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THE
DRUMMER
OF
TEDWORTH;

CONTAINING,

The whole Story of that *Demon*, on which is founded, *The new Comedy of the Drummer : Or, The Haunted House.*

With a particular Account of several Gentlemen of Fashion who went to see, and hear it ; and of two Persons of Quality, sent on Purpose by King *Charles II.*

To which is added,

A large Relation of the *Marlborough-Ghost*, seen frequently in the Day time.

And Attested by the Reverend Mr. *Joshua Sackeverell*, Rector of *St. Peter's-Marlborough.*

Father of *Henry Sackeverell*, D. D. Rector of *St. Andrew's Holbourn.*

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T H E
 DRUMMER
 O F
Tedworth, &c.



OME People have been surpriz'd, that the Author of *the Drummer, &c.* should lay the Scene of a Comedy in a *Haunted House* ; but these good Folks, as nice Criticks as they are, forget that Sir *Richard Steel's* best Comedy is a *Funeral*, and the merriest Scenes in it at an Undertaker's. Now certainly a *Spirit* is as comical a Character as a *Corpse*, and therefore to do Honour to the Author of the *Drummer*, I shall give

an Account of the Pranks which were play'd at *Tedworth* by Mr. *Glanville's* *Demon*, from whom our comick Poet took his Hint. The *Demon* was the more proper for the *Stage*, because, as will be found by the Story, the Pranks he play'd were not so mischievous as they were merry, and such as we commonly call *Christmas* Gambols. The Story is this, About the Middle of *March* 1661, *John Mompeyson*, Esq; of *Tedworth*, near *Ludgershal* in *Wiltshire*, being at that Town, and hearing a Drum beat, to the great Disturbance of so peaceable a Corporation, inquir'd of his Landlord, the Bailiff, and chief Magistrate, what it meant? The Bailiff told him, they had for some Days past been troubled with an idle Drummer, who would not let People be quiet, unless they gave him Money. He pretended he had a Pass, and might beat his Drum, and beg by Authority of it; but the chief Magistrate imagin'd the Pass to be counterfeit, and that his Drum might be silenc'd as a Nuisance. Mr. *Mompesson* was of the same Opinion, and sent for the Drummer, of whom he demand'd, By what Authority he went up and down the Country in that Manner with his Drum. The Drummer, without any more ado, pluckt out his Pass, sign'd by two Justices of the Peace, Sir *William Cawley*, and Coll. *Ayliff* of *Grettenham*. But unlucky for both Mr. *Mompesson* and the Drummer; the former

mer happen'd to know the two Justices Hands, and discover'd the *Pas*s to be counterfeit; upon which he commanded the *Drummer* to leave of *Drumming*, which the Fellow boggling at, he charg'd a Constable with him, to carry him before the next Justice of the Peace, and see him punish'd as a *Cheat*; which the *Drummer* then confess'd, and only begg'd to have his *Drum* restor'd, for the Constable had seiz'd it, finding him refractory. The Fellow said, he belong'd to Colonel *Ayliff*, an Officer of the *Militia*; and Mr. *Mompesson* told him, he would enquire of the Colonel about him, and if he found he spoke Truth, he should have his *Drum* again. In the mean Time it was left in the Custody of the Bailiff, and the *Drummer* in the Hands of the Constable, who was easily perswaded by the Fellow, when Mr. *Mompesson* was gone, to let him go.

About a Month afterward, the Bailiff sent the *Drum* to Mr. *Mompesson's* House, a few Days before he set out for *London*: when he return'd, his Wife told him, they had been frighted with *Thieves*, and that the House had like to have been broken open. But these *Thieves* were the Effects of the fatal *Drum*, which contain'd as many *Spirits*, as there were *Greeks* in the *Trojan Horse*. What Noises the Women and Children had heard before Mr. *Mompesson* re-

turn'd from *London*, were look'd upon as foolish Fancies only ; but when he himself, the Master of the House, heard the same, a violent Knocking at his Door, which, by the way, is not the Manner of Thieves, he took the Alarm, and searcht the House with a Brace of Pistols in his Hand : for Mr. *Mompesson* was a manly Person, as Mr. *Glanville* assures us, and very discreet and sagacious, which of it self is sufficient to stop the Mouths of all Gain-sayers. I shall not pretend to be very solemn in the Relation of this wonderful *Adventure of the Drum*, because the Facts are not of a Nature to fright People out of their Wits at the Hearing of them ; the worst of them not coming near to the Mischiefs, which some Wenches do their Fellow-servants of the other Sex out of Wantonness, nothing like Strewing the Bed with Bits of Horse-Hair, or Seasoning the Porrage with *Cantharides*. Mr. *Mompesson*, arm'd as he was with his two Pistols, open'd the Door where the Knocking was ; immediately he heard the Noise at another Door. He then open'd that Door, but could discover nothing, only he heard the Noise still, and a hollow Sound, which indeed is very peculiar to that of a Drum, beaten by one in the Inside of it. This Noise was presently turn'd into a *Thumping* and *Drumming* on the Top of the House, which *Drumming* and

and *Thumping* went off by Degrees into the Air.

It usually lasted five Nights, and intermitted three, and was most frequent on the Outside of the House, which being of Wood, the cunning Devil knew 'twould have a good Effect on those within it. The most spiteful Part of it was, this Noise always came in the first Nap, as soon almost as they had shut their Eyes, and it kept the same Hours as the People of the House did. In a Months time it came from the Top of the House, into the Room where the Drum was, and the Knocking and Thumping were heard there four or five Nights in seven, about half an Hour after the People were gone to Bed.

