

THE  
C A S E  
O F  
HENRY SIMONS,  
A Polish Jew Merchant;  
And his  
APPEAL to the PUBLIC  
thereon.

Now publish'd, with the  
TRYAL at CHELMSFORD,  
for the BENEFIT of Him and his  
unhappy Family.

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HENRY SIMONS

A Poetical Merchant;

And his

APPEAL to the Public

in

Now published, with the

TRIAL at CHELMSFORD,

for the Benefit of Him and his

Widow and Family.



LONDON

Printed and sold by all the Booksellers and  
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T O T H E  
P U B L I C .

**H**ENRY SIMONS, the Object before you, is a Native of *Ostrog* in *Volinia*, near the *Ukraine*, in *Poland*, and of a very good *Jewish* Family, for many Years past settled there, he (being early in Life bred to Trade) about Seven Years ago came into *England*, and then brought with him upwards of *Three hundred Ducats*, which he soon expended at *London* and *Bristol*, by purchasing the Manufactures of this Kingdom, with which he returned to *Poland*, where he sold them to Profit. The Advantage arising from his first Expedition induced him to a second Trial, flattering himself with the Hopes of Success equal to his former Undertaking; but, alas! this Journey proved very fatal to him, as will too evidently appear in the following plain Relation of the *Hardships* and *Cruelties* he has experienced since his Arrival in this Country. On the 8th of *August*, 1751, this Man came from *Holland* to *Harwich*; but, before he was permitted to go a-shore, he was examined by the proper Officer on board, who, in his Search, found nothing contraband; but, observing a Belt round his Body, with a Purse or Bag fastened thereto, his Curiosity led him to search that, but finding it contained a large Quantity of *Ducats* only, he permitted him to go from on board. With these Ducats, which amounted to Five hundred fifty-

four, he came to *London*, on the 12th Day of *August* 1751, and was recommended to lodge at the House of one *Berend Abrabams* in *Dukes Place*; here he was daily cheapening and marketing for various Commodities, till he determined to go on a Journey to *Bristol*, hoping to purchase Goods there at a greater Advantage than he could do in *London*. About Noon, on the 20th Day of *August*, he sat out in his *Polish* Garb, on foot, for *Bristol*; but, when he had got a little beyond *Hounslow* (it being rainy Weather, and finding his Feet sore and very much blistered) he resolved to return to *London*, and defer his going to *Bristol* for another Week, fearing, that so long a Journey in so unkind a Season, might not only greatly fatigue him, but probably prejudice his Health. In his Return to *London* he called at the House of one *Charles Ricketts*, who keeps the Sign of the *Rose and Crown* at *Smallbury Green*, where he enquired for Lodgings; but instead of meeting that Civility and good Usage which is due from Man to Man, and especially to *Strangers and Foreigners*, Persons entirely unacquainted with the Customs and Manners of the Country, he was treated with the utmost Ill-nature by the Landlord of the House. Whilst *Simons* was standing at the Door of this House, one *Thomas Asbley*, a Gardiner at *Isteworth*, who was greatly intoxicated with Liquor, came out with a Pint of Beer in his Hand, and said something in *English*; which *Simons* not understanding, he very innocently shook his Head. This, *Asbley* construing as an Affront, he without Ceremony thrust the Pint of Beer in *Simons's* Face, and pulled him by the Beard: This is one of the most unpardonable Insults that can be offered a Foreigner of his Religion; and therefore expecting something worse from a Person of *Asbley's* Stamp, he thought  
it

it most prudent to quit the Place quietly in quest of Hospitality and good Manners.

This sudden Departure irritated *Ashley* the more, who immediately followed him, as well as his Drunkenness would permit him, cursing and swearing all the Way, and calling out, *Stop Thief*; so unexpected a Noise alarmed *Simons*, who had so great a Charge of Money about him, and perceiving *Ashley* coming towards him as fast as he could, he relied on his own Speed and endeavoured to save himself by Flight, and luckily perceiving four Men on Horseback making up, he ventured betwixt their Horses, confiding in their Generosity for Protection and Assistance.

To the Honour of these Gentlemen (as *Englishmen*) be it spoken, he did not sue in vain for Succour; for they, observing the Distress and Anxiety he was in, generously prevented the Injury he would otherwise have suffered from *Ashley*, had he overtaken him. Mr. *Wright* of the *Temple Meuse*, one of the Number, asked the drunken Man, what was the Meaning of his crying out, *Stop Thief*, to which he replied, that the *Villain* (meaning *Simons*) had robbed him of his Beer. Upon this Declaration Mr. *Wright* said, if he had drank of his Beer he would call himself and pay for it, but if he attempted to pursue him any farther, he would horse-whip him; which *Ashley* not regarding, still endeavoured to follow the poor Man, but his Foot slipping, he fell down in the Road. This Opportunity *Simons* made use of to get clear off, and his Protectors generously stayed in the Road by *Ashley*, till they saw him under Cover of the Houses at *Brentford*.

*Ashley* being unable to rise, through Drunkenness, the Gentlemen went to the *Rose and Crown*, and Mr. *Wright* enquired of the Landlord, the

Meaning of *Ashley's* Behaviour to the poor Foreigner, which he said, was very cruel and unjust, and desired to know if he had behaved ill, by calling for Beer and not paying his Reckoning; but the Landlord said, he had in no wise behaved ill to any-body, and as he had drank no Beer, there was nothing for him to pay.

*Simons* lay that Night at the House of Mrs. *Mary Ridgeway* at *Brentford*, and on the Morrow left that Place and came to his Lodgings in Town, where he stayed till the 28th of *August*; and then the Blisters on his Feet being well, and the Weather, which had continued wet for several Days becoming fair, sat out again on his Journey to *Bristol*, with the *Five hundred fifty-four Ducats* in his Belt, which was round his Body. In his way thither, he called at the House of Mr. *J—b G—d*, an Inn-keeper, at *C—d-B—e*, with the *Five hundred and Fifty-four Ducats in his Belt*, and in the best manner he could, made them understand he wanted a Lodging; but Mr. *G—d* and Mrs. *P—n* his N—e, not liking his Appearance and Dress, did not chuse he should stay there. What a mortifying Circumstance must this be to a Man in the midst of Strangers! in a Country, the Language of which he does not understand, with a large Sum of Money about him, Night creeping upon him, only one other House in the Place where he could lodge, and even there he had been already refused Admittance. In this unhappy Dilemma, he knew not what to do; however, to convince *G—d* and his N—e that he was clean, he immediately shewed them his Arm and Bosom; but this having no Effect, and he suspecting no Ill from those he deemed (and as in Justice they ought to have been) his Protectors, turned the Purse of his Belt round, and took out several of  
his

his *Ducats* and shewed them, that they might have no Fear of his Inability to pay his Reckoning.

When *G—d* and his *N—e* perceived that *Simons* had a Charge of Money about him, a Bed was ordered to be made for him, and as he was somewhat fatigued with walking, he went to Bed early; where, in Defiance of every Law, both divine and human, he was very early in the Morning robbed and plundered of all his *Ducats*; whereupon, in extreme Agony, he opened one of the Windows, and, as well as he could in his Language, cried out for Aid; wherefore the Robbers returned, and one of them wounded him on the Head, and holding a Knife to his Throat, *threatened to kill him*, which he would certainly have done, had not his Companion dissuaded him from it.

After this Cruelty and Injustice, he knew not what to do, but judged it the safest to remain quiet 'till Morning; when, about Seven o'Clock, hearing the Family up, he came down Stairs and made known his Distress in the best Manner he could to *G—d's N—e*, and the Servants of the House, declaring, that he had been robbed of all his *Gelt* \* by *G—d* himself and another Person, who had inhumanly wounded him in the Head and Neck, which he shewed to all present. His Lamentations making some Noise and Confusion, *G—d* soon after came down Stairs, and was immediately made acquainted with the Affair; but, instead of making a Buffle and examining his Servants concerning the Matter, or taking *Simons* before a Magistrate, which one would imagine Prudence should have dictated to him (if innocent) but, on the contrary, he gave himself no manner of Trouble about it, and only laughed at and ridiculed the poor Man, as an In-

\* *Gelt*, i. e. Money in German.

ventor of Falshood. This Behaviour of G——d drew a Flood of Tears from *Simons*, who then sat out for *London*, flinging his empty Belt down at the Door, lamenting his hard Fate, and ruminating on his Distress. He had not got above half a Mile, but he perceived two Men following and calling after him; upon which, he stopped, and was by them carried back to G——d's House, for no other Purpose, than to be again jeered, ridiculed, and abused by G——d and his Servants.

This being the Treatment he met with from G——d, he made the best of his Way to *London*; and in the Afternoon of the 29th of *August* came to Mr. *Thomas Woodman*, Keeper of the *Poultry-Compter*, and by means of his Under-keeper, who understood *Simons's* Language very well, informed him of the *Robbery*, with the several Circumstances attending it, and begged his Advice how to act in this Case, and to apprehend G——d, and to bring him to Justice.

