

Stage 3 Illustration students of Edinburgh College of Art with the support of James Hutcheson, Creative Director at Birlinn/Polygon and lecturer Harvey Dingwall have created a series of double page spreads for James Hogg's novel The Private Memoirs and Confessions of a Justified Sinner, first published in 1824. James has an ongoing fascination with with the novel, its very contemporary narrative structure and existential dark thriller qualities.

Each student was given a section of the novel and asked to illustrate it with pull quotes and imagery. They are presented in the order of the book but as the story plays with narrator and descriptive imagery of the same events an engaging confusion is compounded with these series of spreads. We ask you to enjoy the imagery and how each spread evokes elements of the book – if you have not read the novel then hopefully this will be an inspiration to do so!

Cover desgin by George Douglas.



Written by James Hogg

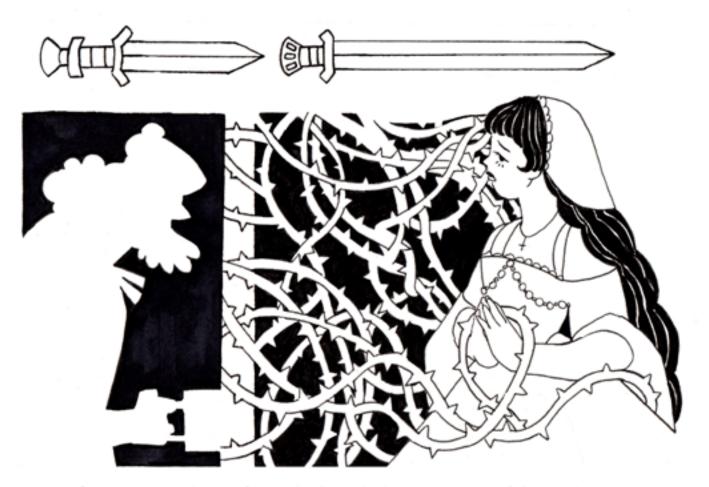
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For his lady was the most severe and gloomy of all bigots to the principles of the reformation. There was feasting, dancing piping, and singing: the liquors were handed, around in great fullness, the ale in large wooden bickers, and the brandy in capacious horns of oxen.



But there she sat at the head of the hall in still and blooming beauty, absolutely refusing to read a single measure with any gentleman there. The only enjoyment in which she appeared to partake was in now and then stealing a word of sweet conversation with her favorite pastor about divine things.



It was customary, in those days for the bride's-man and maiden, and a few select friends, to visit the new married couple after they had retired to rest, and drink a cup to their health's, their happiness, and a numerous posterity.



The laird went up to caress her; but she turned away her head, and spoke of the follies of aged men.
[...] One Scripture text followed another, not in the least connected, till th laird lost his patience, and tossing, himself into bed, said carelessly that he would leave that duty upon her shoulders for one night.







set thou the Wickey over him, and upon his right hand give thou his greatest themy, even Satah, neave to stand.

and When by there he shall be judged, let him remembered be and let his prayer by turned i to sin when he shall call on thee. Few he his hays, and in his room his charge another take, his children let be fatherless, his wife a WidOW make. Let 304 his fathers Wickedness still to rememberance call, and never let his mothers Sin be blotted out at all. as he in cursing pleasure took so let it to him fall, as he delighted not to bless so bless him not at all.





He seated himself on the pinnacle of the rocky precipice, a little within the top of the hill to the westward, and, with a light and buoyant heart, viewed the boasties of the morning, and inhaled its salubrious breeze. "Here," thought be, "I can converse with nature without disturbance, and without being intruded on by any appalling or obnoxious visitor."





On his first declaration before the sheriff, matters looked no better: but then the sheriff was a Whig. It is well known how differently the people of the present day, in Scotland, view the cases of their own party-men and those of opposite political principles. But this day is nothing to that in such matters, although, God knows, they are still sometimes barefaced enough. It appeared, from all the witnesses in the first case, that the complainant was the first aggressor-that he refused to stand out of the way, though apprised of his danger; and, when his brother came against him inadvertently, he had aimed a blow at him with his foot, which, if it had taken effect, would have killed him. But as to the story of the apparition in fair day-light—the flying from the face of it-the running foul of his brother pursuing him, and knocking him down, why the judge smiled at the relation, and saying: "It was a very extraordinary story," he remanded George to prison, leaving the matter to the High Court of

When the case came before that court, matters took a different turn. The constant and sullen attendance of the one brother upon the other excited suspicions; and these were in some manner confirmed when the guards at Queemberry House deported that the prisoner went by them on his way to the hill that morning, about twenty minutes before the complainant, and, when the latter passed, he asked if such a young man had passed before him, describing the prisoner's appearance to them; and that, on being answered in the affirmative, he mended his pace and fell a running.

The Lord Justice, on hearing this, asked the prisoner if he had any suspicions that his brother had a design on his life.

He answered that all along, from the time of their first unfortunate meeting, his brother had dogged his steps so constantly, and so unaccountably, that he was convinced it was with some intent out of the ordinary course of events, and that if, as his lordship supposed, it was indeed his shadow that he had seen approaching him through the mist, then, from the cowering and cautious manner that it advanced, there was no little doubt that his brother's design had been to push him headlong from the cliff that meening.

A conversation then took place between the judge and the Lord Advocate; and, in the meantime, a bustle was seen in the hall, on which the doors were ordered to be guarded, and, behold, the precious Mr. R. Wringhim was taken into custody, trying to make his escape out of court. Finally it turned out that George was honourably acquitted, and young Wringhim bound over to keep the peace, with heavy penalties and securities.



All was wrapt in a chaos of confusion and darkness; but at last, by dint of a thousand sly and secret inquiries. She had hopes of having discovered a clue, which, if she could keep hold of the thread, it would lead her through darkness

to the

light of truth.



