, or aston'd, not yet come to  
 himselfe, hee calling to awake him,  
 wondered hee made no answer, then  
 his love to him caused him to venter  
 into the Church, to jogg him awake,  
 or to remember him, and then to his  
 much griefe hee perceived his friend  
 to bee a dead man; for all the hinder  
 part of his head was cleane cut off  
 and gone round about his neck,  
 and the fore-part not disfigured, as  
 they supposed when they drew neare  
 him.

The Lord of the Mannor of *Wyde-  
 combe* hearing of this sadd accident,  
 sent his man, *David Barry*, that night  
 thither, to heare what newes, and to see  
 what hurt was done, but it being darke,  
 hee could see nothing that night, but

onely

onely heare their Relations. But on  
 Munday the day following, they came  
 to take notice, and view the ruines  
 of the Church, and what accidents  
 had fallen out; then all this Relation  
 was made apparant to him, and I may  
 safely say, to thousands more of Wit-  
 nesses, that are ready to give testimony  
 to all this Relation.

But having seene and observed as  
 much as they could about the Church;  
 the Tower being locked up; what hurt  
 was done there, was as yet unknowne:  
 there being then a motion made to  
 open the doore to see what hurt, no  
 man was found willing to adventure,  
 much lesse ascend up therein, all the  
 people being as yet in a terrible  
 feare; the remembrance of their  
 great hurts and dangers, being so  
 fresh in their mindes; for some be-  
 ing to bee buried in the Church  
 that afternone, as namely, *Master  
 Hill*, and *Robert Meade*, their graves  
 being

being close by one another; the Minister read the buriall to both at once, and when hee came to those words, *Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust*, the fall whereof making a sudden noise upon the Coffins, made them all in a great feare runne out of the Church, tumbling over one another, supposing that the Church was falling on their heads.

But the said *David* resolved to venture himselfe to discover what hee could, and calling for the key to open the doore, it was brought by the Sextone, yet they all perswaded him not to venture, for the Tower was so crazie, torne, and shattered, that they were all of opinion it might fall, as they might well judge by the outside; but hee putting in the key to open the doore, it would not unlocke it, but runne quite through; then the Sextone hee trying, also could finde no lock, and yet the doore still fast, then an

Iron

Iron barre being used to force it off the hinges, it could not bee done thereby, till at last hee espying the bolt of the lock shot into the staple, desired them to hold the doore up with the barre, that hee might put in his arme to put backe the lock, and found there all the wood and wards of the lock gone, then the doore being with much adoe forced open, the said *David* was to goe up first, and the Sextone to follow him, where hee found so much rubbish and stone tumbled downe, that he could hardly creepe up; hee having his sword by his side, it troubled him, hee put it off, wishing the Clarke to hold it, while hee made way; but as they ascended, there came downe the staires a most loathsome smell beyond expression, as it were of Brimstone, pitch and sulphur; hee notwithstanding adventured higher, but the Sextons stomacke and courage being overcome,

come, partly by his feare, and also by the smell, hee returned backe in a great fright, complaining hee was poisoned.

A multitude of people being there to observe the discovery, come from divers places thereabouts, to see and heare of this spreading ill newes, as daily multitudes doe resort thither for that purpose, they all stood at a distance, waiting what could be found, but they not knowing what was become of him, because the Sextone was so frightened, none daring to come neare to looke after him. But hee getting (with great difficulty, and danger of his life at every step) up to the first story, there hee viewed it, and found no hurt done, but getting with greater difficulty up to the Bell-roome, hee toled all the Bells to see if they were found or no, then the people much rejoyced, supposing hee was well.