The Spirit gave Notice of its Coming and Going.

The Sign of its Coming was a *Hurling* in the Air over the House, for this *Demon* did not ascend as the *Demons* of the Stage, but it seems descended like the *Genii* of the *Caballists*.

The Sign of its Going, was the Beating of a Drum, like that of the Breaking up of a Guard.

It

It continu'd thus two Months in the Room where the Drum it self was, and Mr. *Mompesson* himself lay there to observe it. The Noise generally lasted two Hours, and then ceast.

Mrs. *Mompesson* being in Labour, there was little Noise heard, and the Historian takes Notice, that 'till her Month was almost out, and she had recover'd Strength, all Things were pretty quiet; which shew'd, that whether they were *Demons* or *Witches*, they were of the more mannerly Sort. But he adds, that as soon as she was up and well, they paid it off again.

And next the youngest Children, by beating their Bed-steads, by making them quiver, and the like. The Historian is so particular in that Part of the Noise, which referr'd to the Drum, as to acquaint us what Beats the Drummer gave them; as the Tattoo, and several Points of War, not forgetting Round-heads and Cuckolds, which is extremely pleasant, and particular.

There was, in the next Place, a *scratching* under the Childrens Beds, as if with iron Claws.

The Children were follow'd from Room to Room, and 'list'd up in their Beds.

The

The *Dæmon*, for a while, haunted none but them.

They were put to Bed in the *Cock-loft* by Day-light, but their Troubles still follow'd them, and they were remov'd to their own Rooms again.

On the 5th of *November* 1661, it made a mighty Noise, and a Servant observing two Boards in the Childrens Room seeming to move; he bid the Devil *give him one of them*, upon which the Board came, nothing moving it that he saw, within a Yard of him; the Man added, nay, let me have it in my Hand, and it was immediately shov'd Home to him, and so up and down, to and fro, at least twenty Times together, 'till Mr. *Mompesson* gravely forbid his Servants to be so familiar with the *Dæmon*. This was done in the Day-time, and seen by a whole Room full of People. When it went away, it left a sulphurous Smell behind it, which is a strong Argument for the *Locality* of Hell, and the literal Interpretation of Fire and Brimstone, so much controverted by *drolling* Scepticks. At Night, Mr. *Cragg*, the Minister of the Parish, and several of the Neighbours came to visit Mr. *Mompesson*; the Minister kneeling by the Childrens Bed-side, went to Prayers, during which Time, the *Dæmon* withdrew to the *Cock-loft*, but return'd as soon as Prayers were

were over, and then in Sight of the Company, the *Chairs* walk about the Room of themselves, the Childrens Shoes and Pumps were hurl'd over their Heads, and every loose Thing mov'd about the Chamber. At the same time, a Bed-staff was thrown at the Minister, which hit him on the Leg, but so favourably, that a Lock of Wooll could not fall more softly.

Mr. *Mompesson*, after this, remov'd his youngest Children to a Neighbour's House, where they lay quiet and snug ; but the eldest Daughter being taken into his own Chamber, as soon as she was a Bed, the *Drumming* began, and it was in this, at least, very comical, that it *exactly answer'd any Thing that was beaten or call'd for* ; and we must understand, that, by this Time the People of the House, nay, the very Children had been so us'd to the Company of the *Demon*, that he was become as familiar to them, as if he had been one of the Family. The Neighbour's House where the Children lodg'd, happening to be full of Strangers, they were taken Home, and no Disturbance having been known in the Parlour, a Bed was set up there for them ; the *Demon* soon found them out, but contented himself with plucking them by the *Hair* and *Night-cloaths*.

When

When the Noise was loudest, and came with the most sudden Violence, no Dog about the House would stir, though the Knocking was so rude, that it has been heard at a considerable Distance in the Fields, and awaken'd the Neighbours in the Village, though none of them liv'd very near Mr. *Mompesson*.

The Servants were sometimes lifted up in their Beds, and then gently let down again; sometimes it would lie like a Log upon their Feet.

About the latter End of *December 1661*, the Drumming was less frequent; but when that Noise ceas'd, another more grateful one was heard, like the gingling of Money. This was thought to be occasion'd by something old Mrs. *Mompesson*, Grandmother of the Children, said to a Neighbour of theirs, who the Day before talkt to her of *Fairies* leaving Money, *Why*, says the old Gentlewoman, *I should like it well, if it would leave us some, to make Amends for our Trouble*. The Night after, there was great Clinking of Money all over the House, but I do not find there was a Farthing left for them.

By this, and what follows, one may see, that Mr. — has not err'd so much as
some

Some People imagine, in making the Devil of *Tedworth* the Subject of his Comedy.

On *Christmas-Day*, one of the little Boys arising out of Bed, was hit on a sore Place on the Heel, with the Latch of the Door.

The Night after, the *Demon* threw the old Gentlewoman's *Petticoats* about the Room, and hid her *Bible* in the Ashes.

'Twas very spiteful to *John*, a Man-servant of Mr. *Mompesson's*, a sober stout Fellow ; for several Nights together, it endeavour'd to pluck the Cloaths off his Bed, in-somuch that he was fain to tug hard to keep them on. It threw his Shoes at his Head, but did not hurt him ; he now and then found himself held down, as forcibly, as if he were bound Hand and Foot, but when he could come at his Sword, he no sooner drew it, and offer'd to strike with it, than the Devil quitted his Hold.