The day arrived—the party of young noblemen met, and were as jovial as men could be. George was never seen so brilliant, and exulting to see so many gallant young chiefs about him, who all gloried in the same principles of loyalty (perhaps this word should have been written disloyalty), he gave toasts, and sung songs, all leaning slyly to the same side, until a very late

hour. By that time he had pushed the bottle so long and so freely that its fumes had

taken possession of every brain to such a degree that they held Dame Reason rather at the staff's end, overbearing all her counsels and expostulations; and it was imprudently proposed by a wild inebriated spark, and carried by a majority of voices, that the party should adjourn to a bagnio. They had not been an hour in that house till some altercation chanced to arise between George Colwan and a Mr. Drummond. It was casual, and no one thenceforward, to this day, could ever tell what it was about, if it was not about the misunderstanding of some word or term that the one had uttered.





However it was, some high words passed, followed by threats, and, in less than two minutes from the commencement of the quarrel, Drummond left the house in apparent displeasure, hinting to the other that they two should settle that in a more convenient place. The company looked at one another, for all was over before any of them knew such a thing was begun. "What the devil is the matter?" "Don't know."-"Can't tell, on my life."—"He has quarrelled with his wine, I suppose, and is going to send it a challenge."Such were the questions, and such the answers that passed in the jovial party, and the matter was no more thought of.

No more of the circumstance till the morning, that the report had spread over the city that a young gentleman had been slain..