Then

Then looking over head hee saw all the Ioyces and timber under the leads carried away, all rent and torne fearefully, except one beame under the middle which was bowed downe, and a great number of stones lying on the leads in a very strange and dangerous manner, but his heart encouraging him to venture yet higher, hee attempted the leads, and getting up to the doore, hee saw a great danger over his head, at the sight whereof his heart began to faile him, for the stones were carried cleane away under the inside next the Church, and on the outside so shaken that very little upheld them, then espying yet more danger then before, hee saw a great stone over his head, (as hee supposed) ready to drop downe upon him, that hee knew not whether to stay or goe downe, for feare of the falling thereof, then attempting to throw it downe, cryed as loud as hee possibly could,

could, being at the top, to stand cleare, for feare of danger hee catching hold on somewhat over his head, hung by his hands, and with his feet touched the weighty stone, which tumbled downe the staires, never resting till it came to the bottome, then all the people at the fall thereof thought hee was kild, but he presently comming downe into the Bell-roume, toled the Bells againe, and thereby removed their feare.

Then comming downe lower, in one place in the staires, close by the place where the Tower was most rent and shaken, there hee espied a thing very strange to him, as if it had beene a Cannon discharged full of powder, and as if a bullet withall struck and shooke it, and finding no way out, recoyled backe to another side, and there rent out a great part of the Tower, with mighty stones; and but a little above it, there was a round patch

patch, as broad as a bushell, which looked thick, slimy and blacke, and blacke round about it, to which hee put his hand, and felt it soft, and bringing some thereof in his hand from the wall, came downe the staires to the people, and shewed them that strange compound, all much wondered thereat; and were affrighted, none knowing what it might bee, it was like slimy powder, tempered with water, hee smelling thereto, it was so odious even beyond expression, and in a farre higher degree of loathsomenesse, then the sent which was in the Church or Tower when they first smelt it, it being of the same kinde; they supposing that strong smell came from that, which did overcome the Sextones and this searchers stomacke almost.

Yet all this while found himselfe reasonable well, though much offended with smells; and going home with Master Lyde to supper, hee lodged

ged at Master *Rouses*, and went well to bed, and an hour after, hee felt something come upon him (as hee thought) on the outside of his waste and belly, as if it were a cord twisted about him, two men pulling it with great strength, which griped him in that unspeakeable manner three or foure times, that hee thought himselfe cut in sunder therewith, not having any breath, nor none knowing what to doe to him, hee could take nothing downe at present to ease him, but by and by ridding his stomacke by vomiting, being in a great and terrible sweat all this while, in so much that the sheetes wherein he lay might have beene wringed, at last came up such a loathsome vomit that smelt of the same nature that that did which he brought out of the Steeple, and after this taking some rest he was very well in the morning.

All which most sad and lamentable Spectacles were done (as it were) in a moment of time. This

This is the Summe of those dismall accidents and terrible examples happening in the place aforesaid. And the maine drift in the publication of this great Iudgement, is for thy humiliation and edification, not onely to acquaint thee with the great and mighty works of Gods Power and Iustice, who in a moment can doe mighty things to us, and arme the creatures against us at his owne pleasure, but also to moove pittie and compassion in us towards our Brethren who were patients therein, not judging them greater sinners then our selves; but beleeving, *That except wee also repent and sinne no more, wee shall likewise perish, or worse things befall us.* Which Relation you can difficultly reade without sighs, nor understand without teares. I know it is the fashion of too too many to question and talke, and make things of this nature, but a nine dayes wonder: But let us not deceive our selves

any longer, but consider, we  
 have beene lookers on a great while,  
 and others have beene made our exam-  
 ples, and felt the smart at home and  
 abroad, whilst wee have gone free;  
 but wee know not how soone our  
 turnes and changes may come; these  
 accidents might as well have happened  
 to us as them; the LORD therefore in much  
 mercy fit us both for the worst of times  
 and the best of Ends. I end all with  
 that prayer in our Letany, commending  
 thee and this to the blessing of the Al-  
 mighty.

*From lightning and tempest, from Plague,  
 Pestilence and Famine, from Bat-  
 tell and murder, and from  
 suddaine death.*

*Good LORD deliver us.*

FINIS.

*Imprimatur*

THO: WYKES. R.P. Ep. Lond.

*Cap. Domest.*

November 27.

1638.