As Mr. *Woodman* had some Knowledge of G——d, he did not at first chuse to be concerned; but seeing a large *Wound* on *Simons's* Head, and several *Cuts* in his *Neck*, that he was an entire Stranger without the Language, and in extreme Distress, ordered him to come again the next Day. On the Morrow, the 30th of *August*, *Simons* went again to Mr. *Woodman*, who had him examined three different Times by his Deputy, in order to come at the Truth, and try the Proof of his Assertion; and finding the Account which *Simons* gave of the *Robbery* at each of the Examinations to be so clear, so strong, and so full, without any Inconsistency in the Relation, and his Behaviour so steadfast and regular, Mr. *Woodman* had no room left to doubt his Veracity, and therefore procured a Warrant from a Magistrate for the apprehending  
of

of G—d for the *Robbery*. But as the next Day was the Jews Sabbath, and Mr. *Woodman* being desirous of taking *Simons* with him, he was obliged to defer his Journey till the *Sunday* following, being the 1st of *September*, when Mr. *Woodman*, and his Deputy, and *Simons*, set out early in the Morning for C—d-B—e; but unluckily stopping at *Hounslow*, an honest Inn-keeper of G—d's Acquaintance, who had some Suspicion of their Business, privately dispatched a Messenger on Horseback to inform G—d of their coming, so that when Mr. *Woodman* and *Simons* came to C—d-B—e, they were just time enough to learn that G—d had made his *Escape through his Garden on Horseback*. But Care was taken to get a Mob of People ready about G—d's House, who insulted and abused *Simons* very grossly; and had it not been for Mr. *Woodman*, who convinced them that he was under his Protection, he would, no doubt, have felt their Severity.

And here I cannot help observing the Humanity of Mr. *Woodman*, in thus aiding, assisting, and protecting, from the Insults of an enraged Mob, an unhappy Foreigner, who had fallen into such Hands, and had been so severely and cruelly treated, and unjustly plundered of all his Fortune. Certainly, nothing makes a greater Impression on the Mind of an honest Man, or can sooner excite his Compassion and Humanity, than such an Object, who is an utter Stranger to the Customs, Manners, and even the Language of the People who so illegally treat him.

When Mr. *Woodman* found that G—d was fled, and by that Means eluded their Design to bring him to Justice for that Time; yet, as his Flight was attended with suspicious Circumstances, and Mr. *Woodman* upon the Spot, he thought proper to proceed in this Affair as far as possible, and  
to

to get what Intelligence he could. To this end, he got *E*——*b* *P*—*n*, *G*——*d*'s *N*—*e*, and several of the Servants belonging to the House, with *Simons* and the Interpreter, into a Room; when *Simons* was again examined by the Interpreter, and his Answers interpreted to them, which were found to be the same in Substance as his Examination in *London*; and no one present said a Word to contradict or confute him, save *G*——*d*'s *N*—*e*, who, with a great Degree of Assurance, asserted, that the Night *Simons* said he was robbed, her *U*——*e* went to Bed at *Ten* o'Clock, therefore *he* could not possibly commit the Fact.

However, unluckily for Mrs. *P*—*n*, a Person who was at the Time of the Robbery a Lodger in *G*——*d*'s House, casually came in whilst Mr. *Woodman* was there, and ignorant, of what had passed, inadvertently declared, that it was impossible for Mr. *G*——*d* to have committed the Fact alledged against him, or to have been in any shape accessory thereto: Since, at, or about the Time *Simons* said he was robbed, Mr. *G*——*d* was with him in his Apartment, where he staid till between *One* and *Two* in the Morning playing at Cards, consequently could not be in *Simons*'s Room. This Avowal clashing with *P*——*n*'s Declaration, excited Mr. *Woodman*'s Curiosity, and as he had a Warrant to search the House, as well as apprehend *G*——*d*, he determined to put it in Execution; but first of all was resolved to sift a little further, and more closely to examine Mrs. *P*—*n* and the Servants, concern-what happened the Night *Simons* lay in the House; and upon that Occasion, Mrs. *P*—*n*, and several of the Servants, did assure Mr. *Woodman*, that it was very true, that *Simons* complained to *them* in the Morning when he came down Stairs, as well as he could explain himself, that *G*——*d* had robbed him

him; and P—n further confessed, that she and one Mrs. C—e were several Times backwards and forwards in *Simons's* Apartment, in order to persuade her U—e to let him lay there; and upon being strictly examined by Mr. *Woodman*, and asked the Reason of her being so urgent for *Simons* to lay there, said, she had none in particular, but that *Simons* had before shewn her his Belt, and some of his Money, and afterwards did the same to her U—e in her Presence.

These Circumstances seeming very material, and appearing in a strong Light to Mr. *Woodman*, in favour of *Simons*, he went with the Interpreter and the Chamber-maid into the Room where *Simons* had lain, and turned down the Bed-cloaths to examine them; whereupon the Maid told him, that those were not the Sheets the Jew had lain in: Mr. *Woodman* then desired her to fetch the right, which she did, and when produced, were, with the Pillowbier (then unwashed) in a very bloody Condition; and upon examining the Floor, it likewise appeared to be greatly stained with Blood, quite from the Bedside to the Window. If Circumstances could have any Weight, surely these were sufficient to evince every unbiassed, honest Man, the Veracity of *Simons's* Declaration; but as Perfidy and Fraud are too often an Overmatch for Truth, so the Subterfuges and Chicanery of G—d, and those concerned with him, afterwards baffled the Attempts of Equity and Justice.

G—d finding that Justice was in Pursuit of him, thought proper to secret himself till the 5th of September, when he surrendered before Mr. *Ch—n*, a Justice of the Peace for M—x, amidst a Number of his Friends (amongst whom was Mr. *J—s A—y*) and others who attended out of Curiosity on this Affair, which had made so  
much

much Noise. One Mr. P—l, who was sent for to interpret *Simons's* Examination, immediately came, and *Simons* was desired to point out Mr. G—d to the Justice; he did it instantly, though G—d skulked into a Circle of his *Friends*, and was in a different *Dress* from that he appeared in when *Simons* lay at his House. After this was done, *Simons* was examined, by the Interpretation of Mr. P—l, which was taken down in Writing by Mr. F—d, G—d's S—r, who officiously thrust himself into that Office.

Several Witnesses were examined at the same Time in Behalf of G—d, but not a Word of what they swore was taken down in Writing by the Scrivener, or any one present. *Simons's* Information had so much Weight with the Justice, that G—d was committed to Gaol; but on the next Day, Notice was given by G—d, that he would be brought by *Habeas Corpus* before a Judge on the 7th of *September*, in order to be admitted to Bail; in which Notice, several Persons were proposed for his Sureties, and amongst the rest, J—s A—y, by the Name of J—s A—y of L—e H—l, L—n, B—y-M—t; which, by the way, shews some Connection betwixt G—d and A—y (though he has since endeavoured, by specious Pretences and arrant Falsehoods, signed by him, and published in News-papers \*, to make the Public believe, that he had little or nothing to do with G—d); but this not being aailable Case, G—d was remanded back to Prison, where he continued till the Day of his Trial at the *Old-Baily*.

Now

\* N. B. J—s A—y's very great Intimacy with G—d, and his being at G—d's House several Times, hath since evidently appeared: And it is somewhat remarkable, that on the very Day *Thomas Apley* was convicted of Perjury, G—d and J—s A—y were found together *Tête-a-tête* at A—y's House in B—d-S—t.

Now a Scene must open, which can hardly be paralleled in this or any other Age or Nation; and, undoubtedly, such a Composition of unheard-of *Fraud* and *Injustice* must shock the Heart of every honest unprejudiced Reader, whose Soul is susceptible of Humanity and Compassion, and a Friend to Probity and Honour. Mr. *F—d*, who is an Off—r of the C—t at the O—d-B—y (and, as such, ought not, on any Consideration, to be concerned in a Prosecution there, though 'tis well known, that through pecuniary Motives, he is concerned in almost every thing of Consequence) was *G—d's* S—r; and he took care to see Mr. *W—n* the *Sunday* preceding the Sessions, which was to begin on *Wednesday* the 11th of *September*, and to inform him, that he believed Mr. *G—d* was a very *honest Man*, and incapable of committing the Fact laid to his Charge; that the Prosecution was a very *cruel one*, and the Effects of Malice, Spite, and Injustice. He also took care, in Conversation, artfully to draw out of Mr. *W—n* (who was not so much on his Guard as he ought to have been) all the Evidence he could give in Favour of *Simons*; not in the least distrusting that Gentleman's making an ill Use of it. Mr. *F—d* being thus prepared, also took the Precaution, by a Method not altogether justifiable, to have his Client *G—d* placed the first upon the List of Prisoners, in order to get him tried the first Day of the Sessions on the *M—x* Side; and by this Means the Prosecutor's Solicitor, who was in Court that Morning, found the Trial called on *before* he had given his Brief to Council; which he was then obliged to do in Court; and he sent for his Witnesses, who came, and the Trial went on.—This was, undoubtedly, a Surprize on the Prosecutor, and unexpected by his Solicitor, because he knew that the

*Bill*

Bill had been found against *G—d* that Morning only at *H—s—s—H—ll*. However, the Bill was actually in Court, and upon Enquiry it appeared, that it was brought down by one of *G—d*'s *C—l* from *H—s—s—H—ll* to the *O—d—B—y* in his Pocket. This seems to be quite unprecedented, and highly improper; for what Business had the Profecutor's Bill in the Custody of the Prisoner's *C—l*?