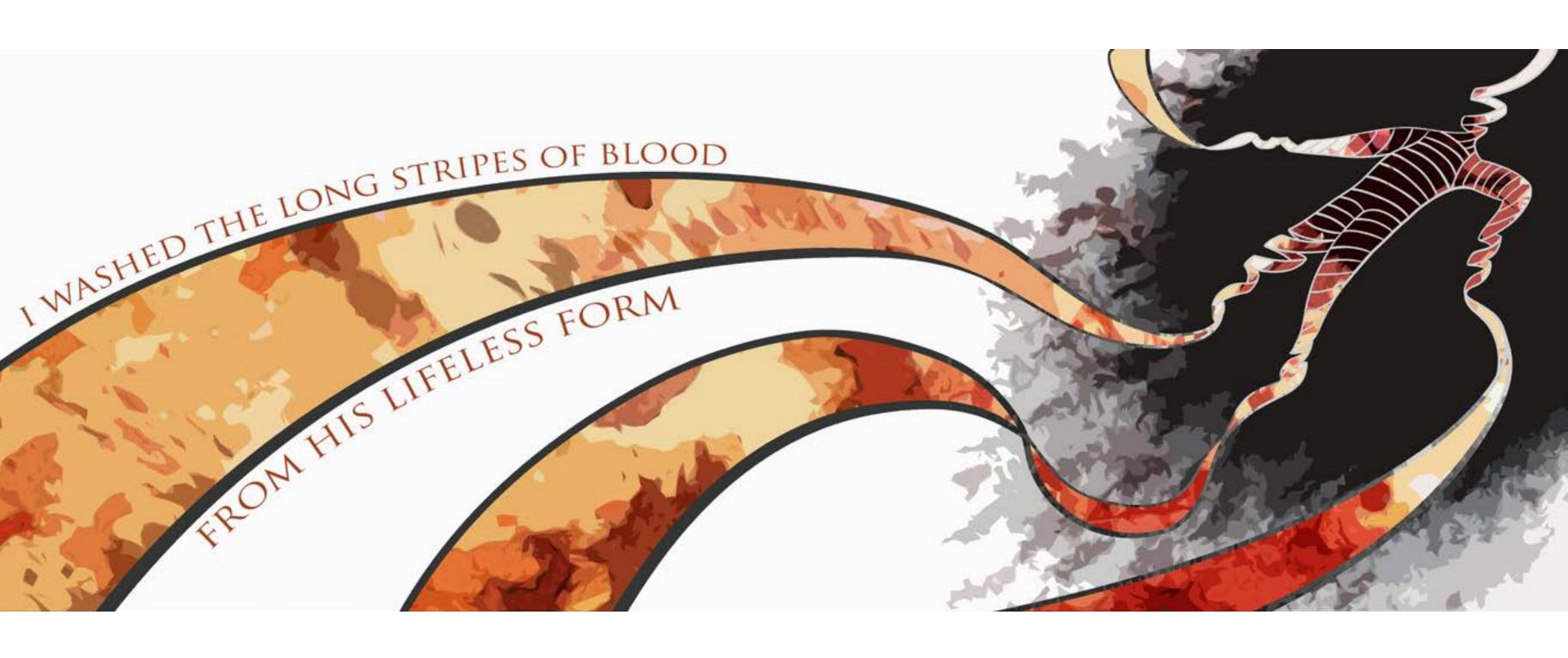


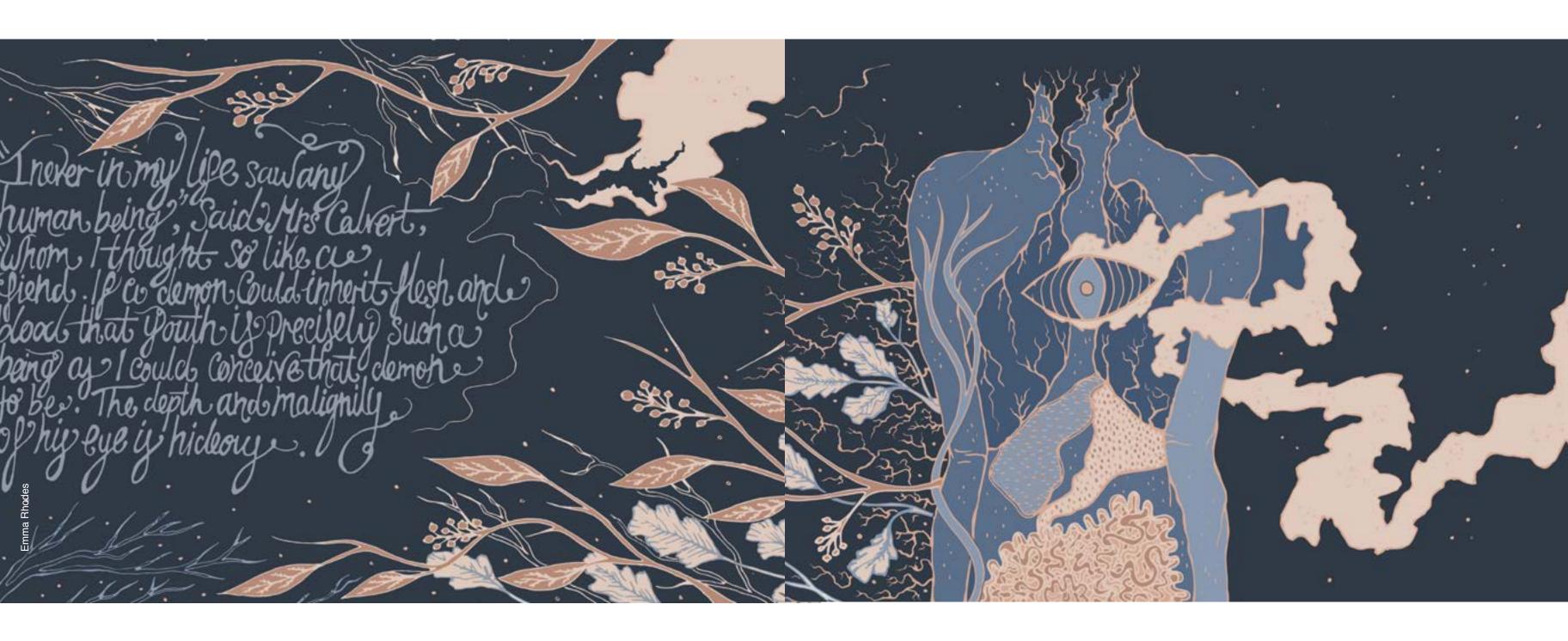


THUS FOULEY AT A DYING EMPHAS NEVER HEARD "OH DOG

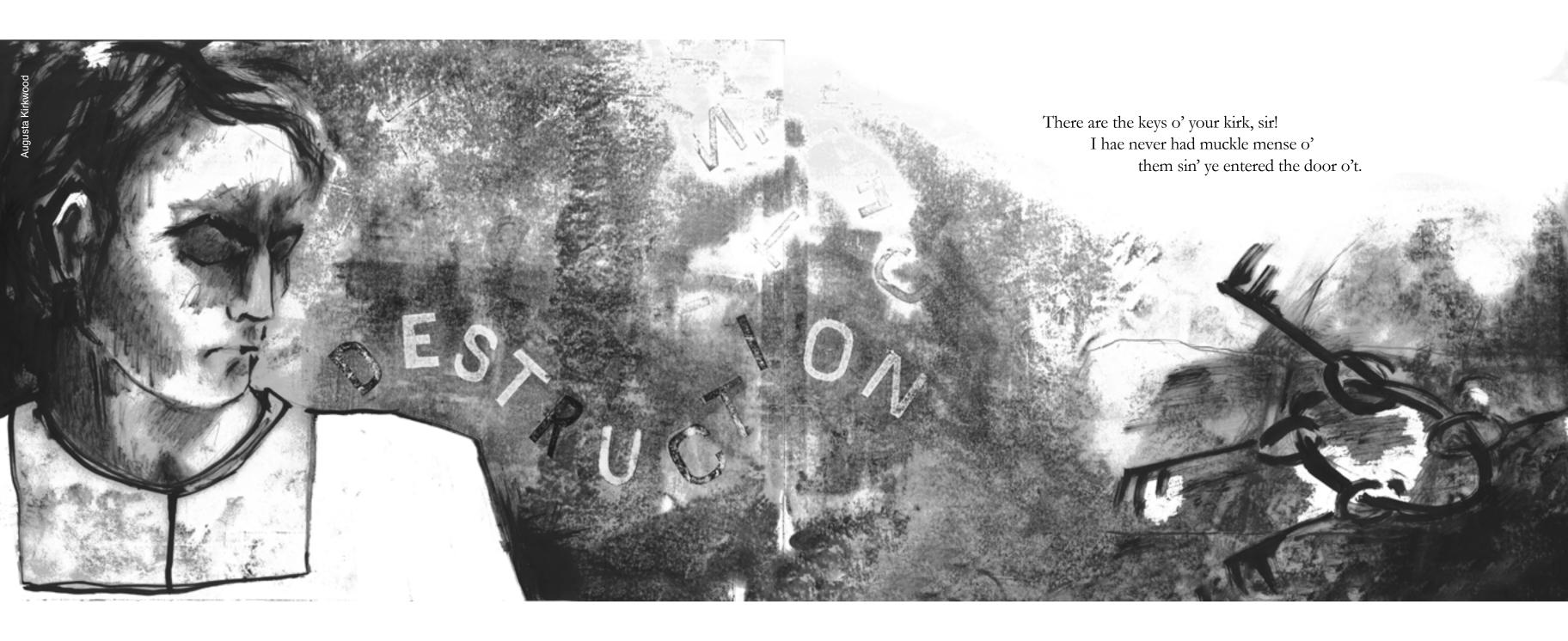
















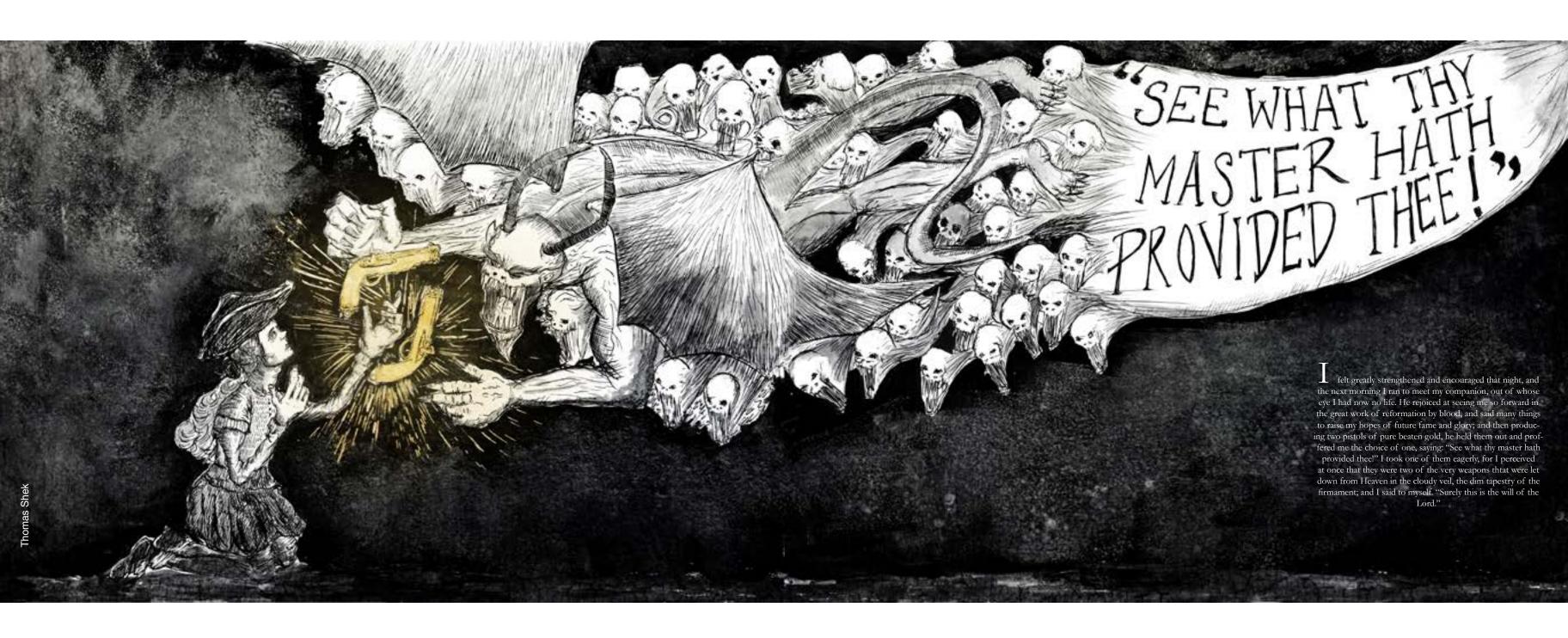






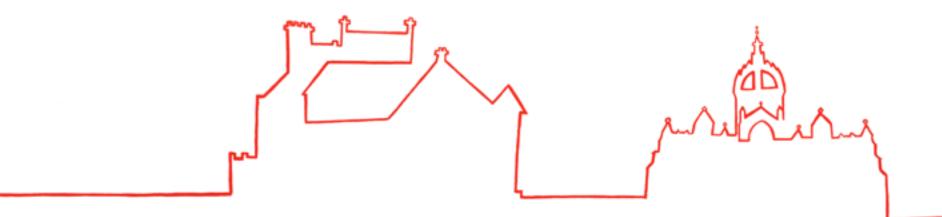
YOU HAVE THE CHAMELEON ART OF CHANGING YOUR APPEARANCE YOU APPEAR TO BE SOMEHOW AT A LOSS. HAD NOT YET YOU AND I SOME SWEET COMMUNION AND FELLOWSHIP YESTERDAY?