Some time after this, one Mr. *Bennet*, whose Workman the *Drummer* had been, came to visit Mr. *Mompesson*, and said some Things to him, which, it seems, his invisible Servant did not take well ; for at Night, as soon as they were all a-Bed, the Drum was beaten up very violently and loudly. Mr. *Bennet* rose, and call'd his Man, who lay with *John* ; as soon as Mr. *Bennet's* Man was

was gone, *John* heard a rustling Noise in his Chamber, and something came to his Bed-side, as if it was one in Silk; *John* presently reach'd after his Sword, which he found held from him, and 'twas with difficulty and much tugging that he got it into his Power from this silken *Demon*, who was observ'd, as I have hinted, to be more afraid of *John's* Sword, than *John* was of him.

About the Beginning of *January* 1662, they were wont to hear a Singing in the Chimney before it came down.

A *Light* was one Night seen in the House; it seem'd Blue and Glimmering, and caus'd great Stiffness in the Eyes of those that saw it.

After the *Light*, something was heard coming up Stairs, like a Man without Shoes.

The *Light* was seen four or five Times in the Childrens Room, and the *Maids* affirm'd, that the Doors were open'd and shut at least ten Times in their Sight, and when they were open'd, they heard a Noise, as if half a Dozen had enter'd together, after which some were heard to walk about the Room, and among them the silken *Demon* for the rustling above-mention'd, was again heard. Mr. *Mompesson* himself heard the like once, and no more.

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During

During the Time of the Knocking, when many were present, a Gentleman of the Company cry'd out, *Satan, if the Drummer set thee to Work, give three Knocks and no more* ; which it did very distinctly, and stop'd.

Then the Gentleman knockt to see if it would answer him, but it did not : To be confirm'd in what he cry'd, *If it is the Drummer, give five Knocks and no more this Night*, which it did, and left the House quiet all the Night after. This was done in the Presence of Sir Thomas Chamberlain of Oxfordshire.

On the 10th of January, a Drum was heard to beat at Mr. Mompesson's Chamber Door, from whence it went to the other End of the House, where some Gentlemen Strangers lay, and play'd four or five *Beats* at their Door, as *Drummers* are wont to do at Weddings, or to welcome Strangers to Town.

The next Night, a Smith of the Village lying with *John*, the *Demon*, to humour the Smith, chang'd the Noise of Knocking into that of Shoeing of Horse, and it was so very frolicksome with him, that it seem'd to snip at the Smith's Nose with a Pair of Pincers most Part of the Night.

One Morning Mr. *Mompesson* rising early to go a Journey, heard a great Noise below, where the Children lay, and running down with a Pistol in his Hand, he heard a Voice, *A Witch, a Witch*, which had been heard once before ; upon his Entrance all was quiet.

One Night it friskt from one Side of his eldest Daughter's Bed to the other, and sometimes it was under the Bed, whence it would lift her up and down. They heard three Kinds of Noises in the Bed, and thrust at it with a Sword, but it still shifted, and carefully avoided the Thrust, still getting under the Child, when they offer'd at it.

The Night after it came panting like a Dog out of Breath, upon which one took a Bed-staff to knock, but the Bed-staff was caught out of her Hand, and thrown away, and Company coming up, the Room was presently fill'd with a bloomy noisome Smell, and was very Hot, though without Fire, in a very sharp and severe Winter.

It continu'd in the Bed panting and scratching an Hour and half, and then went into the next Chamber, where it knockt a little, and seem'd to rattle a Chain, which was the most Devil-like Prank it had yet play'd. Thus it did for two or three Nights together.

After this, the old Gentlewoman's *Bible* was found in the Ashes, the Paper-fides downwards. Mr. *Mompesson* took it up, and observ'd, it lay open at the *third* Chapter of *St. Mark*, where there is mention of the unclean Spirits falling down before our Saviour, and of his giving Power to the *Twelve* to cast out Devils, &c.

The next Night they strew'd Ashes over the Chamber, to see what Impressions it would leave ; in the Morning they found in one Place, the Resemblance of a great Claw ; in another, that of a less ; some Letters in another, which they could make nothing of, besides many Circles and Scratches.

So many Wonders drew a vast Concourse of People to Mr. *Mompesson's*, to be Witnesses of as many of them as they could. This *Devil* did so little Harm, that no Body that went thither had any Terror upon them. Among the rest, came Mr. *Joseph Glanville*, Minister of *Bath*, Chaplain in Ordinary to His Majesty, Fellow of the Royal Society ; and I cannot help adding, for my own Glory, great Unkle to the Writer of this History, for the present Purpose.

What

*What the Reverend Mr. Glanville
writes of it from his own Know-
ledge.*

‘ **A** Bout this time I went to the House,
‘ *January 1662*, on Purpose to enquire
‘ the Truth of those Passages, of which
‘ there was so loud a Report. It had ceast
‘ from its *Drumming*, and ruder Noises be-
‘ fore I came thither, but most of the more
‘ remarkable Circumstances before related,
‘ were confirm’d to me there, by several
‘ of the Neighbours together, who had been
‘ present at them. At this Time it us’d to
‘ haunt the Children, and that as soon as
‘ they were laid. They went to Bed that
‘ Night I was there, about eight a Clock,
‘ when a Maid-servant coming from their
‘ Room, told us it was come. The Neigh-
‘ bours that were there, and two Mini-
‘ sters who had seen and heard divers times,
‘ went away, but Mr. *Mampesson* and I,
‘ and a Gentleman that came with me went
‘ up. I heard a strange Scratching as I
‘ went up Stairs, and when we came into
‘ the Room, I perceiv’d it was just behind
‘ the Bolster of the Childrens Bed, and
‘ seem’d.