By some Accident or other, *Mr. W—n* and the Profecutor's Solicitor did not see each other from the Time he was employed in the Profecution 'til after the Trial was on; so that all the Instructions he had put in his Brief to interrogate *Mr. W—n* upon, was barely, his taking out a Warrant against *G—d*, his going down to apprehend him, and his absconding; which *Mr. W—n* had at first acquainted him with. The Trial being hurried on in this extraordinary Manner, was the greatest Misfortune that could happen to a Man who was aiming at Justice, and proved fatal in the End; for *Mr. F—d*, who does not want Address, very artfully applied to the Profecutor's Council, and told him (even while the Witnesses on the Profecutor's Part were examining) *that he need not give himself the Trouble of calling Mr. W—n* (who was waiting in Expectation of it) for that *G—d* should own his absconding in his Defence, which would save the Court much Time and Trouble. And by this Artifice, the Profecutor was trifled out of *Mr. W—n*'s Evidence, which would have gone a great way towards invalidating every Part of the Evidence given by *G—d*'s *N—e*, and also the Conviction of *G—d*.

And to shew you still further to what petty Subterfuges *G—d* and his Party were drove, and what

what a Set of Tools they were forced to work with, in order to bring *G—d* off, will appear in the following Instance.

One *J—b Ab—ms*\*, who goes by the Nick-name of *J—b Want-Money* (and who, as it since appears, ran out of *Holland*, to elude the Justice of that Country, for a Fact committed there by him and his Wife) came some short time before to the Profecutor, commiserating his unhappy Condition, and the Misfortune he had met with by losing his All; at the same time telling him, that his Brother had once lain at *G—d's* House, having Effects with him to a great Value: That about Midnight some Persons came to the Door of his Chamber, and endeavoured to force it open; but that he awaking, made a great Noise, and told them, that he had loaded Pistols by his Side, and would shoot the first Man that entered the Room; upon which they departed. *A—ms* told him, if his Brother's Chamber-door had not been screwed down on the Inside, he would have met with the same Fate; and seemed to be very sorry that his Brother was at a great Distance from *London*, otherwise he was very sure he would attend, and give Evidence of this Circumstance. But as that could not be the Case, if *Simons* would give his Solicitor Directions to subpœna *him*, he would do him great Service.

This poor Man, honest himself, and deeming *A—ms* his Friend, unsuspectingly subpœnied him as he desired: But, good God! who can speak his Surprise! when this very *J—b A—ms*, this masqued Renegado, came to be examined on the Part of the Profecutor, he declared, that he had lain at *G—d's* House with several Hundred Pounds-worth of Goods;

\* This *J—b A—ms* was also present when *G—d* was brought before the Justice.

Goods; and that he verily believed him *an honest Man*. Would any one imagine, that the Mind of Man could be so vitiated, as to premeditate Mischief, to the Prejudice of his Fellow-creature, for the Sake of any Reward whatever: But it is too evident, that there are those among us who, to indulge this Passion, daily laugh at Damnation, spurn the Laws of Society, and call their God to witness a Lye.

These Points being carried, so sure was Mr. F—d of getting his Client acquitted, that he was seen, *before the Trial was half over*, to be settling a Bill of Indictment, in Court, against the unhappy Prosecutor for Perjury, on the Information he made before the Justice of the Robbery of his *Five hundred fifty-four Ducats*.

The Trial went on, and G—d was acquitted, but how? By Artifice, Contrivance, and insidious Suppression and Secretion of Evidence, with the detestable Addition of wilful and corrupt Perjury, committed by *Ashley* the Gardiner, by swearing, that about three Weeks before G—d's Trial he met *Simons* near *Smallbury-Green*, and put him in a Ditch, and scratched him in the Bushes, and then flung a Stone, which fell upon his Head and broke it. This cook'd-up Story, joined with P—n the N—e's Testimony, that the Blood on the Sheets appeared *like old Blood, black, and as if it had been kept in a Bottle some Time\**, was sufficient (with other favourable Circumstances for G—d happening on the Trial at this Time) to throw a Discredit on *Simons's* Evidence of the Robbery by G—d and the other Person unknown. But the supreme and all-wise Disposer of human Events, who

\* Vide *Sessions-Paper* in the Seventh Sessions of the Mayoralty of the Right Honourable *Francis Cokayne*, Esq; Lord Mayor of London, which began the 11th of September, 1751.

who sometimes lets the Innocent suffer, and the Guilty go unpunished, for Reasons unintelligible to finite Capacities, and yet frequently snares the wicked Man in the very Height of his Wickedness, has providentially detected this Piece of Villany, and the wretched Perjurer has since been tried, convicted, and met with a Punishment, such as the Atrocioufness of his Guilt merited.

The Manner of detecting the Wickedness of *Thomas Ashley* was very singular, *Mr. Wright* being at the *Old-Baily*, finding a Bill of Indictment against a Person who had injured him, at the Time *Simons* was there to get the Bill of Indictment found against *Ashley*, for Perjury; *Simons*, the Moment he cast his Eye on *Mr. Wright*, knew him, and told his Interpreter, that he was one of the Gentlemen who had so generously protected him on the Road, and desired to speak to him. *Mr. Wright* was presently convinced he was the Man, and went into the Grand-Jury-Room with him, and gave Evidence of the Fact, and acquainted him, who the other Gentlemen were; and they also appeared at the *Old-Bailey*, and gave Evidence for the Crown; which, with the other Proof against him, was so strong and clear, that the Jury, without going out of Court, brought him in, *Guilty*\*. And the Court were so well satisfied with their Verdict, that he was sentenced to stand in the Pillory, to be Imprisoned in *Newgate* for One Year, and afterwards Transported for Seven Years.

G—d's Trial being over, and he acquitted, the Mob, by the Management of his Party, were so enraged against *Simons*, that they were fully prepared to execute their Resentment against him,

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when

\* Vide *Sessions-Paper*, of the Fourth Sessions, in the Mayoralty of the Right Honourable *Thomas Winterbottom*, Esq; Lord Mayor of London, which began the 8th of April, 1752.

when he should come out of the Court; which the Sheriffs being apprized of, one of them generously and humanley conducted him to a Coach, which at that Time prevented any Injury to his Person.

Now it was time to put in Execution the Scheme that had been before concerted for indicting *Simons* for Perjury on his Information, in order fully to establish *G——d's* Character in the Opinion of that Part of Mankind, who still believed the poor Man had been robbed; and accordingly a Bill of Indictment for Perjury was preferred against him at *H—s's-H—ll* the 13th of *September*, and on the Evidence of *G——d*, *P——n*, his *N—e*, *Abley* the Gardiner, with some of *G——d's* Servants, the Bill was found, without *Simons* knowing any thing of the Matter. Hereupon a Warrant was obtained from a very worthy Magistrate of the City of *London*, and kept dormant in the Pocket of *Mr. F——d*, *G——d's S——r*, from that Time to the 7th of *October* following, without so much as attempting to take him up upon it, though that might have been done any Hour of the Day, without Interruption, he going in the most *Public Manner*, during that Space, on the *Exchange*, and about the Streets, in his *Polish Garb*, asking *Alms for his Subsistence*, and to carry him over to *Holland*, from whence he declared his Intention of travelling, and begging his Way into *Persia* or *Turky*, and to remain there, till, by his Industry and Care, he could raise that Part of the Money belonging to the *Polish Nobles*, which he had been stripped of here, and was by them entrusted to his Care, to purchase the Manufactures of this Nation for their Account. To *Poland* he must not go, without repaying those who had intrusted him with their Money; for every one that is acquainted with the Constitution of *Poland*, knows, that the Nobility of that Country have an almost unlimited

unlimited Power over the People who live in their respective Districts or Lordships, even to a degree of Slavery; and, if any of these unhappy People contract Debts with the Nobility, which they are unable to pay, their Liberty, and also that of their Wives and Family, become forfeited to the noble Creditor, who has it in his Power to keep them in his Service, till Restitution is made, and the Debt contracted discharged by Vassalage. How terrible does this appear to a People, whose Liberty is their All, and who pride themselves more in their Freedom than the noblest Heritage on Earth. And now, alas! this has been partly the wretched cruel Case of the poor unhappy *Simons*, whose Wife and Child have been imprisoned, and are still likely to continue so, till he himself can return and make full Retaliation. What Breast can be so icy, what Heart so obdurate, or what Soul so irrational, as not to be moved to Pity at so shocking a Calamity! nay, who cannot even feel this poor Man's Sufferings, and heartily commiserate a Fellow-creature's Distress! what pungent Sorrow, what intolerable Anxiety, must tear the Mind of this unhappy Man, when these crude Reflections press upon him, unsupported by any thing but bare Reason. If, as the Poet says,

*'Tis surely noble to be born to save.*

where can *Britons*, famed for Generosity and Hospitality to Strangers, find a nobler Object, than a virtuous, honest, industrious and injured Foreigner.

