

***GOTHIC BOURNES***

**ANENT THE APPARITION OF SIR  
GEORGE WILLIERS  
(1685)**

TRANSCRIPTION BY  
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SATANS  
INVISIBLE WORLD  
DISCOVERED

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(pages 120-122)

## RELATION XVI

### Anent the Apparition of *Sir George Williers*.<sup>1</sup>

*S*ome few days before the Duke of Buckingham went to Portsmouth where he was *Stabbet*<sup>2</sup> by Felton, the Ghost of his Father *Sir George Williers*<sup>3</sup> appeared to one Parker, a religious and sober man, who had been a servant to the said *Sir George*, but now servant to the Duke his Son, he appeared to him (I say) in his Morning-Chamber-Gown, and charged him to tell his Son that he should decline that Employment and Design, he was going upon, or els [sic] he would certainly be murdered. Parker promised to the Apparition to do it. The Duke making preparations for his Expedition, the Apparition came again to Parker, taxing<sup>4</sup> him very severely for his breach of Promise, and required him not to delay the acquainting his Son of the danger he was in. [120] Then Parker the next day tells the Duke that his Fathers<sup>5</sup> Ghost had twice appeared to him, and had commanded him, without any further delay, to give him that warning. The Duke slighted it, and told him, he was an old Doting Fool. That night the Apparition came to Parker a third time, saying, Parker thou hast done well in warning my Son of his danger, but though he will not yet believe thee, Go to him once more however, and tell from me by such a Token (*naming a private token*) which no body knows but only He and I, that if he will not decline this Voyage;<sup>6</sup> such a Knife as this is (*pulling a long Knife out from under his Gown*) will be his Death. This Message Parker also delivered the next day to the Duke, who when he heard the private Token, believed he had it from his Fathers Ghost. Yet said he, that his honour was now at the Stake, and he could not go back from what he had undertaken, come Life come Death. This passage, Parker after the Dukes Murder

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<sup>1</sup> The use of italics seems to mark a difference between narration and dialogue, the latter being non-italicised together with some proper names which exceptionally also appear non-italicised in most of the text. Similarly, capitalising proper names, titles, forms of address, and certain nouns that required a special attention was a common practice in 17<sup>th</sup> century writing and therefore the reader will find certain words capitalised. <https://english.stackexchange.com/questions/10522/what-were-the-rules-for-capitalising-nouns-in-the-17th-and-18th-centuries>

<sup>2</sup> Alternative participle form of the verb to stab: stabbed.

<sup>3</sup> Change from “w” to “v” in modern-day writing.

<sup>4</sup> In this case, the verb ‘to tax’ means to reproach.

<sup>5</sup> The apostrophe at the end OF the Saxon genitive is missing.

<sup>6</sup> The use of a semi-colon seems to be a printing error, a comma should be there instead.

*communicated to his fellow Servant Henry Celey, who told it to a Reverend Divine a Neighbour of mine (saith<sup>7</sup> my Author) from whose Mouth I have it. This Henry Celey has not been dead above [121] twentie [sic] years, and his habitation for several years before his death was at North-Currie, but three miles from this place. My friend the Divine aforesaid was an intimate Acquaintance of this Henry Celey's and assures me he was a Person of known Truth and Integritie [sic].*

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<sup>7</sup> Archaic form of present tense third-person singular of the verb 'to say'.