

## THE TAKING OF THE DUKE OF MONMOUTH.

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An ACCOUNT of the Manner of Taking the Late DUKE of MONMOUTH, &c. By his Majesties Command.

Immediately after the Defeat of the Rebels at *Bridgewater* ; on *Monday* the sixth of *July* instant ; the late Duke of *Monmouth*, late Lord *Grey*, and the *Brandenburgh* fled ; and coming between *Gillingham* and *Shaftsbury*, got a Guide to lead them the way to the New Forest, most free from Towns and Watches ; he led them by *White-Sheet* four Miles East of *Shaftsbury*, and thence by *Cranborne-Chace* ; where, their Horses being tir'd, they let them loose, and hid their Bridles and Sables.

In the mean time, the news of the said Defeat coming to the Lord *Lumley*, then posted at *Ringwood* in *Hampshire*, with three Troops of Horse of Collonel *Staplyes* Regiment, commanded by Major *Bridger*, Captain *Monk* and Captain *Peckham* ; and four Companies of Foot of Collonel *Alford's* Regiment, Commanded by Lieutenant Collonel *Cooper*, Captain *Bickely*, Captain *Best*, and Captain *Carre* ; all of the *Sussex* Militia : His Lordship was pleas'd to send his Scouts every way to take up suspected Persons ; and Sir *William Portman*, for the same end, had taken care for strong Watches to be set, made up of his yellow Coats and others, on the Roads from *Pool* to the most Northern parts of *Dorset*.

Upon the seventh Instant, about five in the Morning, some of the Lord *Lumley's* said Scoutes (riding in the Road, near *Holt Lodge* in *Dorset*, four Miles West of *Ringwood*) just at the turn of a Cross way, surpriz'd and seiz'd two suspected Persons ; which, (when the Lord *Lumley* came up) prov'd to be the late Lord *Grey*, and the said Guide : This put the Lord *Lumley* upon a strict examining of the Cottages (with which that Heathy Country abounds) and call'd in the Neighbourhood that were acquainted with the Country, &c. Notice of this being brought to Sir *William Portman*, by some of his Watches, &c. He hasten'd to the Place with as many Horse and foot as he could of a sudden get together.

It happen'd upon the Lord *Lumley's* inquiry amongst the Cottages, that a Poor Woman, one *Amy Farrant* directed his Lordship to a Hedge, where she had seen two men go over ; which hedge prov'd to be part of the Out bounds of very many enclosed grounds ; some overgrown by Fearn and Brakes, and others sown with Rye, Pease, or Oats, &c.

Whereupon a strict Guard was put very near one another, round those Out-bounds ; whilst other Foot and Horse did beat within : These Guards kept their several Posts so well, that, tho the late Duke, and the *Brandenburgh* attempted at least thirty times, to make their Escape out, yet they alwaies found each Guard ready ; and upon their last attempt to escape, two of the Troopers firing on them, made them immediately to Retire and hide themselves apart from each other, in some of the adjacent Ditches, where they were afterwards found.

Upon the eighth day by five of the Clock in the morning, the *Brandenburgh* was found ; who upon Examination, confess'd, that he parted with the said late Duke within the same Out-bounds, about one of the Clock that morning : Whereupon every individual Person being encourag'd thereby, and by the hopes of having a share in the 5000. *l.* (as was before agreed of in the Field) did renew the pursuit of him with the strictest search and diligence imaginable ; and about seven of the clock of the same morning, one *Henry Parkin* (servant to *Samuel Rolles*, Esq ;) happened to discover the said late Duke hid in a Ditch covered with Fearn and Brakes, and calling to two of the *Sussex* Troopers that were by him, All three seiz'd him together : Sir *William Portman* happening to be near that place, rid presently in and quieted those that cried Shoot him, Shoot Him ! He laid hands on him as his Prisoner ; and so preserv'd him from all violence and Rudeness : And immediately in the same instant, the Lord *Lumley* came in, and agreed that Sir *William Portman* should search him ; which was done, and as soon as they had found his *George*, they dispatched that, with the News to his Majesty by Captain *Bickely*, and Mr. *Chaldecot*, a *Sussex* and *Dorset* Gentleman.

The Prisoners after this were kept two nights at *Ringwood*. On *Friday* the Lord *Lumley* discharged the Foot there ; and with the said three Troops of the *Sussex* Horse, and one Troop of the *Dorset* Militia, commanded by Captain *Fownes*, they were conveyed to *Winchester*, where joyn'd them two Troops of his Majesties in pay, and two of the *Northampton* Militia Troops, all which conducted them to *Farnham* Castle upon *Saturday* the 11th. and the next Day to *Guildford*, and upon *Monday* the 13th. to *Fox Hall*, where a Regiment of the Lord *Dartmouths* received them, with other Troops of his Majesties in Pay, and thence by Barge they were carried to *Whitehall*.

The Papers and Books that were found on him are since deliver'd to his Majesty.

One of the Books was a Manuscript of Spells, Charms, and Conjurations, Songs, Receipts, and Prayers, all written with the said late Duke's own hand.

Two others were Manuscripts of Fortification and the Military Art.

And a fourth Book fairly written, wherein are Computes of the yearly Expence of His Majesties Navy and Land Forces.

And as for his Gold ; only twenty Guinies were given to the said *Parkin* ; and ten Guinies a piece to the two Troopers that first seiz'd him ; and the rest was return'd to the said late Duke.

As the Prisoners passed through *Rumsey*, *Winchester*, *Farnham*, and *Guildford*, one would admire to see the very great numbers of the Militia, with the Deputy Leiutenants, and Gentlemen of those parts, that were ready to guard them, and take off the Fatigue of such as were on the march.

Within doors none but Commission Officers were trusted to watch by them, and besides those, the Lord *Lumley* and Sir *William Portman* took their turns to watch in Person, night and day, from the time of the taking of the said late Duke, until they had delivered him safe at *Whitehal*, from whence he was conveyed to the *Tower*.

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\* The text of the above is taken from a copy of the pamphlet in the possession of Mr. C. H. Wilkinson of Worcester College, Oxford. It is printed on two folio leaves. The piece was reprinted in Vol. VI of *The Harleian Miscellany*, 1745, pp. 295-6, and on pp. 321-2 of Vol. VI of the edition of 1810. There is a copy of the 1745 edition in the Library of University College, Southampton.