This poor Man, after he had been robbed of his Money, was reduced to so much Distress, that he was even constrained to pawn his Veil (which is a religious Vestment worn by the *Jews* in their Synagogue, and what they will not pawn or dispose of, unless compelled thereto by the extremest Necessity)

and all his Cloaths, to support himself; so little was he known by any *Jews* of consequence, at this Time, that he knew not where to get, even common Necessaries to subsist on. This being represented to the Clerk of the Vestry belonging to the Synagogue, he laid his Case before some of the Vestry, who ordered him Half a Guinea; and, by going about to several Gentlemen's Houses, he begged, to the Amount of a Guinea and Half more; with this Money he redeemed his Veil and other Cloaths from Pawn, and paid a Countryman off his Part of some Money he had lent him to carry on the Prosecution against G——d. These Payments reduced his Stock to *Five Shillings and some Halfpence only*; and with this Pittance\*, on the 7th of *October* he set out for *Harwich*, in order to pursue his intended Journey to *Holland*, in his Way to *Persia* and *Turky*, and was overtaken at *Stratford* by one *Joseph Isaac*, a travelling Merchant, a Person entirely unknown to *Simons* till then, who was going with his Box of Goods that Night to *Barking* in *Essex*, and from thence round the Country to *Colchester* Fair. Here they joined Company, and, as they were walking in the Road, betwixt *Stratford* and *Ilford*, they met a Person, seemingly not unlike a Gentleman, in a single-Horse Chaise, who crossed the Road upon them. This afterwards appeared to be Mr. *J——s A——y* (at that Juncture unknown to either of them) who drove his Chaise close up to them, and addressing himself to *Simons*, with very great Eagerness, asked him, If he was  
not

\* *N. B.* Left it should be thought a Matter of Surprize, that a Man should attempt going to *Holland*, with so small a Sum of Money, it must be observed, that nothing is demanded at *Harwich* for the Passage of any poor *Jew* to *Holland*; and it often happens, that a poor *Jew* sets out for *Holland*, with a fifth Part, only, of what *Simons* carried with him; these sort of People contenting themselves with some Bread and Water only.

not the Man that was robbed at C——d-Bridge ; *Simons* not understanding *English*, A——y asked him over again ; but getting no Answer from him, was still dubious, if that was the Man or no. However, a Hint jumped into his Head, whereby he thought he might soon be convinced, and putting his Hand in his Pocket, took out some Ducats, and held them out in his Hand from the Chaise (which was a very low one, and stood upon even Ground with them) to *Simons* ; saying, *Ducats, Ducats*, are not you the Man that was robbed at C——d-Bridge ? *Simons* naturally shewing some very great Emotion at the Sight of the Ducats \*, which he took for granted were some of his, convinced A——y that he had not mistook his Aim ; therefore, shaking his doubled Fist at him, he said, *I'll have you*, and drove as fast as he could to *London*.

The Warrant, as before observed, lay in the Hands of Mr. F——d, G——d's S——r, quite unnoticed, from the Time it was obtained, and wrested with him, for no other Purpose, than to be called for by G——d or some of his Friends, in order to make use of as they thought proper. Mr. A——y was the first of G——d's Friends who went to Mr. F——d about it, and told him, that, as he was coming out of E——x he had accidentally met *Simons* going out of the Kingdom. Mr. F——d produced the Warrant to A——y, as the first of G——d's Friends who called for it ; but, upon Perusal, Notice was taken, that it was a Warrant for *London only* ; but, however, that trifling Objection was easily cured, by the Words, *Essex and being put in the Margin*, before the Words, *London to wit.*

B 3

\* This Circumstance, of A——y's shewing *Simons* some Ducats, is very material, and is proved by *Joseph Isaac*, who is in a great measure supported by A——y's own Confession to Mr. F——y and Mr. B——e, at *Witham*. Vide the Trial in the Appendix.

This was done in the Presence of *A—y*, but not in the Presence of the Magistrate who granted it, and, under whose Hand and Seal it was; but, as Mr. *A—y* was there himself, it was easily dispensed with; when this was done, it was delivered into *A—y*'s Hands, in whose Custody it remained, till some time after *Simons* was taken up upon it.

*A—y* says, it was with great Inconvenience and greater Reluctance, that he embarked in this Scheme, and, that it was chiefly owing to the pressing Instances of Mr. *F—d*, *G—d*'s *S—r*, and his Clerk, who prevailed on him to pursue *Simons*. Mr. *F—d* and his Clerk, on the other hand, say, he went with *great Willingness*; and his Eagerness and Hatte was such, that he would not even suffer the Clerk to lose so much Time, as to go home and acquaint his Family of his intended Expedition. However, be it as it may, his Pursuit is certain, and, as he boasts, not with any lucrative Design or self-interested Motive; but, *Pro bono publico*; and how much he had that at heart, in this Adventure, you must be the Judges of.

In his Pursuit after this unhappy *Polander* he called at *Ingatestone*, and there casually met one of his old Acquaintance, to whom he communicated what he was about; and his Friend, like a sensible Man, used many Arguments with him, to dissuade him from such a Wild-goose-chase, and advised him to return to *London*, lest he might, unthinkingly, be the Cat's-paw, and embroil himself in an inextricable Difficulty; for as *Simons* had not charged him with being one of the Robbers, he could not see any Reason for his giving himself so much Trouble: But *A—y* endeavoured to convince him, that it would be greatly *his own Interest* to follow and bring him to Justice, for the Sake of his Friend *G—d*, and for his *own Sake too*; for  
if

if he could in any shape serve his Friend G—d, it would be of Service to himself in his Trade among the Inn-keepers on the Western Road. If he had *no stranger Reason* to induce him to it, is not this sufficient?—Here is an Instance of Public Virtue.

This gave his Acquaintance a much worse Opinion of the Affair than he had before; nevertheless, he remonstrated with him again and again, and desired he would go back; but it was not for his Honour to recede; so he and his Companion the Clerk set out Post-haste. They continued their strict Enquiries after this poor defenceless Object all the way they went, and within Four Miles of *Witbam* met with one *Luke Clexton*, a Gentleman's Boy, of about Fourteen Years of Age, going on an Errand for his Master; of him they made Enquiry after this Outlandish-man, describing his Dress and Beard; and particulaaly, A—y told the Boy *he was a Highwayman*, and if he would ride forward in Search of him, he would reward him for his Trouble. How could a Merchant (as A—y says he is) whose Being is Verity and Justice, dare to assert so great a Falshood, and meanly endeavour to impose on the Ignorant and Credulous, by illegally branding an honest Man with the Epithet of a Robber? Are these the Tenets of Patriotism, or are they not rather the Effects of an Education, got amidst a Band of unhappy Miscreants, the Hirelings of Wickedness, and Slaves of Corruption?

Flushed with the sanguine Expectations of taking a *Highwayman* (as *Simons* was injuriously called) the Boy followed his Orders, and in a few Minutes came up with him. Struck with his Visage and the Oddity of his Garb, he could not be satisfied that a Man of his Appearance could be a Robber, and therefore rode back to A—y, who was driv-

ing forwards as fast as he could, and told him, the Man was just before, and he could easily take him. But are you sure (says the Boy) he is a Highwayman? Will you swear he is a Highwayman? *A—y* answered, *Yes, I will*; and pulling a Paper out of his Pocket, said, Here is my Warrant to apprehend him: Which so fully satisfied the Lad, that he galloped forward, jumped off his Horse, and apprehended him without the least Resistance, holding him fast 'til *A—y* and his Companion came up. Just at this Juncture, *A—y* perceiving one *Thomas Banbrook*, another Boy, who was driving his Master's Cart along the Road, and being elate with Joy at the Capture, he jumped out of the Chaise in so great a Hurry, that he had well nigh fallen; but he soon recovered himself, and enlisted the other Boy and his Cart into his Service: And now, collecting all his Forces together, they laid violent Hands on the poor unhappy *Po-lander*, and, as if he had been a Dog, tossed him up into the Cart, putting the Boys one on each Side of him, to guard him to *Witham* that being the nearest Town they could make. The Novelty of having a Man with a long Beard, and habited in such manner, charged with being a Highwayman, was a most pleasing Scene to two raw Country Boys (who are generally too prone to Mischiefe, and to make a Mock at others Misfortunes) induced them, for their Diversion, to pull him by the Beard; not considering, or perhaps knowing, that such an Insult is as bad as a Stab to a *Polish Jew*; and the Boys, by other Means, thwarted and teased him to such a degree, that he got out of the Cart, to rid himself from this Incumbrance.

