

A Strange Report of Six most notorious

Witches, who by their diuclish practises
murdred about the number of foure
hundred small Children: besides the
great hurtes they committed vpon
diuers other people:

Who for the same, and many other like offences,
were executed in the princely Cittie of
Manchen in high *Germanie* the.29.
of Iuly. 1600.

Printed at *Nyremberge* by *Lucas Mayr* Ingrauer, dwelling
in *Kramergesse*: and now translated out of
Dutch, according to the same Coppy
there imprinted.



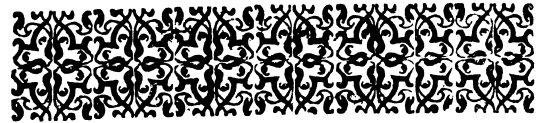
AT LONDON,
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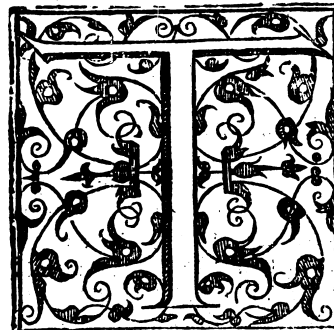
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The strange Report of Sixe most notorious Witches.



Here is not anie
Christian (I am
sure) but in heart
will relent, and
with great admi-
ration, lift vp his
eyes toward hea-
uen, and stande a-
mazed at the wic-
ked practises of sixe
of the most notori-
ous wicked Wit-

ches that euer they heard of: who (giuing both bo-
dyes and soules to eternall damnation) committed
so many inhumaine Murders, so many strange
Robberies, Pillages, and Riottes; spoyling both
Cozne and Cattle: causing strange hayle and tem-
pest, and such like annoyances to the inhabitantes
of Germanie, that I thinke it a matter worthy to be
kept in memozie, whereby the Shamefull end of such
malafactors, may serue as a notable example to
our eyes, a grieffe to the godly, and a terrour to the
wicked and reprobate people. The names of these
vile offendours, and of their wicked dealings, here-
after followeth.

¶ II.

¶ first,

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First, Paule Gamperle, *alias* Poppenhamor.

Second, Anne Gamperle, wife to the said Paule.

Third, Simon Gamperle, }
Fourth, Iacob Gamperle, } their two Sonnes.

Fifth, Vllrich Scheltibaum, Armozour.

Sixth, George Smallcs, Taylor.

These sixe persons, being many yeeres (before this) helde in great suspition for practising Witchcraft, yet not any sufficient proove thereof, were now taken altogether, neare to the Towne of Detwenge, in a Caue or Vault deepe in the ground, where many times before they had likewise met, and as they thought, there to remaine still secure from the knowledge of their neighbours, sel to their accustomed practises: and by their Witchcraftes rayled so great a storme or tempest, that all the Townes and Villages were greatly indamaged thereby: But God not suffering these like offences to remaine any longer vndiscovered, brought all their actions to light: and by the howling of a Dogge stroken madd with the fearefullnes of that tempest, certaine of their neighbours were brought to the sayd Caue or Vault, where they weare all sice attached, and the next day, being the. xxiii. of July, were brought before the Governour of Man-

Sixe most notorious VVitches.

chen, who finding them guiltie by their examinations, commaunded them to prison,

But now marke what happened: the Governours Clarke or Secretarie, when he tooke paper in his hand to make a Warrant, sodaynely both his feete were taken from him: by reason whereof he had such a fall, that the huckle bone of his thigh was stroken out of toynt, whereof within thre dayes after he dyed.

Herevpon the Governour commaunded them to be searcht by his Officers, where they founde hidden vnder every one of their cloathes next to their skinnes, a bagge of Swines dounge: which being taken away, strouke so fylthely, that no man could indure the smell. And in Paule Gamperles boosome, (being their principall, or ring-leader) they founde a duellish Booke of Coniuration, and the picture of a man made in Tinne, holding in his hande a scroole or writing, conteyning these thre wordes, *Magoll, Cumath, Hellbeza*: By the same, were so plainly manifested their wicked practises, that they immediately confessed (without any further trouble) all their murders and execrable feates that ever they had committed in their life times, as it doth well appeare hereafter.

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The Confession of Paule Gamperle.

PAule Gamperle, *alias* Poppenhamor, of the age of eight and fiftie yeeres, confessed that he had vsed the practise of Witch-craft from his childhood, and that he had bin trained by in the same by his olde Graundmother, a woman dead many yeeres agoe.

In like maner he confessed, that he had murdered in his time by Witch-craft and sozcery, about the number of a hundzed small children.

In like maner he confessed, that he had made lame and crooked ten of the richest Cittizens of Manchen, because they would not forgiue him certaine debts he owed them.

In like maner he confessed, that by Witch-craft he had made away two of his Uncles, to come by their goodes.

In like maner he confessed ten Church-robberies, fiftene Murthers by the high wayes side, robberies by night in Marchants-sellers by him selfe done foure and thwentie seuerall times: and that no locke nor doore could withstand him, but by Witch-craft he could make sie open.

Finally, he confessed that in his life time, he had by night spered eight of his neighbours houses, whereby were burned in theyr beddes both men, women, and children, to the number of sixtene: besides diuers other mitchiefes by him committed, to the great annoyances of the whole Countrey.