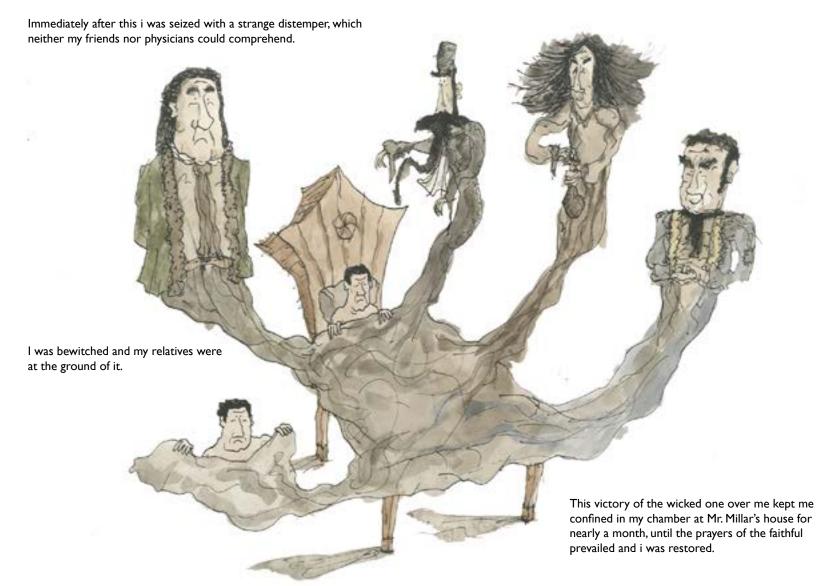


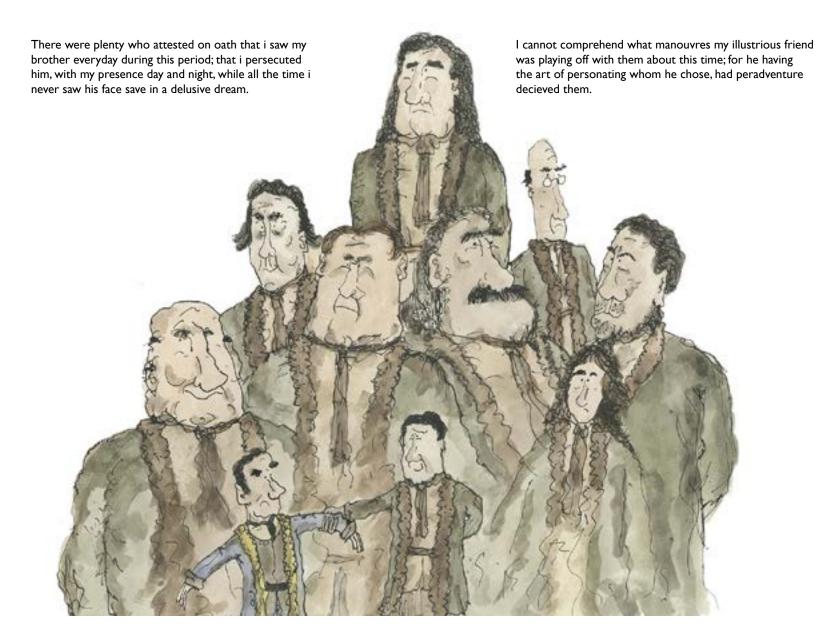


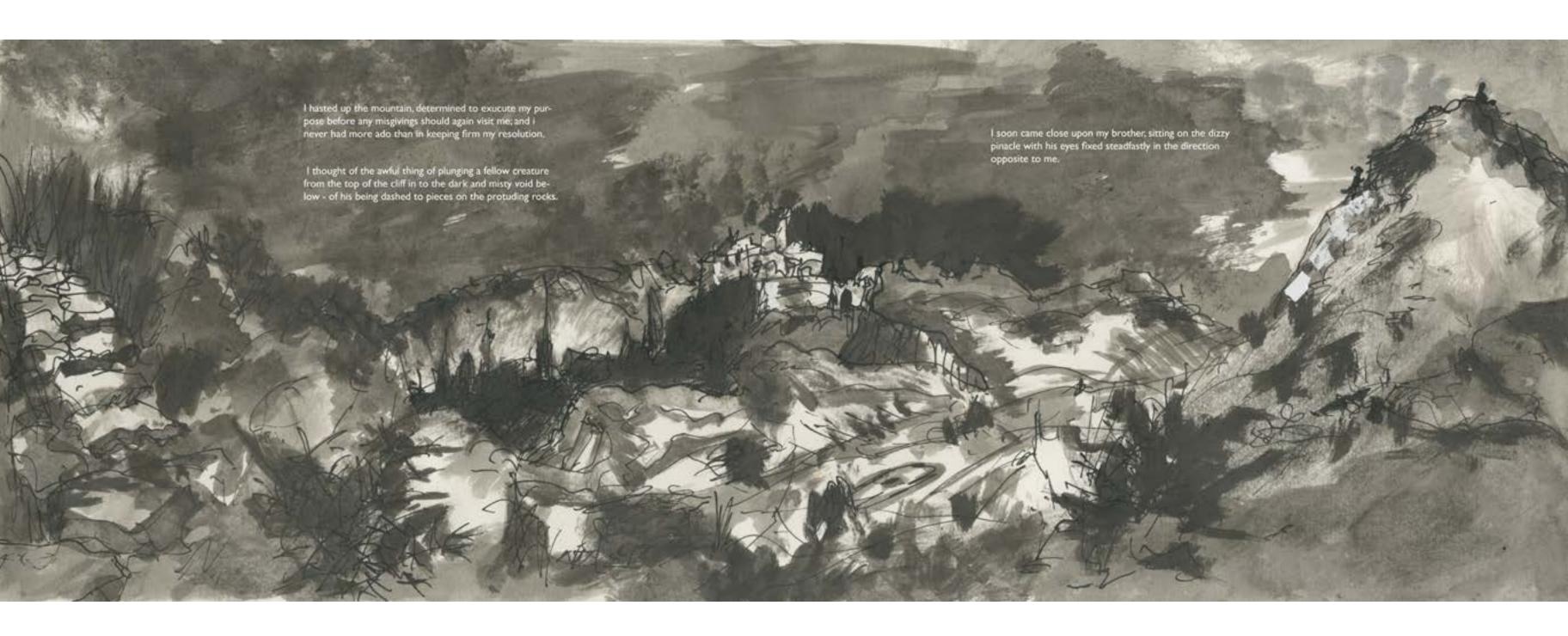


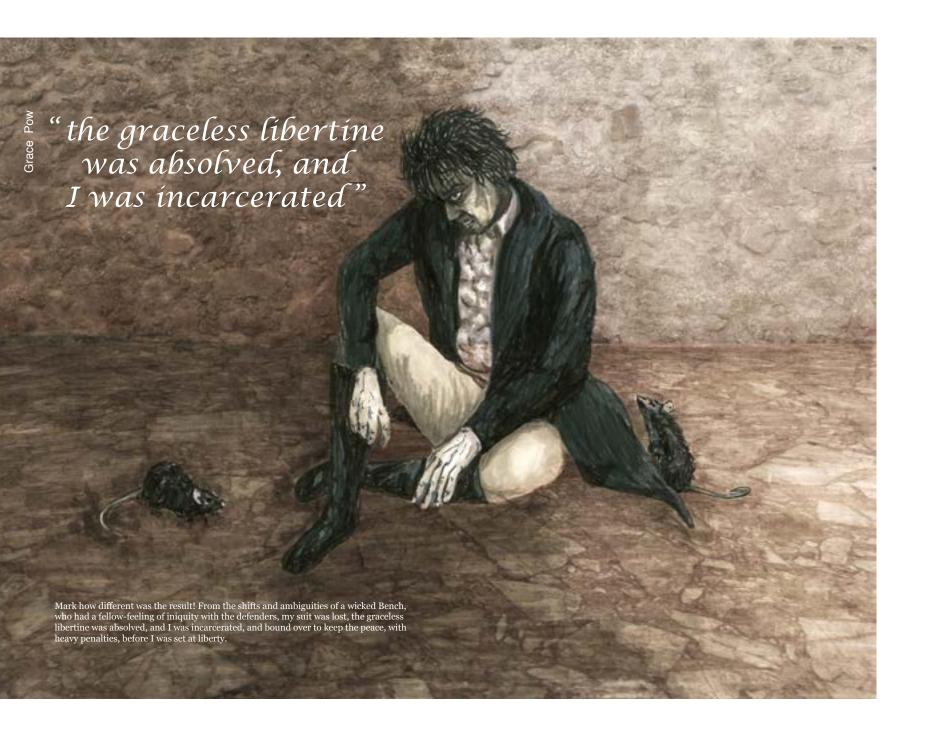
But I was not only debarred, but, by the machinations of my wicked brother and his associates, cast into prison. I was not sorry at being thus honoured to suffer in the cause of righteousness, and at the hands of sinful men; and, as soon as I was alone, I betook myself to prayer, deprecating the long-suffering of God towards such horrid sinners.