*A—y* and his Companion, full of Fear, lest he should make his Escape, jumped out of the Post-Chaise and retook him; and then put him and

and the two Boys into the Chaise, themselves riding in the Cart by way of Guard. In this Order they proceeded to the Post-house at *Witbam*, making an Outcry of Highwayman all the way; so that when the Chaise was drove into the Yard, the Town was in an Uproar, and the Inn-yard thronged with People to see this unhappy Victim of *A—y's* Revenge. Upon their Arrival at *Witbam*, poor *Simons* was pulled out of the Chaise, and rolled about the Yard like a Log; but when he was set on his Legs, and the People had him in View, they laughed at his Figure; and being at length satisfied he was no Highwayman, went about their Business. From thence he was conveyed into a Room, where *A—y*, with the greatest Assurance imaginable, told the Gentlewoman who keeps the House, and several other Persons present, that the Jew was as arrant a Villain as ever existed; that he lived by Plunder, Rapine, and Injustice; and intended, by Perjury (for which he then stood indicted) to deprive an honest Man of his Life; and confidently asserted, that the Jew had picked up a *Whore* and lay with her at *G—d's*, and she it was that robbed him of his Money, though he charged *honest Mr. G—d* with it, but that Justice had now overtaken him.

These Aspersions, thrown out in this exclamatory Manner by Mr. *A—y*, who was personally known in that Part of *Essex*, prejudiced the People of *Witbam* so much against poor *Simons* (who, from the ill Treatment he had received, made a very ragged Appearance) that the People were ready to tear him to Pieces. And it must be observed, that these Reflections, at that Time, were artfully propagated by *A—y* at *Witbam*, and afterwards at *Chelmsford*, and other Parts of *Essex*, purposely  
to

to prepossess the Minds of the People of that Country, against the poor Man, for a future Experiment, as will appear by the Sequel. And, indeed, unhappily it had its Effect; for the Generality of the People in that Part of the World, *then* considered Mr. *A*—y as an honest, well-meaning Man, of an humane, Christian-like Temper and Disposition; and the other as an infamous Jew, a Pick-pocket and Knave, who had no Regard to Honesty or Virtue.

This main Point being carried, it was now Time to send for the *C*—e, who soon came, and thereupon searched *Simons*, in the strictest Manner imaginable, from Head to Foot, by Order of Mr. *A*—y, or his Companion (who pretended to search for offensive Weapons, which they said, might be secreted about him; though that could be only Pretence, for if they had been apprehensive of his having any thing of that sort about him, they would have searched him at the Time he was first seized) his Clothes were unbuttoned, even to his Shirt; but, after all, they found nothing about him, *except a few Skillings and some Half-pence*. This Search was very artful, for, if *Simons* had been found to have possessed any Quantity of *Ducats*, nay, *even Three*, it would have been no difficult Matter for *A*—y to have convinced the Persons who were present, that *Simons* had imposed on the World, by swearing a Robbery on *G*—d, and consequently have made him out the greatest of Villains. The Search being thus compleatly made, *A*—y left him to the Care of the *C*—e, who took him home with him, and in whose Custody he remained all Night\*.

Mr.

\* A material Circumstance is necessary to be taken Notice of here, *viz.* That when *Simons* came to the *C*—e's House, he

Mr. *A—y* being thus difencumbered of his Charge, he had now Time to write his Friend *G—d* an Account of his Undertaking, and the Succes he had met with; which done, he went into the Company of Mr. *F—y*, and some other Gentlemen, who were spending the Evening with Mrs. *B—c*, the Mistres of the House. This was by way of Relaxation to his wearied Spirits, which were, undoubtedly, hurried and fatigued, by his Herculan Labour, in pursuing and apprehending a poor unarmed helpless Stranger. During this Reces, he expatiated largely to the Company upon this his gallant Action, and informed them of his Luck, as he termed it (huge Luck indeed) in discovering the Jew on the foregoing *Sunday*, making the best of his way out of the Kingdom; his stopping his Chaise for some time, talking with him, and asking him if he remembered *G—d*, putting his Hand in his Pocket, or Pockets, *and shewing, or mentioning Ducats* † to him; his Belief that the Jew did not understand him, and his driving off to *London*, in order to get a Warrant to take him up.

The next Morning Mr. *A—y*, his Companion, the *C—c H—s*, *M—w*, and an additional Hand,

he was entrusted to the Care of one *D—l H—s*, a travelling Journeyman Taylor, and *T—s M—w*, who called himself a Doctor; but, upon enquiry, was found to be a loose idle Fellow of the Vagabond Kind. *H—s* was examined as a Witness for *A—y* at *Simon's* first Trial at *Chelmsford*, and soon after, fled the Country, through fear of a Prosecution. But the industrious Mr. *A—y*, who knows how to supply Defects, produced, at the last Trial of *Simon* at *Chelmsford*, this *T—s M—y*, to supply the Want of *H—s*, who then gave a very extraordinary Piece of Evidence, though he was confessedly in Court during the whole Time of the first Trial, and yet never called as a Witness. *Vide* the Trial in the Appendix.

† This, in a great Measure, tallies with the Evidence given by *Joseph Isaac*.

Hand, retained by *A—y*, whose Name is *R—d T—r* \* (and who gave a very extraordinary Testimony at the first Trial, but soon after, also ran his Country, through fear of a Prosecution) set out in great Pomp, to guard this tremendous Captive to a Place called *Boreham*, about three Miles off *Witham*, to the House of a Gentleman in Commission of the Peace for *Essex*. In the Way, *Joseph Isaac*, who parted with *Simons*, the *Sunday* before, at *Ilford*, and was going his Rounds, met them, and *Simons* told him his Distress in *Dutch*; but the *C—e* would not suffer *Isaac* to speak to him, but pushed him away. And at that Time, *A—y* and his Companion coming up, he thought it the safest Way for him to go quietly about his Business. When *Simons* was brought before the Justice, he told him, in his Language, the Story of his Robbery by *G—d*, the Manner of *A—y*'s shewing him the Ducats the *Sunday* before, and begged upon his Knees for a *German* Interpreter. Unhappily, for *Simons*, not a Word of his Language was understood, nor could a *German* Interpreter be found (though the Blockhead of a *C—e* afterwards assumed the Character of an Interpreter at *Chelmsford*, but by his own Confession, it appears, he knew nothing of his Language) and therefore the Justice prudently advised *A—y* to carry him to *Chelmsford*, where the Justices were then holding their Quarter-Sessions. Thither he was conducted by *A—y* and his Guards, and carried to the *S—s-H—d* Inn, a House which *A—y* serves with Spirituous Liquors.

Some Time was spent at this Inn, in erasing the Words *Essex* and out of the Warrant, and settling some

\* This Person, *R—d T—r*, did not appear at the last Trial; but his Deficiency was most dextrously supplied by two Serving-women belonging to the *S—s-H—d* Inn at *Chelmsford*. Vide the Trial in the Appendix.

some other Matters, which were necessary to be done, before they could get the Warrant indorsed by a Justice for the County. This ended, *Simons* was taken and dragged along, amidst the Shouts and Acclamations of a Multitude of Spectators, to the Coffee-house, where was the Reverend Mr. *T—l*, who is the Principal, if not the only acting Justice of Peace in the Town of *Chelmsford*. And here it is impossible to avoid remarking the Behaviour of that reverend worthy Magistrate, who, without any Compliment, strictly adhered to that noble Character of a Divine and a Justice; for this Gentleman, observing the brutish Behaviour of the C—e and others of the Mob to this unhappy Prisoner, asked them if they were *Barbarians*, to treat a Foreigner in such a Manner? This Behaviour somewhat appeased the Mob, who were using him ill even in his Presence, and Mr. *T—l* enquired of *A—y*, what he wanted with him? Upon which, he desired him to commit *Simons*. No, says the Magistrate, you must carry him to the original Jurisdiction. *Simons* told Mr. *T—l* the same Story in *German* he had before told at *Boreham*, but he could not understand one Word he had said; wherefore, the Gentleman seeing the poor Man in such extreme Distress, and having been formerly in *Portugal*, asked him, in the Language of that Country, if he was a *Portuguese*; but, finding that ineffectual, he then tried him in the *Latin* and *French*, neither of which *Simons* understood.

The unhappy Man being thus distressed in inexpressible Anxiety, and the most pungent Sorrow, presumed, trembling, to lay hold of Mr. *T—l*'s Breeches Pocket, and to cry out, aloud, *Ducats, Ducats*; whereupon, some of the By-standers immediately bellowed out, that the *Jew* was going to swear,

swear, that Mr. T——l had robbed him of his Ducats; but Mr. T——l coolly answered, that the Man had said enough to let him know, that he was the unhappy Person who was robbed by G——d of his Ducats, as he had observed in the public Papers.

This generous worthy Magistrate seeing the Prejudice and Bent of the People in general, told the Peace O——r, that, if he did not take care of the Man and treat him with more Humanity, he would be at the Trouble and Expence of calling him to a proper Account for his Misconduct; and so dismissed them. Poor *Simons*, very unwilling to leave Mr. T——l, took hold of one of the Rails before the Coffee-house; but the Mob dragged him from thence with so much Force and Violence, that, if his Arm had been pushed a little farther in, it must inevitably have been broke.

Who can, without Pleasure and Satisfaction, reflect upon this humane, beneficent Conduct of Mr. T——l, in thus exerting that Power, which Providence had bestowed on him, in Defence of an unhappy out-cast Stranger. And, on the contrary, who can, without Detestation and Abhorrence, behold that merciless tyrannical Treatment of A——y and his Coadjutors; who, in Contempt of the Laws of Nature and Humanity, of Equity, Justice, and Religion, could, with Hearts, hard as Adamant, and Souls estranged from Virtue, indulge and satiate their Passions, Revenge, and Cruelty, upon a worthy, honest, helpless Man.

