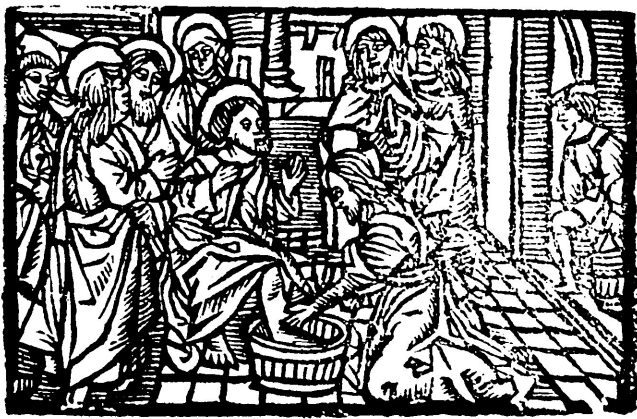


The Examination and Confession of certaine Wytches at Chenksorde in the Countie of Essex, before the Quenes maiesties Judges, the xxvi. daue of July.

ANNO. 1566,

at the Assise holden there as then, and one of them put to death for the same offence, as their examination declareth moze at large.



The examination of them
with their confession before Doctor
Cole and master Foscue at the same Hill
verbatim as nere as coude be gathered, and
firste of Elizabeth Frauncis who
saide as here foloweth.

First she lea-
ned this arte
of witchcraft
at the age of .xii.
yeres of hyr grand-
mother whose nam
was mother Cue
of Hattfelde Deues-
rell diseased.
Item when she
taughte it her, she
counseiled her to re-
nounce GOD and
his worde, and to
geue of her bloude
to Sathan (as we
termed it) whyche she delyuered her
in the lykennesse of a whyte spotted
Catte, and taughte her to feede the
sayde



The examinacion

sayde Catte with breade and mylke
and she dyd so, also she taughte her
to cal it by the name of Sathan and
to kepe it in a basket.



When this mother Eve had geuen
her the Cat Sathan, then this Eli-
zabeth desired firste of the sayde Cat
(callinge it Sathan) that she might
be ryche and to haue goodes, and he
promised her she shoulde, askinge her
what she would haue, and she sayde
Shepe (for this Cat spake to her as she
confessed in a straunge holowe voice,
(but suche as she vnderstode by vse)
& this Cat forthwith brought shepe
into her pasture to the nūber of .xviii
blacke

and Confession

blacke and whyte, whych continued
wyth her for a tyme, but in the ende
dyd all weate awaye she knewe not
howe.

Item when she had gotten these
shepe, she desired to haue on Andrew
Byles to her husband, which was a
man of some welth, and the cat dyd
promyse she shold, but that he sayde
she must speke consent that this An-
drew shuld abuse her, and she so did.

And after when this Andrew had
thus abused her he would not mary
her, wherfore she willed Sathan to
waste his goodes, which he forth-
with did, and yet not beyng conten-
tid with this, she wild him to touch
his body, whych he forthewith dyd
whereof he died.

Item that every tyme that he did
any thyng for her, she sayde that he
required a drop of bloude, which she
gaue him by pycking herselfe, some-
time in one place & then in an other,
and

The examination

and where she pricked her selfe there remayned a red spot, which was styl to be sene.

Item whē this Andrew was dead, she douting her selie with childe willed sathan to destroye it, and he bad her take a certayne herbe and drinke it whych she did, and destroyed the childe forthwith.

Item when she desyred an other husbände, he promysed her an other, naminge this Frauncis whom shee nowe hath, but said he is not so rich as the other, willynge her to consent vnto that Frauncis in fornication which she did, and therof conceaued a daughter that was borne within a quarter of a yere after they were married.

After they were maryed they liued not so quietly as she desyred, beinge stirred (as she said) to much vnquietnes and moued to swearing and cursinge, wherfore she willed sathan her

Cat

and Confession

Cat to kyll the childe, beinge aboute the age of half a yere olde and he did so, and when she yet founde not the quietnes that she desyred, she willed it to lay a lamenes in the leg of thys Frauncis her husbände, and it did in this maner. It came in a morninge to this Frauncis shoe, lying in it lyke a tode, and when he perceiued it put finge on his shoe, and had touched it with his fote, he beinge sodenly amazed asked of her what it was, and she bad him kil it, and he was forthwith taken with a lamenes wherof he can not healed.

After all this when shee had kept this Cat, by the space of .xv. or .xvi. yere, and as some saye (though vntruly) beinge wery of it, she came to one mother Waterhouse her neyghboure (a pore woman) when she was going to the ouē, and desired her to geue her a cake, & she wold geue her a thing that she should be the better for

for

The examination

for so long as she lived, & this mother waterhouse gaue her a cake, where upon she brought her this cat in her apron and taught her as she was instructed before by her grandmother Eve, telling her that she must call him Sathan and geue him of her bloude and bread and milke as before, and at this examination woulde confesse no more.