seem'd to be against the Tick. It was as
 loud a Scratching, as one with long Nails
 could make upon a Bolster. There were
 two little modest Girls in the Bed, be-
 tween seven and eight Years old, as I gueſt.
 I ſaw their Hands out of the Cloaths, and
 they could not contribute to the Noiſe
 that was behind their Heads; they had
 been us'd to it, and had ſtill ſome Body
 or other in the Chamber with them, and
 therefore ſeem'd not to be much aſtrighted.
 I ſtanding at the Beds-head, thruſt my
 Hand behind the Bolſter, directing it to
 the Place whence the Noiſe ſeem'd to
 come, whereupon the Noiſe ceaſt there,
 and was heard in another Part of the Bed;
 but when I had taken out my Hand it re-
 turn'd, and was heard in the ſame Place
 as before. I had been told, that it would
 imitate Noiſes, and made Trial by scratch-
 ing ſeveral Times upon the Sheet, as five,
 and ſeven, and ten, which it follow'd, and
 ſtill ſtopt at my Number. I ſearcht under
 and behind the Bed, turn'd up the Cloaths
 to the Bed-cords, ſounded the Wall be-
 hind, and made all the Search that poſſi-
 bly I could, to find if there were any
 Trick, Contrivance, or common Cauſe
 of it; and the like did my Friend, but
 could diſcover Nothing. So that I was
 then verily perſwaded, and am ſo ſtill,
 that the Noiſe was made by ſome *Demon*

or *Spirit*. After it had scratcht about half
 an Hour or more, it went into the Midst
 of the Bed under the Children, and there
 seem'd to pant like a Dog out of Breath
 very loudly. I put my Hand upon the
 Place, and felt the Bed bearing up against
 it, as if something within had thrust it
 up. I graspt the Feathers, to feel if any
 living Thing were in it. I lookt under
 and every where about, to see if there
 were any Dog or Cat, or any such Crea-
 ture in the Room, and so we all did, but
 found nothing. The Motion it caus'd by
 the Panting was so strong, that it shook
 the Room and Windows very sensibly.
 It continu'd thus more than half an Hour,
 while my Friend and I stay'd in the Room,
 and as long after, as we were told. During
 the panting, I chanc'd to see as it had been
 something (which I thought was a Rat or
 Mouse) moving in a Linnen-bag, that
 hung up against another Bed that was in
 the Room, I stept and caught it by the
 upper End with one Hand, with which I
 held it, and drew it through the other,
 but found nothing at all in it. There was
 no Body near to shake the Bag, or if there
 had, no one could have made such a Mo-
 tion, which seem'd to be from within, as
 if a living Creature had mov'd in it. This
 Passage I mention'd not in the former E-
 ditions, because it depended upon my
 single,

' single Testimony, and might be subject
 ' to more Evasions than the other I related ;
 ' but having told it to divers learn'd and
 ' inquisitive Men, who thought it not alto-
 ' gether inconsiderable, I have now added
 ' it here. It will, I know, be said by some,
 ' that my Friend and I were under some a-
 ' fright, and so fancy'd Noises and Sights
 ' that were not. This is the eternal Eva-
 ' sion. But if it be possible to know how
 ' a Man is affected, when in Fear, and when
 ' unconcern'd, I certainly know for my
 ' own Part, that during the whole Time
 ' of my being in the Room, and in the
 ' House, I was under no more Afrightment,
 ' than I am while I write this Relation.
 ' And if I know that I am now awake, and
 ' that I see the Objects that are before me,
 ' I know that I heard and saw the Parti-
 ' culars I have told. There is, I am sensi-
 ' ble, no great Matter for Story in them,
 ' but there is so much as convinceth me,
 ' that there was somewhat extraordinary,
 ' and what we usually call preternatural in
 ' the Business. There were other Passages
 ' at my being at *Tedworth*, which I pub-
 ' lish'd not, because they are not such plain
 ' and unexceptionable Proofs. I shall now
 ' briefly mention them, *Valeant quantum*
 ' *valere possunt*. My Friend and I lay in
 ' the Chamber, where the first and chief
 ' Disturbance had been. We slept well all
 ' Night,

Night, but early before Day in the Morn-
 ing, I was awaken'd, (and I awaken'd
 my Bed-fellow) by a great Knocking just
 without our Chamber-door. I askt who
 was there several Times, but the Knock-
 ing still continu'd without Answer. At
 last I said, *In the Name of God who is it,*
and what would you have? To which a
 Voice answer'd, *Nothing with you.* We
 thinking it had been some Servant of the
 House, went to Sleep again. But speak-
 ing of it to Mr. *Mompesson* when we came
 down, he assur'd us, that no one of the
 House lay that way, or had Business there-
 about, and that his Servants were not up
 'till he call'd them, which was after it was
 Day. Which they confirm'd, and pro-
 tested that the Noise was not made by
 them. Mr. *Mompesson* had told us before,
 that it would be gone in the Middle of
 the Night, and come again divers Times
 early in the Morning, about four a Clock,
 and this, I suppose, was about that time.

Another Passage was this, my Man com-
 ing up to me in the Morning, told me,
 that one of my Horses, (that on which I
 rode) was all in a sweat, and lookt as if
 he had been rid all Night. My Friend
 and I went down and found him so. I
 enquir'd how he had been us'd, and was
 assur'd, that he had been well fed, and
 order'd.