After Mr. T——l had dismissed them, they reconducted him to the *S——s-H——d* Inn, still treating him in the same illegal and opprobrious Manner; when they had got him there, he was pushed into a back Room, which was presently filled with Spectators, who were continually going backwards and

and forwards, so that sometimes thirty Persons or more were in the Room at once. It is very probable, that *Simons* might go up to *A—y's* Pocket and cry out *Ducats*, as he had before done to Mr. *T—l's*, and *A—y's* Creatures be as ready to say, nay, even to swear, that the *Jew* had put them into his Pocket, and had charged *A—y* with robbing him of them, as they endeavoured to persuade Mr. *T—l*; and, if this happened, it was a good Time for *A—y* (who knows how to improve a good Opportunity) in seeming great *Amazement*, to produce them. And, true it is, the *Ducats* were found in his Pocket and produced\*; but this, *Simons* trusts in, that every unprejudiced, sensible, honest Man, who reads the Evidence given on the Trial, will not be of Opinion (after taking into Consideration his *miserable Circumstances*, which appear from several Witnesses of undoubted Veracity, his being surrounded by *Strangers* and avowed *Enemies*, the strict Search he underwent at *Witham* the Night before, his Ignorance of the *Language* and the *Laws* of *England*, the Absurdity and Improbability of his putting *Three Ducats* into *A—y's* Pocket, supposing he had been possessed of them; and many other strong Circumstances that appear in his Favour) that *Simons* put them there; but, rather be inclined to ask himself the Question, whether it was not infinitely more probable, that *A—y* should have carried *Ducats* in his Pocket for some sinister End or other? But then, Mr. *A—y* has sworn, that he never saw a *Ducat* in his Life, before he saw those Three which were taken out of his Pocket;

\* These *Ducats* were seal'd up, and produced in Court, on the first Trial of *Simons* at *Chelmsford*, and one of them had a Hole in it. *H. Levy*, in his Evidence, says, the *Ducat* that *A—y* weighed at *Jacob Abraham's* House, had a Hole in it. This Evidence was given in Court, on the first Trial, before the *Ducats* were opened there:

Pocket; and, were he not contradicted in this by two material Witnesses, whose Characters he did not attempt to impeach, is it to be credited, that *A—y*, who had carried a Cargo of Cloth belonging to one *J—n*, a Bankrupt, to a great Amount, into *Holland*, and traded there and in *Zealand*, at *Flushing*, *Middleburg*, and other Places, should not have *seen*, nay, even been *possessed* of many *Ducats*? Mr. *A—y* has some Reason not to forget this Voyage, if he does, it is necessary to put him in mind, that, for this Exploit, he was, by the then Lord Chancellor committed Prisoner to the *Fleet*.

When the Ducats were produced, *A—y* made a proper Use of it, by his Emissaries insisting, that the Jew had put them into his Pocket, and had charged him with being the Robber of them: So that the whole Town was soon in an Uproar; some were for hanging, and others for burning him for a Witch, for he could be no less, to convey Ducats into Mr. *A—y*'s Pocket *unseen* in the Presence of so many People. And, indeed, the last, in all probability, would have been put in Execution, if so recent an Example as the Affair at *Tring* in *Hertfordshire*, which then came to their Reflexion, had not deterred them.

While they were thus ruminating how to act, fortunately for poor *Simons*, Mr. *A—n* *G—e* accidentally came to *Chelmsford*, and rode into the *S—'s-b—d* Inn Yard, where he was instantly surrounded by a Crowd of People, who told him the Jew was taken on his Warrant. Soon after, the *A—n* met Mr. *T—l*, who informed him, that the poor Jew was in Custody; that the Affair had been the Subject of much Enquiry; and that it would be kind in him to go and examine him. To this he condescended, and spoke to him in his own

own Language; at which *Simons* expressed the highest Joy; and on his asking him in *Dutch*, how he could be such a Rogue to put the Ducats into Mr. A—y's Pocket, he directly answered, he had no *Ducats*, but that G—d had his *Ducats*. The A—n asked him also several other Questions in *Dutch*, and communicated his Answers to Mr. A—y in *Englisch*. Then he was told by several Persons, that the Jew had charged Mr. A—y with robbing him. And when that Question was asked him in *Dutch*, his Answer was, *Lee*, (*i. e.* false) and *Niet myn Ducats, Mynbeer* (*i. e.* Not my Ducats, Sir.) Before the A—n could repeat this Answer in *Englisch* to the People, several of them said, Look ye there, the *Dog* says they are his *Ducats*, he owns they are his *Ducats*. The A—n asked him again, if he charged Mr. A—y; but he denied it as strongly as Man could do, calling God to Witness that he did not; and seemed in the utmost Distress and Anxiety Man could possibly be.

Upon the Trial, Mr. A—n G—e was asked by the Council, who it was told him that *Simons* had charged A—y with the Robbery: To which he replied, that A—y and several others had done so, but that it proceeded merely from their *misunderstanding* him, and mistaking the *Meaning* of his Language. For the rest of the A—n's Evidence, the Reader is referred to the printed Trial.

The A—n having sealed up the Ducats, and searched *Simons* from Head to Foot (to which he submitted with great Chearfulness, and even stripped himself of great part of his Cloaths) and finding nothing about him, save the trifling *Silver* and *Halfpence* found the Night before at *Witham*, he departed, leaving his Accuser and his Emissaries to bring him to *London*.

It now becomes a necessary Duty not to omit taking particular Notice of the humane benevolent Conduct of this worthy Magistrate, who, throughout the Whole of this Affair, acted as he has done on all Occasions in Behalf of the Innocent and Distressed, with the most unbiassed Generosity and disinterested Good-nature.

Mr. A——y now humanely provided a Pair of small Iron Handcuffs, and had them screwed on *Simons's* Hands, placed crossways, as hard as they possibly could be. This being done, the C——e, with two of his Assistants, aided by A——y and his Companion, guarded the unhappy Prisoner to *London*, and lodged him at the *K——g's A——s in L——n-b——ll-street*; but, though he was so well secured, A——y had not Mercy or Compassion enough about him to disencumber the poor Wretch of his galling Handcuffs, but kept him in that dreadful Situation all Night.

About Ten o'Clock, the next Morning, the Possé carried him before a Magistrate in *Middlesex*, in this deplorable Condition; but they were told, at his House, that it was not usual to conduct a Prisoner, on a Charge of Perjury only, before a Magistrate with his Irons on, and then, and not till then, Mr. A——y had the Decency to order them to be taken off; in which Operation the Skin was pulled off his Wrists, it adhering to the Iron, and a great Quantity of Blood followed.

One would not imagine, that a Man who has so loudly called on the Public to espouse his Cause, on account of his being a Christian, could so obstinately shut Humanity from his Breast, and without Remorse be deaf to every Cry of Pity or Compassion. Some Time was spent before the Justice, and poor *Simons*, for want of Bail, was sent to the *New Prison* at

at *Clerkenwell*; what an Aggravation was this to every other Sorrow! however, all this while *A—y* (as if he had forgot the Affair of the Three Ducats) never opened his Lips about it, but five or six Days afterwards went to the Justice again, in Company with *Mr. F—d, G—d's S—r*, and made a *Viva voce* Information, (none being taken in Writing, at least, that can be found) that *Simons had put Three Ducats in his Pocket, with Intent to charge him the said A—y with robbing him of them*; whereupon a Detainer was sent to the Keeper of *Clerkenwell Prison* against *Simons* for this Fact.

But, in good time, Providence raised up Friends to the Stranger in Distress, for now, and not 'til now, some of the principal Jews having had an Account from *Poland*, that *Simons* was an honest Man, of a very good Family, and received authentic Proofs from thence, that he brought the Ducats out with him from that Country. — And also a Certificate from the proper Officer at *Harwich*, that he was searched there before he came on shore, and a very large Quantity of Ducats were found in his Belt, they came to a Resolution, to defend him against a Set of Men who had publicly avowed his Destruction; and surely this humane Behaviour of these Gentlemen will, by all Men of Sense, be deemed a pious and laudable Undertaking. The Propriety and Delicacy of these Gentlemen's Conduct, with regard to this Affair, was such, that, on *Mr. F—d's* proposing to *Mr. N— Fr—ks*, about this Time, that the Elders of the Synagogue should be at liberty to examine into it, and if they found *Simons* guilty (as he assured *Mr. Fr—ks* they would, beyond all Contradiction) they then might send him out of the Kingdom. This Proposal from *Mr. G—d's S—r* startled *Mr. Fr—ks* to that degree,

degree, that he very warmly replied, that he knew none of his Religion that would screen a Villain, and if *Simons* was guilty of the Crimes he stood charged with, he hoped to see a very severe Example made of him; but, on the contrary, if he was innocent (as he then from several Circumstances imagined he was) he should be properly protected and defended, as every oppressed honest Man ought to be. At the same Time Mr. *Fr—ks* advised Mr. *F—d* to go on with the Trial of his Indictment for Perjury, or any other, for that his Client's Innocence would clearly appear, if *Simons* should be found guilty.—At another Time Mr. *F—d* repeated the same Proposal to Mr. *L—z—s S—n*, one of the Elders of the Synagogue, who rejected it with the same Indignation Mr. *Fr—ks* had done before.