Mother waterhouse of Watfylde penerell of the age of. lxxiii. yeares being examined the same day confessed as followeth, & the xxix. daie suffered.

After she receyued this cat of this frances wife in order as is before sayde, who wilde her to call him sathā, and told her that if she made muche of him he would do for her what she wolde haue him to do.

Then when she had receyued him
she

and Confession

she (to trye him what he coulde do) wolde hym to kyll a hog of her owne which he dyd, and she gaue him for his labour a chicken, which he fyrste requiered of her & a drop of her blod. And thys she gaue him at all times when he dyd any thyng for her, by prickling her hand or face & puttinge the bloud to hys mouth whiche he sucked, & forthwith wold lye downe in hys pot agayne, wherein she kepte him, the spots of all the which pricks are yet to be sene in her skin.

Also she saythe that another tyme being offended with one father ker she toke her catte Sathan in her lap and put hym in the wood before her doore, & willed him to kyll thre of this father kersyes hogges, whiche he dyd, and retourning agayne told her so, and she rewarded hym as before, with a chicken and a droppe of her bloud, which chicken he eate vp cleane as he didde al the rest, and she
B colde

The examination

cold synde remaining neyther bones
nor sethers.

Also she confessed that falling out
with one widdow Gooday she wyl-
led Sathan to dyvone her tow and
he dyd so, and she rewardeid hym as
before.

Also she falling out woth another
of her neybours, she killed her thye
geese in the same maner.

Item, shee confessed that because
she could haue no rest (which she re-
quited) she caused sathan to destroye
the brewing at that tyme.

Also beyng denyed butter of an o-
ther, she caused her to lose the curdes
ii. or. iii. dayes after.

Item falling out with an other of
her neybours and his wife, shee wyl-
led sathan to kyll hym with a blud-
dye fire, whercof he dyed, and she
rewardeid hym as before.

Like wyle shee confessed, that be-
cause shee lyued somewhat vnquietly

Wth

and Confession

wyth her husbände she caused sathā
to kyll hym, and he did so about. ix.
yeres past, syth which tyme she hath
lyued a widdow.

Also she said that when she wolde
wyl him to do any thinge for her, she
wolde say her Water noster in laten.

Item this mother Waterhouse
confessed that shee fyrst turned this
Cat into a tode by this meanes, she



kept the cat a great while in wool in
a pot, and at length being moued by
pouertie to occupie the wool, shee prais
Wth ed in

The examinacion

ed in the name of the father, and of the sonne, and of the holy ghost that it wold turne into a tode, and forthwith it was turned into a tode, and so kept it in the pot without woll.

¶ Also she said, that going to Brackstede a lyttle before her apprehension, this Sathan wylled her to hve her home, for she shulde haue great trouble, and that she shoulde be eyther hanged or burned mostly, more at this tyme she wolde not confesse.



and Confession

¶ **J**one Waterhouse, daughter to the mother Waterhouse, beings of the age of. xviii. yeres, and examined, cōfesseth as foloweth.



¶ **F**irst, that her mother this laste wynter would haue learned her this arte, but she lerned it not, nether yet the name of the thinge. She saith she neuer saw it but once in her mothers hand, and that was in the likeness of a tode, and at that tyme coming in at a sodayn when her mother called it oute to worke some thyng withall, she herde her to call it Sathan, for shee was not
D iiii at

The examination.

at any tyme truely taught it, nor did neuer exercise it before this time as soloweth.

Item she confessed that when her mother was gone to Breakfastede, in her absence lacking breadye, she went to a gyll, a neighbours childe, and desired her to geue her a peece of bred and cheese, whiche when she denied and gaue her not, or at the least not so muche as wolde satisfie her, shee goinge home dydde as she had seene her mother doe, callynge Sathan, whiche came to her (as she sayd) she thoughte out of her mothers shewe frome vnder the bedde, in the lyknes of a great dogge, Demaundynge



wh

and Confession.

what she wolde haue, wherewith all she beyng a fearde, sayd she wold haue him to make such a gyll a serd naminge this gyll, then asked hee her what she wolde geue hym, and she saide a red kocke, then sayde hee no, but thou shalt geue me thy body and soule, whereby she beinge soore feared, and despyous to be rydde of hym, sayd she wold: And herewith he went to this gyll in the lyknes of an euill sauoured dogge with hornes on his head, and made her very muche afearde, and dothe yet haunt her, nowe can not these witches (as they saye) cal hym in agayn, because they dyd not let hym out. And more (sayth shee) she neuer dydde, but this her doinge was the reuealyng of all the rest.

¶ I N S.