‘ order’d as he us’d to be, and my Servant
 ‘ was one that was wont to be very careful
 ‘ about my Horses. The Horse I had a
 ‘ good Time, and never knew but that he
 ‘ was very sound. But after I had rid
 ‘ him a Mile or two, very gently over a
 ‘ plain Down from Mr. *Mompesson’s* House,
 ‘ he fell Lame, and having made a hard
 ‘ Shift to bring me Home, dy’d in two or
 ‘ three Days, no one being able to imagine
 ‘ what he ailed. This, I confess, might be
 ‘ Accident, or some unusual Distemper, but
 ‘ all Things being put together, it seems
 ‘ very probable, that it was somewhat
 ‘ else.’

Here is Mr. *Glanville’s* Evidence, and it
 is left to the credulous or incredulous
 Reader, to judge of it as he thinks fit.
 However, in all this Part of the Story, as
 well as it is attested, there is nothing that
 has a Look of *Tragedy*, but the *Death of his*
Horse, and whether a dead Horse be a Sub-
 ject for Tragedy or Comedy, I leave to the
 Determination of the Judicious.

We have these further Particulars.

There came one Morning a *Light* into the
 Childrens Chamber, and a Voice crying,
A Witch, a Witch, for at least an Hundred
 times together.

Mr.

Mr. *Mompesson*, at another Time, being in the Day, seeing some Wood move, that was in the Chimney of a Room where he was, as of it self, discharg'd a Pistol into it, after which they found several Drops of Blood on the Hearth, and in divers Places of the Stairs: This Incident has nothing comical in it.

For two or three Nights after the Discharge of the Pistol, there was a Calm in the House, but then it came again, applying it self to a little Child newly taken from Nurse, which it so persecuted, that it would not let the poor Infant rest for two Nights together, nor suffer a Candle in the Room, but carry'd it away lighted up the Chimney, or threw it under the Bed; it so scar'd this Child by leaping upon it, that for some Hours it could not be recover'd out of the Fright, and they were forc'd to remove the Children out of the House again.

The next Night after, something about Mid-night came up the Stairs, and knockt at Mr. *Mompesson's* Door, but he lying still, it went up another Pair of Stairs, to his Man's Chamber, to whom it appear'd standing at his Bed-foot, the exact Shape and Proportion he could not discover; but he said,

He

He saw a great Body with two red and glaring Eyes, which for sometime were fix'd steadily upon him, and then vanish'd.

This has nothing merry in it, and is quite out of the Character of Comedy, according to the Rules of *Aristotle, Horace, Scalliger, Dacier, &c.* But the Poet might sink that Incident, and the next would do very well.

Another Night strangers being present, it purr'd in the Childrens Bed like a Cat.

It lifted up the Children in their Beds.

It beat their Legs against the Bed-posts.

It sprinkled them with Ashes.

It hung Chamber-pots into their Beds.

They were put into another Bed, but it signify'd nothing ; they were still thus persecuted, and forc'd to rise, and sit up all Night. The other Incidents are more Tragical, as a long *pike Iron* put into Mr. *Mompesson's* Bed, and a naked Knife upright into his Mother's.

In *April* 1663, a Gentleman that lay in the House, had all his Money turn'd Black in his Pocket.

Mr. *Mompesson* coming one Morning in- to the Stable, found the Horse he was wont to ride, on the Ground, having one of his hinder Legs in his Mouth, and so fasten'd there, that it was difficult for several Men to get it out with a Leaver.

The House was beset with seven or eight in the Shape of Men, who, as soon as a Gun was discharg'd, would shuffe away together into an Arbour.

King *Charles II.* hearing of these Wonders, sent two Gentlemen to *Tedworth*, to see whether there was any Foundation for what he heard, but unluckily, for the Credit of the *Dæmon*, no Noise, no Disturbance happen'd that Night; and upon this, the Earl of *Rocheſter*, and other Wits of the Age, endeavour'd to turn the whole Story into ridicule. It was pretended, *That the House was rented, and 'twas a Device to beat down the Value; that it was a Trick to get Money from those that came to see the Prodigy, and the like; but Mr. Mompesson's Friends had a ready Answer for these Objections, That the House was his own, that*

C

he

he had a good Estate, and was above a Trick to get Money, and that, on the contrary, he lost by the Expence, he was forc'd to be at, in Entertaining those that came out of Curiosity to visit him.

I shall give this Story no further Evidence, except two Letters written by Mr. *Mompesson* himself, to two of his Friends upon this Subject.

T O T H E
Reverend Mr. *Glanville*.

Worthy Sir,

Meeting with Dr. *Pierce* accidentally at Sir *Robert Buttons*, he acquainted me of something that pass'd between my Lord of *R——* and your self about my Troubles, &c. To which (having but little Leisure) I do give

' give you this Account ; That I have
 ' been very often of late ask'd the Que-
 ' stion, whether I have not confess'd to
 ' His Majesty, or any other, a Cheat
 ' discover'd about that Affair. To which
 ' I gave, and shall to my Dying-day,
 ' give the same Answer, that I must
 ' belye my self, and perjure my self al-
 ' so, to acknowledge a Cheat in a Thing
 ' where I am sure there was nor could
 ' be any ; as I, the Minister of the Place,
 ' and two other honest Gentlemen de-
 ' pos'd at the Assizes, upon my im-
 ' pleading the *Drummer*. If the World
 ' will not believe it, it shall be indiffe-
 ' rent to me, praying God to keep me
 ' from the same, or the like Affliction.
 ' And although, I am sure, this most
 ' damnable Lye does pass for Current
 ' amongst one Sort of People in the
 ' World, invented only, I think, to sup-
 ' press the Belief of the Being either of
 ' God or Devil ; yet I question not, but
 ' the Thing obtains credit enough a-
 ' mongst those, whom I principally de-
 ' sire should retain a more charitable O-
 ' pinion of me, than to be any Way a
 ' Deviser of it, only to be talkt of in
 ' the World, to my own Disadvantage

(28)

' and Reproach; of which Sort I reckon
' you one, and rest in Haste, '

S I R,

Nov. 8.
1672.