Soon after that this unhappy Man was sent to *Clerkenwell*, *A—y*, *G—d*, and one *H—d*, went to the Prison, and in a triumphant Manner vaunted of their Prowess, and exulted over this unfortunate helpless Man; but the Inveteracy of *A—y* was so particularly glaring, that he put his Fingers to his Throat, and told him he should be hanged: At the same Time *H—d*, who is an intimate Friend of *A—y*'s and *G—d*'s, and who calls himself an Attorney, (which he can hardly be thought to be) but if he is so, he is a Scandal to the Profession and a Pest to Society. This Fellow, prompted by his noble Companions *A—y* and *G—d*, through a mere malevolent Inclination, without Aggravation or Affront, basely pulled the greater Part of his Beard out of his Face, and with an insatiable Malice and vindictive Spirit beat and kicked him about like a Dog. How dare a Man who pretends to be of that Profession, in open Defiance of those Laws which he ought to maintain,

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in Contempt of every equitable Christian Thought, leap the Bounds of Justice, so far, as lavishly to abuse what he ought to pity! 'Tis rank Cowardice; that makes him live to bear the Weight of it, and want of Shame is his only Shield.

Matters were now ripe for the Trial of *Simons* for Perjury, at the Prosecution of *G—d*, on the Information he made of the Robbery before the Justice; but *Simons's* Friends thought proper to remove the Indictment into a superior C—t, where the Injured are always sure of meeting Redress: And, on the 10th Day of *December*, 1751, the Trial came on, by a Special J—y of *G—n*, who very soon saw through the Chicanery, and artful Management, of the Prosecutor, *Mr. F—d* his S—r, and others; and the J—y, by the Direction of the R—t H—e J—e, brought in their Verdict *Not Guilty*.

This was, doubtless, some Consolation to this unhappy Man; but alas! he must yet prepare for the grand Attack. For now *A—y*, irritated by this Verdict given against his Friend *G—d*, went down to *Chelmsford* Quarter-Sessions in *January* last, and prepared a long Bill of Indictment there against *Simons*, for putting three *Ducats* into his Pocket, and charging him with a *Robbery* of them (the Substance of which will be found at the Head of the printed Trial) the Bill was found, on the Evidence of *A—y* himself, the C—e, and *H—s* (the run-away Taylor) which was likewise removed into a superior C—t; and when this was done, *A—y* prevailed on four of his Creatures to make the very extraordinary Affidavit printed in the Appendix.

Many Hundreds of this Affidavit were printed by *A—y's* Direction, and dispersed through *Essex*, by him, and his Associates, as well as in the Cities

of *London* and *Westminster*; but *quo animo*? why to prejudice People in general, and particularly the Inhabitants of *Essex*, against poor unhappy *Simons*, who rather merited their Commiseration and Relief, than their Scorn and Malevolence. Wicked and unjustifiable as these Practices were, yet they had their desired Effect; for by these Means, and *A—y*'s Intimacy with the Publicans of *Essex*, it is notorious, that, in almost every Part of that County, *A—y* was deemed an honest Man, and *Simons* the greatest of Villians.

The Minds of the People being thus filled with these strong Prejudices against the poor Jew, *A—y* having in News-papers, and otherwise, reflected grossly on those Gentlemen, who so charitably assisted *Simons*; it was thought advisable, not to leave the Determination of this Cause to a Common Jury; and therefore *Simons*'s Friends ordered him to apply for a Special J—y for its Trial at the then next Assizes for the County of *E—x*, which was obtained.

On the 12th Day of *March* last, this Cause underwent a Trial, which lasted upwards of Twelve Hours, when the J—y withdrew, and after staying out Five or Six Hours, debating, whether they should bring in a Verdict of Not Guilty, or Guilty, of putting the Three Ducats into the Prosecutor's Pocket, without any Intent; in fine, they agreed to the Latter; and accordingly the F—n delivered in a Privy Verdict of Guilty, not thinking it material to say any thing about its being with no Intent. When they came into the Court the next Day, they were asked, if they abided by their Privy Verdict; at first, the F—n said they did; but they were told, that no Evidence was given as to any of the Counts laid in the Indictment, but the third Count; whereupon, one of the J—y was heard

heard to say, *We find him Guilty of no Intent.* They were then told, that unless they found the Intent, they could not find him Guilty; but if satisfied of the Intent, they must find him Guilty. But there was so great a Croud of People, and so much Noise in the Court, that the J—y could not possibly hear and understand what was said to them; and though the J——an, who said, *We find him Guilty of no Intent,* stood uncontradicted by the others, yet the Verdict was taken down *Guilty*; which, the J——en say, they did not intend, and that it was occasioned by the Noise, which prevented their hearing.

This being noised Abroad, many of the J—y found means to acquaint *Simons* and his Friends, that such a Verdict was not intended to be given by them; and therefore desired, that Means might be found to set it right, and they would willingly (as they could not reconcile it to their Conciences otherwise) make Affidavit of what was their Intention. Upon this, and mature Consideration, that the Declaration of one of the J——n, that he was not Guilty of any Intent, was a public, open Transaction, with Notice, that they did not intend to find the Defendaht Guilty of the Intent, and that it was a Mistake: This Verdict, as taken down, being contrary to the Direction of the H—e J—e, in Point of Law, and the Declaration of one of the J—y, it was resolved, that a new Trial should be applied for; and accordingly *Simons*, in *Easter* Term last, moved the C—t for a new Trial, and obtained a Rule for the P——r to shew Cause why a new Trial should not be granted. In the mean time, Affidavits of what they intended were made by every one of the J——n, which appeared clear and satisfactory, and were found to be consistent with, and consonant to, the Declaration

of one of them, at the very Time; so that it was no After-thought, Collusion, or Fraud; nor could there be the least Room to doubt the Veracity of the several Affidavits, the J——rs being all Gentlemen of Fortune, Probity, and Honour: Therefore, will any honest Man say, that when Errors or Mistakes are discovered, they should not be rectified?

The Consequence of the Defendant's Motion, was, the obtaining a new Trial; the Equity or Justice whereof, will scarce be disputed by any one: Happy, very happy, are the People of this Land, that the Observance of impartial Right and Justice is what the Laws of *England*, and its Judges, are, throughout *Europe*, known to maintain and assert, without any Respect of Persons.

At the last Summer-Affizes, at C——d, this Cause was again tried by another Special J—y, and lasted Thirteen Hours \*, when the J—y withdrew, and, in about Eight Minutes, brought in a Verdict, that the Defendant was *Not Guilty*.

Before this Appeal to you is concluded, permit *Simons* to return his most sincere and unfeigned Thanks to all those of Council with him, both in *London* and *Essex*, for their humane, wise, steady, and uniform Conduct, in his Defence against these Contrivers and Abettors, of so uncommon a Scene of Wickedness, which he now does, in the most humble Manner, and looks on them, next to those Friends, whom Providence raised up to him, in his greatest Distress, as the Preservers of his Life and Reputation.

Such benevolent Conduct to a poor Stranger, cannot avoid reaching the Ears of Neighbouring Nations; and must reflect the greatest Honour on our Country in general, and on those Gentlemen in particular.

Having

\* The Trial is printed in the Appendix.

Having now given, in as concise a Manner as the Nature of the Affair would permit, a Detail of the Facts; which, it is not imagined, *G—d* himself, or even *Mr. A—y*, will be so hardy as to deny; if they should, You are the Judges of the Facts, and consequently, who is the Injured and Oppressed. There are still some Proofs of a very strong Nature, which it is necessary to reserve 'til a proper Opportunity offers of exhibiting them, it being thought a Matter of the highest Concern to every Individual of this Kingdom, that such unheard-of Wickedness, as hath been practised in this extraordinary Case, should not go unpunished.

From the foregoing Circumstances, can there be a Doubt, whether *Simons* was robbed? If not, can there be a Question about who robbed him? Could *Simons* gain a Shilling by prosecuting *G—d*, or had he any other View but public Justice? None, it was impossible, nay, on the contrary, he was at the Expence of and borrowed Money to carry on the Prosecution. Let us then lay our Hands upon our Hearts, and, for a Moment, put ourselves in this poor Stranger's Situation, in a Country destitute of Friends in his greatest Need, stripped of all he is worth in the World in one Hour, mangled, cut, and abused, and his Life put in the most imminent Danger, and that too in a Place which, by the Laws of Hospitality and Humanity, should be his Castle of Defence and Safeguard against Robbery; sent into the Streets to ask Charity for his Subsistence, without any Knowledge of the Language, his Wife and Child in Prison: And, after all this, the strongest Attempts made that possibly could be to hunt him to his Destruction, by the most illegal Means; and, for what? To establish the Character of one Man, who never more can merit any thing from the Public, and to fill the Pockets

Pockets of another (who was his bosom Friend) for his Support of that Character. Let us but think what this poor Man has felt, and we cannot so far shut out Humanity from our Breasts, as not to feel a little for, and relieve him from his Anxiety and Distress; and by this Means we shall still retain our Fame of being hospitable and generous to Strangers, and Protectors of the Unhappy.— As to the Affair of the Three Ducats, it is now found, that *Simons* did not put them into *A—y's* Pocket; but then, the Question is, how they came there? The Answer to which must be, that it is very natural to suppose, they were taken down into *E—x* to make a Prey of the wretched *Simons*; if so, what in your Judgment does that Man deserve for his Pains? No-body will imagine *A—y* such an Idiot as to take up the Cudgels, and make himself a Mar-plot in another Man's Business for nothing. There must be something more at the Bottom of this Affair, which the World are not yet apprized of. Was he feed for assuming the Office of *Catch-Pole*, and did he wear the Office only for a Day to torture this miserable Man? surely that cannot be believed of a *Merchant of London*. Be it as it may, *G—d* and his Coadjutor had best not think themselves too secure, but learn to know, that the Hand of the Lord is not shortened, nor his Ear shut against the Prayer of the Poor and Destitute. *For, Vengeance is mine, and I will repay, saith the Lord.*

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# APPENDIX.