My jailer came to me, and insulted me. He was a rude unprincipled fellow, partaking of the loose and carnal manners of the age; but I remembered of having read, in the Cloud of Witnesses, of such men formerly having been converted by the imprisoned saints; so I set myself, with all my heart, to bring about this man's repentance and reformation.











"I see the deed must be done, then," said I, "and, since it is so, it shall be done. I will arm myself forthwith, and from the midst of his wine and debauchery you shall call him forth to me, and there will I smite him with the edge of the sword, that our great work be not retarded."



"He bade me remain there in secret and watch the event" "The duel was fierce; but the might of Heaven prevailed"

And, the sentiments of our great covenanted reformers being on his side, there is not a doubt that I was wrong. He lost all patience on hearing what I advanced on this matter, and, taking hold of me, he led me into a darksome booth in a confined entry; and, after a friendly but eutting reproach, he bade me remain there in secret and watch the event. "And, if I fall," said he, "you will not fail to avenge my death?" Wouldest thou lay thine hand on the Lord's anointed, or shed his precious blood? Turn thee to me, that I may chastise thee for all thy wickedness, and not for the many injuries thou hast done to me!" To it we went, with full thirst of vengeance on every side. The duel was fierce; but the might of Heaven prevailed, and not my might. The ungodly and reprobate young man fell covered with wounds, and with curses and blasphemy in his mouth, while I escaped uninjured. MY FRIEND AND I WENT TO DALCASTLE, AND TOOK UNDISPUTED POSSESSION OF THE HOUSES, LANDS AND EFFECTS THAT HAD BEEN MY FATHER'S.

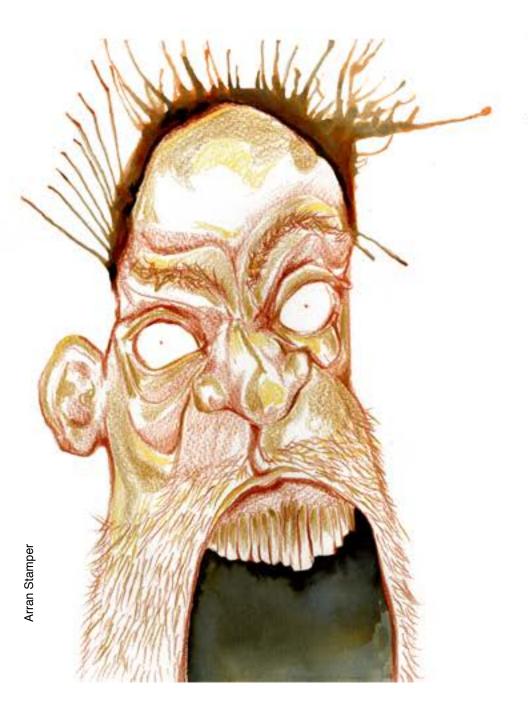
I IMMEDIATELY SET ABOUT DOING ALL THE GOOD I WAS ABLE

I WAS MISTAKEN







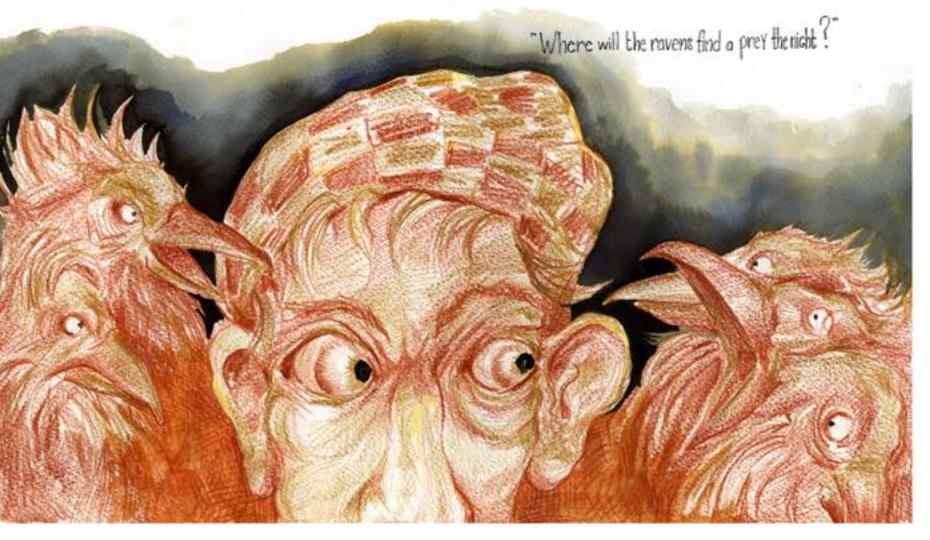


that water's no water, or that, stanes are no stanes. But that's just your gate, an it's a great pity, are to do a thing an Inotess the clean contrair. Weel Wages, an' I can knove day and date when I was hired, an' came hame to Your service, will you be so kind as to Pay me now That's the best war o'curing a mane' the mortal disease o' leasing-making

that I ken o' "

SATAN wad strodge into Hell with a Rocklaid of the souls of Professors on his braid Shoulders."