Your oblig'd Servant,

Jo. Mompeffon.

T O

T O

Mr. *James Collins.*

S I R,

I Receiv'd Yours, and had given you
an earlier Answer, had I not been
prevented by some Journeys. I now
give you this ; That as to any addi-
tional Part of the Story, I shall not trou-
ble you with at present, not knowing
what is either already publish'd or o-
mitted, in regard I have not any of
Mr. *Glanville's* Books by me. I never
had but one, which was the last Year
borrow'd of me, for the Use of the

C 3

' Lord

“ Lord *Hollis*, and is not yet return’d.
 “ But as to the Business of the Assizes
 “ (which is likely to work most on the
 “ Incredulous, because the Evidence was
 “ given on Oath) I shall here enlarge it
 “ to you.

“ When the *Drummer* was escap’d
 “ from his Exile, which he was sen-
 “ tenc’d to at *Gloucester* for a Felony, I
 “ took him up, and procur’d his Com-
 “ mitment to *Salisbury Goal*, where I in-
 “ dicted him as a Felon, for this suppos’d
 “ Witchcraft about my House. When
 “ the Fellow saw me in earnest, he sent
 “ to me from the Prison, that he was
 “ sorry for my Affliction, and if I would
 “ procure him leave to come to my House
 “ in the Nature of an Harvest-man, he
 “ did not question but he should do me
 “ Good as to that Affair. To which I
 “ sent Answer, I knew he could do me
 “ no Good in any honest Way, and there-
 “ fore rejected it. The Assizes came on,
 “ where I indicted him on the Statute
 “ *Primo Jacobi*, cap. 12. where you may
 “ find, that to feed, imploy, or reward
 “ any evil Spirit is Felony. And the In-
 “ dictment

dictment against him was, that he did
quendam malum Spiritum negociare, the
 Grand-Jury found the Bill upon the
 Evidence, but the Petty-Jury acquitted him, but not without some Difficulty.

The Evidence upon Oath were myself, one Mr. *William Maton*, one Mr. *Walter Dowse*, all yet living, and I think of as good Repute, as any this Country has in it, and one Mr. *Jo. Cragg*, then Minister of the Place, but since Dead. We all depos'd several Things that we conceiv'd impossible to be done by any natural Agents, as the Motion of Chairs, Stools, and Bed-staves, no Body being near them, the Beating of Drums in the Air over the House in clear Nights, and nothing visible; the shaking of the Floor and strongest Parts of the House in still and calm Nights, with several other Things of the like Nature: And that by other Evidence it was apply'd to him.

For

‘ For some going out of these Parts
 ‘ to *Gloucester*, whilst he was there in
 ‘ Prison, and visiting him, he askt them
 ‘ what News in *Wilts*. To which they
 ‘ reply’d, they knew none. No, says
 ‘ the *Drummer*, did you not hear of a
 ‘ Gentleman’s House that was troubled
 ‘ with the Beating of Drums ? They
 ‘ told him again, if that were News,
 ‘ they heard enough of that. Ay, says
 ‘ the *Drummer*, it was because he took
 ‘ my Drum from me; if he had not ta-
 ‘ ken away my Drum, that Trouble had
 ‘ never befallen him, and he shall never
 ‘ have his Quiet again, ’till I have my
 ‘ Drum, or Satisfaction from him.

‘ This was depos’d by one *Thomas*
 ‘ *Avis*, Servant to one Mr. *Thomas Sad-*
 ‘ *ler* of *North-Wilts*, and these Words
 ‘ had like to have cost the *Drummer*
 ‘ his Life. For else, altho’ the Things
 ‘ were never so true, it could not have
 ‘ been rightly apply’d to him more
 ‘ than to another. I should only add,
 ‘ that the before-mention’d Witnesses
 ‘ were Neighbours, and depos’d, that
 ‘ they

they heard and saw these Things almost every Day or Night for many Months together. As to the Sculpture you intend, you best understand the Advantage, I think it needless. And those Words [you shall have Drumming enough] is more than I heard him speak."

I rest,

Your Loving Friend,

Jo. Mompesson.

Tedworth,
Aug. 8. 1674.

Mr.

Mr. *Mompesson* hints here, how he prosecuted the *Drummer* of *Tedworth*, of which there is this more particular Account.

The *Drummer* was try'd at the *Affizes* at *Salisbury* upon this Occasion. He was committed first to *Gloucester-Goal* for Stealing, and a *Wiltshire* Man coming to see him, he askt what News in *Wiltshire*; the Visitant said, he knew of none: No, saith the *Drummer*, Do not you hear of the *Drumming* at a Gentleman's House at *Tedworth*? That I do enough, said the other: I, quoth the *Drummer*, I have plagu'd him, (or to that purpose) and he shall never be quiet, 'till he hath made me Satisfaction for taking away my *Drum*. Upon Information of this, the Fellow was try'd for a Witch at *Sarum*, and all the main Circumstances I have related, were Sworn at the *Affizes*, by the Minister of the Parish, and divers others of the most intelligent and substantial Inhabitants, who had been Eye and Ear-witnesses of them, Time after Time, for divers Years together.