Six most notorious VVitches.

The Confession of Anne Gamperle.

ANne Gamperle his wife, of the age of thre score yeeres, confessed that in her life time, she had murdered likewise by Witch-craft to the number of a hundzed small children.

In like maner she confessed, that she had defozmed and made crooked, and withall murdered by Witch-craft, to the number of ninetene olde people.

In like maner she confessed, that by Witch-craft she had caused an Inkeopers wife to runne into a hotte burning Duen, where she burned her selfe to death: and likewise caused the same womans husband to be so miserably bered, that he thrust his head into a swelling Tubbe full of Swines meate, and there smothered him selfe.

In like maner she confessed, that she had spoiled Cattle in great abundance, with Cozne vpon the ground often times: and that she had set fier vpon two Hey stacks, which had fiered a whole Village, had not helpe of people preuented it. From the like, God of his mercie deliuer vs All.

The

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The Confession of Simon Gamperle.

Simon Gamperle their naturall sonne, of the age of two and twentieth yeares, confessed that he had murdered by Witchcraft, to the number of thirtie small Children, beside sixe old folkes which he likewise made crooked and lame, and after killed.

Moreouer he confessed, that he had committed nine Church robberies, foure robberies by the high way side, twelue robberies done in Marchants Ware-houses: byot, and Pillage, committed by night sixe times: spoyled with Hayle and Tempests Cattell and Groundes often times.

Moreouer he confessed, that by Witch-craft he had made himselfe invincible, by which meanes, he alone set vpon sixe persons at a time, and robbed them, and after killed them every one: with many other practises of theft and murder, which here I omit.

The Confession of Iacob Gamperle.

Iacob Gamperle their other Sonne, of the age of one and twentieth yeares, confessed that he had murdered to the number of thre score and five small Children: beside five old folkes that he had made lame and crooked, and after murdered.

Moreouer, he confessed five Church robberies, ten Robberies in Marchants houses, foure Robbe-

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ries committed by the high way: five houses set on fire, byots and Thefts by night in the streets, committed twelue severall times.

Moreouer he confessed, that by Witch-craft he had caused a heard of Cattell in a Tempest to be blowne into a riuier, and there drowned: and the said Tempest or storme to be so violent, that Trauellers could hardly trauell by the high way: with many other like wicked practises.

The Confession of Vllrich Schellibaum.

Vllrich Schellibaum of Detwenge, of the age of thre score and eight yeares, confessed that in his life time, he had murdered by Witch-craft to the number of thre score and ten small children, and had made crooked and killed thirtie olde folkes.

Moreouer, he confessed Robberies in Churches, and Marchants Sellars, thefts and murders by night, Cattell and Grounds spoyled, in such abundance and so often times, that he could not well reckon them.

The Confession of George Smaltes,

George Smaltes Caploz of Peon, of the age of fiftie yeares, confessed in his life time he had murdered to the number of thirtie sixe small Children, beside olde people made crooked & killed the number of fiftene: Murders by the high

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way,

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way, Robberies in Villages, firing of Houses, Robbing of Churches, I thinke it needes not to number done: but to conclude, it was his custome about the rest, to ransake by night dead mens graues, and to make pillage of what he there found whether it were linnen or otherwise: for badder liuers then these sixe were, I thinke are not now remayning vpon the earth. Therefore let all Christians pray, that God in his mercy may blesse vs & all others, from the like practises: and to wæde from the face of the earth all such like offenders as he did these, and with the like shame and punishment reward them O God I beseeche thee.

These aforesayd confessions being taken before the Souernour, and other Burgesses of the Cittie of Manchen, they were arraigned, convicted, and condemned: and vpon the nine and twentieth of July were executed in this maner and forme following.

First, they were all sixe brought before the towne house of Manchen, where the Woman (being placst betwixt her two Sonnes) had both her Brestes cut off: with the which Brestes, the Executioner stroke her thre times about the face: and in like maner her two Sonnes, who sat on each side of her, were like wise beaten about the face with their mothers Brestes thre times apeece. This beeing done in the presence of many people, the Woman had sixe stripes giuen her with a whip of twisted Water: and after, had both her Armes broken with a Whæle, and then set in a settle made of purpose:

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her body was immediatly burnt.

After this, the other siue men-Witches, had also sixe stripes apeece, and both their Armes likewise broken with a Whæle, and foure of them tyed vnto a stake in the same place, and burnt: But Paule Gamperle, the father and maister Witch of them all, was spitted aliue, and so roasted to death, and after had his body likewise burnt intoinders.

Thus gentle Reader, hast thou heard the life and death of these sixe most notorious and wicked Witches. for the truth wherof, let no man make doubt: for it is not onely reported of by many men of good sufficiencie, but translated out of the Dutch Coppy as it was there first imprinted. Therefore let vs all in general, fall downe vpon our knees, and with contrite hartes, desire of his Maiestie, by whose sufferance all theyr wicked practises were committed, that he will abate the pride and mallice of Sathan, now raigning amongst mankind, and to put in our hartes such strong fayth, that the like assaults neuer assaile vs, but that we may serue him in perfect loue and godlines, who is the mighty King of all Kinges: to whom be all prayse, glory, and dominion, for euer.
Amen.

FINIS.