

represented herself at
and curtsied to her
any sign of fear."
thing like parade
er, for her deport-
e indictment was
as never Christian
held up her hand
She then seated
for her use while

can now form an
been carefully de-
pains in searching
at on the proceed-
an entry made by
supposed to have
one of the judges
and Smeaton were
had been, as it was
the words quoted
matter, it was dis-
n a servant to the
re her death, did
Here the page
the dying lady is
learned judge had
oyed; so that, as
ought against the

asserted to have made
of sir John Wiltshire,
eld, who, by his first
Rivers, and widow of
th the king. He was
nancellor of the duchy
or in 1525. It must
me to lady Wingfield,
the fair favourite of
an, except lady Boleyn
times, she calls her

queen and her supposed paramours was the oath of a dead woman, and that, we may add, on hearsay evidence. Crispin's account of the origin of the charge is, "That a gentleman reproving his sister for the freedom of her behaviour, she excused herself by alleging the example of the queen, who was accustomed," she said, "to admit sir Henry Norris, sir Francis Weston, master Brereton, Mark Smeaton the musician, and her brother lord Rochford, into her chamber at improper hours," adding "that Smeaton could tell a great deal more."¹

The crimes of which the queen was arraigned were, that she had wronged the king her husband, at various times, with the four persons above named, and also with her brother lord Rochford: that she had said to each and every one of those persons, that the king never had her heart: that she privately told each, separately, "that she loved him better than any person in the world," which things tended to the slander of her issue by the king. To this was added "a charge of conspiring against the king's life." In an abstract from the indictment printed in the notes of Sharon Turner's Henry VIII., the days on which the alleged offences were committed are specified. The first is with Norris, and is dated October 6th, 1533, within a month after the birth of the princess Elizabeth, which statement brings its own refutation, for the queen had not then quitted her lying-in chamber.² "For the evidence," says Wyatt, "as I never could hear of any, small I believe it was. The accusers must have doubted whether their *proofs* would not prove their *reproofs*, when they durst not bring them to the light in an open place." Every right-thinking man must, indeed, doubt the truth of accusations which cannot be substantiated according to the usual forms of justice. The queen defended her own cause with ready wit and great eloquence. Wyatt says, "It was reported without the doors, that she had cleared herself in a most wise and noble speech." Another of

¹ Crispin lord of Milherve's Metrical History: Meteren's History of the Low Countries.

² Mr. Turner, through whose unwearied research this sole existing document connected with the trial of Anne Boleyn was discovered, and who has studied it very deeply, considers that the specifications it contains are very like the made-up statements in a fabricated accusation.