The Fellow was condemn'd to Transportation, and accordingly sent away; but I know not how ('tis said by raising Storms, and affrighting the Seamen) he made a Shift to come back again. And 'tis observable, that

that during all the Time of his Restraint and Absence, the House was quiet ; but as soon as ever he came back at Liberty, the Disturbance return'd.

THE

5

THE
Marlborough Ghost,

Attested by the Reverend

Mr. *Joshua Sacheverell,*

Father of

Henry Sacheverell, D. D.

D

About the same Time that the Drummer of Tedworth made such a Noise, there happen'd as strange a Thing at Marlborough in the same County, not far from Tedworth, which was the Apparition of a Ghost at Nine a Clock in the Morning, the Relation of which was taken by William Baily, Esq; a Justice of Peace, in the Presence of Christopher Lypyatt, Esq; Mayor of Marlborough, Mr. Rolf Baily, Town Clerk, and Mr. Joshua Sacheverell, Rector of St. Peter's Marlborough, and Father of Henry Sacheverell, D. D.

T Thomas Goddard of Marlborough in the County of Wilts, Weaver, saith, ' That on Monday the Ninth of this Instant, as he was going to Ogborn, at a Stile on the Highway

way near Mr. *Goddard's* Ground, about
 Nine in the Morning, he met the Ap-
 parition of his Father-in-Law, one *Ed-
 ward Avon* of this Town, *Glover*, who
 dy'd in *May* last, having on, to his Ap-
 pearance, the same Clothes, Hat, Stock-
 ings, and Shoes, he did usually wear
 when he was living, standing by, and
 leaning over that Stile. Which when
 he came near, the Apparition spake to
 him with an audible Voice these Words,
Are you afraid? To which he answer'd,
 I am thinking on one who is dead and
 bury'd, whom you are like. To which
 the Apparition reply'd with the like
 Voice, I am he that you were thinking
 on, I am *Edward Avon* your Father-in-
 Law, come near to me, I will do you
 no Harm. To which *Goddard* answer'd,
 I trust in him who hath bought my
 Soul with his precious Blood, you shall
 do me no Harm. Then the Apparition
 said, How stand Cases at Home? *God-
 dard* askt, what Cases? Then it askt
 him, how do *William* and *Mary*, mean-
 ing, as he conceiv'd, his Son *William
 Avon*, a Shoe-maker here, and *Mary* his
 Daughter, the said *Goddard's* Wife.
 Then it said, What! *Taylor* is dead,
 meaning,

' meaning, as he thought, one *Taylor* of
 ' *London*, who marry'd his Daughter
 ' *Sarah*, which *Taylor* dy'd about *Michael-*
 ' *mas* last. Then the Apparition held
 ' out its Hand, and in it, as *Goddard*
 ' conceiv'd, twenty or thirty Shillings in
 ' Silver, and then spake with a loud Voice,
 ' *Take this Money and send it to Sarah ; for*
 ' *I shut up my Bowels of Compassion toward*
 ' *her in the Time of my Life, and now here*
 ' *is somewhat for her.* And then said,
 ' *Mary* (meaning his the said *Goddard's*
 ' Wife as he conceiv'd) *is troubled for me;*
 ' *but tell her, God hath show'd Mercy to me*
 ' *contrary to my Deserts.* But the said *God-*
 ' *dard* answer'd, *In the Name of JESUS*
 ' *CHRIST I refuse all such Money.* Then
 ' the Apparition said, *I perceive you are*
 ' *afraid, I will meet you some other Time.*
 ' And immediately it went up the Lane
 ' to his Appearance, so he went over the
 ' same Stile, but saw it no more that
 ' Day.

' He saith, The next Night about seven
 ' of the Clock, it came and open'd the
 ' Shop-Window, and stood in the like
 ' Clothes, looked him in the Face, but
 ' said nothing to him. And the next

Night after, as *Goddard* went forth in-
 to his Back side with a Candle lighted
 in his Hand, it appear'd to him again
 in the same Shape, but he being in Fear,
 ran into his House, and saw it no more
 then.

But he saith, That on *Thursday* the
 twelfth Instant, as he came from *Chil-*
ton, riding down the Hill between the
 Mannor-house and *Axford-Farm-Field*,
 he saw something like a Hare cross his
 way, at which his Horse being fright-
 ed, threw him in the Dirt, as soon as
 he could recover on his Feet, the same
 Apparition there met him again in the
 same Habit, and there standing about
 eight Foot directly before him in the
 Way, spake again to him with a loud
 Voice, *Source* (a Word he commonly
 us'd when living) *you have stay'd long;*
 and then said to him, *Thomas, bid Wil-*
liam Avon take the Sword that he had of
me, which is now in his House, and carry
it to the Wood as we go to Alton, to the
upper End of the Wood by the Way-side;
for with that Sword I did wrong above
thirty Years ago, and he never prosper'd
since he had that Sword. And bid Wil-
 liam