The moment that Robin saw them, he keened, by their movements, that they were crows or some ither world than this; so he signed himself, and crop into the modifie or his bourcek. The carbin crowscame of an 'sat down round alout him, an' they round their black scoty wines, an' spread them out to the breeze to cool; and Robin heard are combine speaking, an' another answering him; and the tane said to the lither:



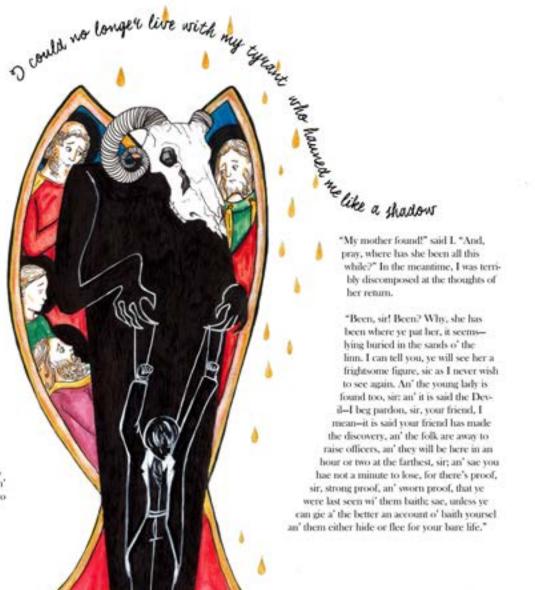
"A' the auld wives an weavers o' Auchtermuchty

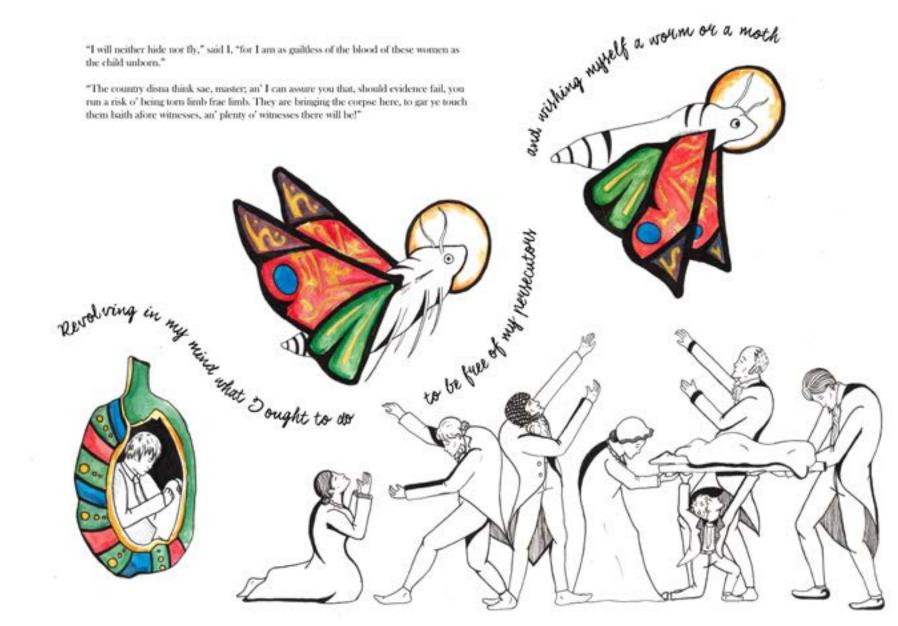
fell down wi affricht, an' betook them to their

Proyers aince again,"

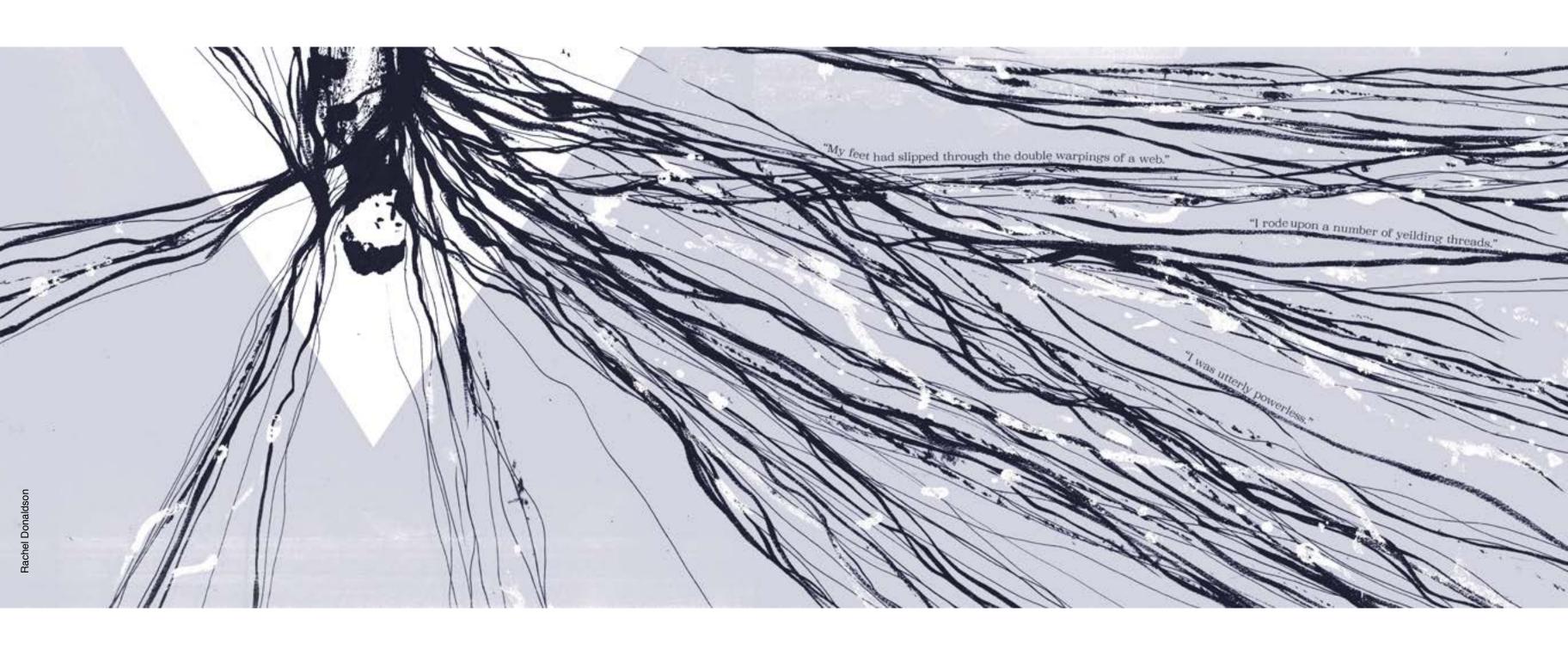
One time in particular, on pretence of gratifying my revenge on that base woman, he knew so well where she lay concealed that he led me to her, and left me to the mercy of two viragos who had very nigh taken my life. My time of residence at Dalcastle was wearing to a crisis. I could no longer live with my tyrant, who haunted me like my shadow; and, besides, it seems there were proofs of murder leading against me from all quarters. Of part of these I deemed myself quite free, but the world deemed otherwise; and how the matter would have gone God only knows, for, the case never having undergone a judicial trial, I do not. It perhaps, however, behoves me here to relate all that I know of it, and it is simply this:

On the first of June, 1712 (well may I remember the day), I was sitting locked in my secret chamber, in a state of the utmost despondency, revolving in my mind what I ought to do to be free of my persecutors, and wishing myself a worm, or a moth, that I might be crushed and at rest, when behold Samuel entered, with eyes like to start out of his head, exclaiming: "For God's sake, master, fly and hide yourself, for your mother's found, an' as sure as you're a living soul, the blame is gaun to fa' on you!"













The landlord and I accordingly retired to our homely bed, and conversed for some time about indifferent matters. till he fell sound asleep. Not so with me: I had that within which would not suffer me to close my eyes; and, about the dead of night, I again heard the same noises and contention begin outside the house as I had heard the night before, and again I heard it was about a sovereign and peculiar right. in me. At one time the noise was on the top of the house, straight above our bed, as if the one party were breaking through the roof, and the other forcibly preventing it; at another it was at the door, and at a third time at the window; but still mine host lay sound by my side, and did not waken. I was seized with terrors indefinable, and prayed fervently. but did not attempt rousing my sleeping companion until I saw if no better could be done. The women, however, were alarmed, and rushing into our apartment, exclaimed that all the devils in hell were besieging the house. Then, indeed, the landlord awoke, and it was time for him, for the tunnit had increased to such a degree that it shook the house to its foundations, being louder and more furious than I could have conceived the heat of battle to be when the volleys of artillery are mixed with groans, shouts, and blasphemous cursing. It thandered and lightened; and there were screams,

Hay trembling and bothed in a cold peripiration, but was soon obliged to bestir myself, the inmates attacking meone after the other.

"Oh, Tags Dooglas! Tam Douglas! haste ye an rise out frayout that incarnal devill" cried the wife. "Ye are in ayout the said ane himsel for our lass Tibbie saw his cloven cloots

"Lord forbid!" roared Tam Douglas, and darted over the bed like a flying fish. Then, hearing the uncarfuly turnult with which he was surrounded, he turned to the side of the bed. and addressed me thus, with long and fearful intervals:

"If ye be the Deil, rise up, an' deport in peace out of this house—store the bedstrae take kindling about ye, an than if'll maybe be the waiir for ye. Get up—an' gang awa out amang your cronies, like a good lad. There's nae body here wishes you ony ill D'ye hear me?"

"Friend," said I, "no Christian would turn out a fellow." creature on such a night as this and in the midst of such a commotion of the villagers."

"No, if ye be a mortal man," said he, "which I rather think, from the use you made of the holy book. Nane o' yourpractical jokes on strangers an honest foks. These are some o' your Oxford tricks, an' I'll thank you to be ower wi' them. Gracious braves, they are brikkin through the house at a the four corners at the same time!"

The lass Tibby, seeing the innkeeper was not going to prevail with me to rise, flew towards the bed in desperation. and, seizing me by the waist, soon landed me on the floor, saying "Be ye deil, be ye chiel, ye's no lie there till buith the house an' us be swallowed up!"

Her master and mistress applicating the deed, I was obliged to attempt dressing myself, a task to which my powers were quite inadequate in the state I was in, but I was readily assisted by every one of the three, and, as soon as they got my clothes thrust on in a loose way, they shut their eyes lest they should see what might drive them distracted. and thrust me out to the street, cursing me, and calling on the fiends to take their prey and be gone.

The scene that emued is neither to be described nor believed if it were. I was momently surrounded by a number of hideous fiends, who grashed on me with their teeth, and clenched their crimson pases in my face; and at the same instant I was seized by the collar of my coat behind, by my dreaded and devoted friend, who pushed me on andwith his gilded rapter waving and brandishing around me, defended me against all their united attacks. Horrible as my assailants were in appearance (and they all had monitrous shapes) I felt that I would rather have fallen into their hands than be thus led away captive by my defender at his will and pleasure without having the right or power to say my life, or any part of my will, was my own. I could not even thank him for his potent guardianship, but hung down my head, and moved on I knew not whither, like a criminal led to execution and still the infernal combat continued till about the dawning, at which time I looked up, and all the fiends were expelled but one, who kept at a distance, and stell my persecutor and defender pushed me by the neck before him

My hour is at hand. Almighty God, what is
this that I am about to do! The hour of
repentance is just, and now my late is
incutable.
Amen, for ever!

Exhibit A Suicide Note of Robert Colwan September 18, 1712