*Copy of the Affidavit mentioned in Page 37.*

**A**S the Affair of *Simons* the Jew, for swearing a Robbery against Mr. *Goddard* the Inn-keeper for which the said *Goddard* was tried at the *Old-Baily* and honourably acquitted) has of late made much Noise, and occasioned various Conjectures; the following Depositions having been transmitted to me, for the sake of publick Justice, and Satisfaction to the World, I have caused them to be published, submitting to their Consideration, whether there can be the least Reason *now* left to believe *Goddard* Guilty, on the single Evidence of so wicked a Jew, or that the said Jew was ever robbed at all.

*Bread-street.*

*Jan. 19, 1752.*

*James Ashley.*

**I**SAAC HUBBARD, of *Witham* in the County of *Essex*, Innholder, one of the Constables of the Hundred of *Witham* aforesaid; *Richard Taylor*, of *Boreham* in the County aforesaid, Puke-maker; *Daniel Hughs*, of *Witham* aforesaid, Taylor; and *Eleanor Brown*, of *Chelmsford* in the same County, Cook; severally make Oath and say; and first, the said *Isaac Hubbard*, for himself, saith, That he this Deponent, on or about the *Seventh* Day of *October* last past, having received a Warrant, under the Hand and Seal of *Crisp Gascoyne*, Esq; one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the City of *London*, indorsed by the Reverend *John Tyndal*, Clerk,  
one

one of His said Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County of *Essex*, dated the *Seventh* \* Day of *September* last past, for the apprehending and taking into Custody *Henry Simons*, for Perjury, did, soon after, in Obedyance of such Warrant, take into his this Deponent's Custody the aforesaid *Henry Simons*, being then found within the said Hundred of *Witham*, and brought him to *Chelmsford* aforesaid, in order to take further Directions concerning him from the Justices then sitting at the Quarter-Sessions for the said County of *Essex*: And this Deponent saith, that whilst the said *Simons* was so in Custody, he this Deponent did hear and see the said *Henry Simons* utter, in bad, broken *English*, and express himself by Signs and Motions, that *James Asbley*, of *Bread-street*, *London*, Merchant (who then being present) had robbed and taken from him the said *Simons*, some Money, mentioning Ducats, and pointing to the said Mr. *Asbley's* Pocket, and saying (You) meaning *Asbley*, had got his (Gilt) meaning his Money; which Mr. *Asbley* denying, desired and consented to be searched; upon which, one Mr. *Newman* put his Hand into Mr. *Asbley's* Pocket, and took thereout a Book and other Things; when Mr. *Simons*, observing that Mr. *Newman* was searching the Left-hand Pocket of Mr. *Asbley's* Coat, arose in haste from his Chair, and by his pointing, and, as well as he could, expressed himself in *English*, did declare, that his Money, Gilt, or Ducats, were not in the Pocket which the said Mr. *Newman* was searching, but that such Money was in the Right-hand Pocket of Mr. *Asbley's* Coat, and that he was particularly positive of it; he the said *Simons* taking hold of such Right-hand Pocket, and saying Words to this or the like Effect (that is to say) *It be here, de Gilt be here*

\* This should have been the 27th.

*here in dis Pocket*; upon which, Mr. *Ashley* examined his Right-hand Pocket, and found therein Three Ducats in Gold (foreign Coin) and which Ducats, this Deponent doth verily believe, were conveyed by *Simons* into Mr. *Ashley's* Pocket, with a fraudulent Design to injure him, in swearing a Robbery against him, he the said *Ashley*, having given Information to the Profecutor of *Simons* where he was to be found, by which means he was taken; and the more so, *Simons* insisting so very strong, that the Ducats were in such Right-hand Pocket as aforesaid, and no other; and from divers other Circumstances then appearing to this Deponent. And the said *Richard Taylor*, for himself, saith, That he being present at the Time when said *Simons* was in Custody, did see him the said *Simons* as he was stooping down, take something out of his Pocket very secretly and obscurely; that soon after the aforesaid Mr. *Ashley* came into the Room and went to *Simons*, in order to hear what he had to say to him, *Simons* having called for him, he, this Deponent, perceived *Simons* feeling at *Ashley's* Coat Pocket, and actually did see the said *Simons* put his Hand into the Left-hand Pocket of Mr. *Ashley's* Coat; upon which, this Deponent pulled or snatched *Simons's* Hand from the same, asking him, if he designed to pick the Gentleman's (meaning Mr. *Ashley's*) Pocket; and this Deponent really believes, he then attempted to put the aforementioned Ducats into Mr. *Ashley's* Pocket, but was prevented by his, this Deponent's, hastily taking hold of his said *Simons's* Hand; for that, soon after this, the said *Henry Simons* calling to Mr. *Ashley*, desired to speak with him privately; accordingly, Mr. *Ashley* went to him; but *Simons* speaking bad *English*, and then in a low Voice, obliged Mr. *Ashley* to lean down to him, that he might the better understand

understand what he said : And this Deponent further saith, That while the said Mr. *Ashley* was thus listening to *Simons*, he, this Deponent, did see the said *Henry Simons* put his Hand into Mr. *Ashley's* Right-hand Coat Pocket, and sitting down, immediately charged (as well as he could in respect to Language) the said Mr. *Ashley* with having his Ducats, directly pointing to the Right-hand Pocket of Mr. *Ashley's* Coat; whereupon this Deponent doth verily believe, that the Ducats found therein were put or conveyed there by the said *Simons*, at the Time that this Deponent saw his, said *Simons's*, Hand in Mr. *Ashley's* Right-hand Pocket, as aforesaid, and that the same was so put with an evil and fraudulent Design. And the said *Daniel Hughs*, for himself, saith, That he, this Deponent, did assist the above-named *Isaac Hubbard* in taking the said *Henry Simons*, and was with him all Night before brought to *Chelmsford*; that in the Morning this Deponent saw *Simons* telling over Money, and saw in his Hand Three Pieces of Gold, about the Size of Half Guineas, but of Foreign Coin, which he, this Deponent, doth verily believe were the same Pieces conveyed into Mr. *Ashley's* Pocket, and by the said *Simons* himself, he, this Deponent, seeing them taken from out Mr. *Ashley's* Pocket, and they appearing to him to be the same which he had seen in *Simons's* Hand the same Morning; for that some time after, said *Simons* was searched very narrowly, and no Gold was found about him, or any other Money, except One Shilling and Nine Pence Half-penny, and no more. And the said *Eleanor Brown* did see the said *Henry Simons* feeling of, and attempting to put his Hand into Mr. *Ashley's* Right-hand Coat Pocket; and that when Mr. *Newman* was examining Mr. *Ashley's* Left Pocket, as aforesaid, heard said *Simons* declare and point out,

out, that his Gilt, meaning his Money, was in Mr. *Ashley's* Right-hand Pocket; by which she, this Deponent, doth verily believe, that the aforesaid Ducats were actually put into Mr. *Ashley's* Pocket by him the said *Simons*, at the Time she saw his Hand in or near the Pocket as aforesaid. And lastly, they the said *Isaac Hubbard* and *Richard Taylor*, for themselves severally, say, That they were present with the said *Daniel Hughs* when *Simons* was searched, and that no Part of his Cloaths or Bundles which he had about him was left unsearched, but so strictly examined, that they do believe, no Money, or other Thing whatsoever, would be left therein undiscovered, and that no Money of any kind was found about him, except the above One Shilling and Nine Pence Half-penny. And that they do all verily believe, that the same Three Ducats as aforesaid, directed to be found in Mr. *Ashley's* Pocket as aforesaid by *Simons*, were put therein by him the said *Simons*, they really believing it impossible for him to be so exact in his Direction, unless placed or put there by himself before.

*Isaac Hubbard.*  
*Richard Taylor.*  
*Daniel Hughs.*  
 The Mark of  
*Eleanor* ✕ *Brown.*

Sworn before me, one of  
 His Majesty's Justices  
 of the Peace for the  
 County of *E—x*, this  
 15th Day of *Jan.* 1752.

J—T—