' liam Avon give his Sister Sarah twenty
 ' Shillings of the Money which he had of me.
 ' And do you talk with Edward Lawrence,
 ' for I borrow'd twenty Shillings of him se-
 ' veral Years ago, and did say I had paid
 ' him, but I did not pay it him ; and I would
 ' desire you to pay him twenty Shillings out of
 ' the Money which you had from James
 ' Elliot at two Payments. Which Money,
 ' the said Goddard now saith, was five
 ' Pounds, which James Elliot a Baker here
 ' ow'd the said Avon on Bond, and which
 ' he the said Goddard had receiv'd from
 ' the said Elliot since Michaelmas, at two
 ' Payments, viz. 35 s. at one Payment,
 ' and 3 l. 5 s. at another. And it far-
 ' ther said to him, Tell Margaret (mean-
 ' ing his own Wife as he conceiv'd) that
 ' I would desire her to deliver up the little
 ' which I gave to little Sarah Taylor, to
 ' the Child, or to any one she will trust for
 ' it. But if she will not, speak to Edward
 ' Lawrence to perswade her. But if she will
 ' not then, tell her that I will see her very
 ' suddenly. And see that this be done within
 ' a twelve Month and a Day after my De-
 ' cease, and Peace be with you. And so it
 ' went away over the Rails into the
 ' Wood, there in the like Manner as
 ' any

‘ any Man would go over a Stile to his
 ‘ Apprehension, and so he saw it no more
 ‘ at that Time. And he saith, that he
 ‘ paid the twenty Shillings to *Edward*
 ‘ *Lawrence* of this Town, who being pre-
 ‘ sent now, doth remember he lent the
 ‘ said *Avon* twenty Shillings about twen-
 ‘ ty Years ago, which none knew but
 ‘ himself and his Wife, and *Avon* and his
 ‘ Wife, and was never paid it again be-
 ‘ fore now by this *Goddard*.

‘ And this said *Goddard* farther saith,
 ‘ That this very Day by Mr. *Mayor*’s
 ‘ Order, he with his Brother-in-Law
 ‘ *William Avon* went with the Sword,
 ‘ and about Nine a Clock in the Morn-
 ‘ ing, they laid down the Sword in the
 ‘ Copsie near the Place the Apparition had
 ‘ appointed *Goddard* to carry it to, and
 ‘ then coming away thence, *Goddard* look-
 ‘ ing back, saw the same Apparition a-
 ‘ gain in the like Habit as before. Where-
 ‘ upon he call’d to his Brother-in-Law,
 ‘ and said, *Here is the Apparition of our*
 ‘ *Father* ; who said, *I see Nothing*. Then
 ‘ *Goddard* fell on his Knees, and said, *Lord*
 ‘ *open his Eyes that he may see it*. But he
 ‘ reply’d, *Lord grant I may not see it, if*
 ‘ *it*.

it be thy blessed Will. And then the Apparition to Goddard's Appearance, beck-
 en'd with his Hand to him to come to
 it. And then Goddard said, *In the Name
 of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, what
 would you have me do?* Then the Apparition said to him, *Thomas, Take up the
 Sword, and follow me.* To which he said,
Should both of us come, or but one of us?
 To which it answer'd, *Thomas, do you
 take up the Sword.* And so he took up
 the Sword, and follow'd the Apparition
 on about ten Lugs (that is, Poles) farther
 into the Copse, and then turning
 back, he stood still about a Lug and a
 half from it, his Brother-in-Law staying
 behind at the Place where they first
 laid down the Sword. Then Goddard
 laying down the Sword upon the
 Ground, saw something stand by the
 Apparition like a mastiff Dog of a
 brown Colour. Then the Apparition
 coming towards Goddard, he stept back
 about two Steps. And the Apparition
 said to him, *I have a Permission to you,
 and Commission not to touch you;* and then
 it took up the Sword, and went back
 to the Place at which before it stood,
 with a mastiff Dog by it as before, and
 pointed

' pointed the Top of the Sword in the
 ' Ground, and said, *In this Place liesbu-*
 ' *ry'd the Body of him which I murther'd in*
 ' *the Year 1635, which is now rotten and*
 ' *turn'd to Dust.* Whereupon Goddard
 ' said, *I do adjure you in the Name of the*
 ' *Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, wherefore*
 ' *did you do this Murder?* And it said, *I*
 ' *took Money from the Man, and he contend-*
 ' *ed with me, and so I murder'd him.* Then
 ' Goddard askt him, who was Confede-
 ' rate with him in the said Murder? And
 ' it said, *None but my self.* Then Goddard
 ' said, *What would you have me do in this*
 ' *Thing?* And the Apparition said, *This*
 ' *is that the World may know that I mur-*
 ' *der'd a Man, and bury'd him in this Place*
 ' *in the Year 1635.*

' Then the Apparition laid down the
 ' Sword on the bare Ground there, where-
 ' on grew nothing, but seem'd to God-
 ' dard to be as a Grave sunk in. And
 ' then the Apparition rushing further in-
 ' to the Copse, vanish'd, and he saw it no
 ' more. Whereupon Goddard and his
 ' Brother-in-Law Avon leaving the Sword
 ' there, and coming away together, A-
 ' von told Goddard he heard his Voice,
 ' and

and understood what he said, and heard other Words distinct from his, but could not understand a Word of it, nor saw any Apparition at all. Which he now also present affirmeth, and all which the said *Goddard* then attested under his Hand, and affirm'd he will depose the same when he shall be thereto requir'd.

This being a most surprizing Event, and attested before Dr. *Sacheverell's* Father, who, though a very Low Churchman, and Son of Mr. *Sacheverell*, a Puritan Minister of *Wincaunton* in *Somersetshire*, was an honest modest Man, and one whose Word was much more to be rely'd upon, than some Men's Oaths of *Abjuration*, &c. I have left the Story in the plain *Wiltshire* Style as I found it, but not with an Intention that any

any one of our modern Comick Poets
should make use of it as an Inci-
dent in any future *Comedy*.

FINIS.
