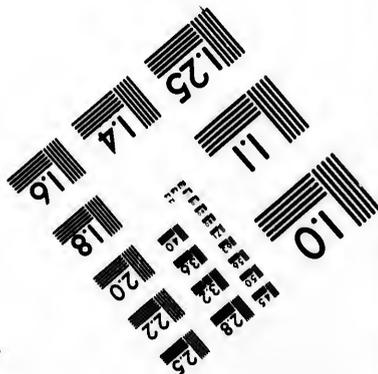
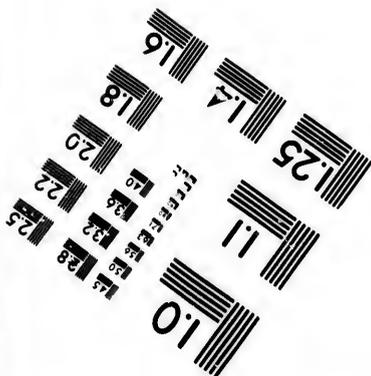
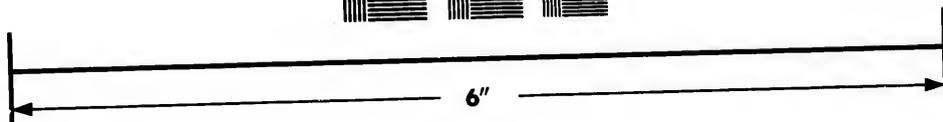
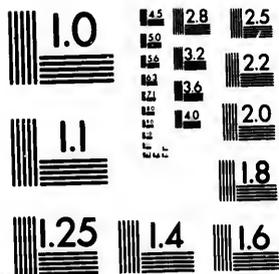


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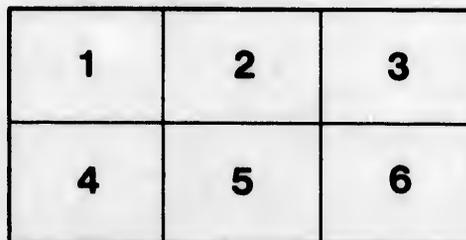
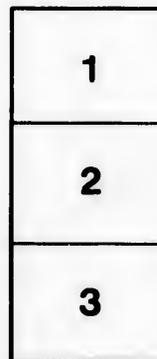
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THE
LIFE,
ADVENTURES AND ECCENTRICITIES
OF THE LATE
LORD CAMELFORD,
TO WHICH IS ADDED
THE PARTICULARS OF THE LATE
FATAL DUEL.

GENUINE EXTRACTS FROM HIS LORDSHIP'S WILL,

&c. &c. &c.

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LIFE, &c.
OF
LORD CAMELFORD.

THOMAS PITT, Lord CAMELFORD, Baron of Bocconoc, in the County of Cornwall, was born February 25, 1775, and succeeded his father Thomas, the late Lord, January 19, 1793.

His Lordship's Great Grand-father, Robert Pitt, Esq. married Harriet, sister to John Villiers, Earl of Grandison; and by her had five daughters, and the late Earl of Chatham, who was his second son.—The eldest son, Thomas Pitt, Esq. seated at Bocconoc, in Cornwall, was Lord Warden of the Stannaries and Steward of the Duchy of Cornwall and Devon; and died July, 1760. He married Christiana, eldest daughter of Sir Thomas Littleton, and sister to George, the late Lord Littleton, by which lady (who died June 5, 1750) he had issue Thomas, the late Lord Camelford, created a Baron January 5, 1784, married July 29, 1774, Anne, daughter and coheiress of Pinkney Wilkinson, Esq. and by her had issue Thomas, the late Lord, whose *Memoirs* we now present to the Public—Anne, born September 10, 1772, married July 18, 1792, to George Lord Granville. Amelia married to William Spry, L. L. D. Governor of Barbadoes. Christiana married to Thomas Saunders, Esq. late ~~Governor~~ of Fort St George. He married, secondly, Anne Maria Murray, by whom he had no issue.

Lord Camelford received the first rudiments of his education at Berne in Switzerland, which he afterwards completed at Charter-house School. When very young his Lordship engaged himself in the service of his country, and in rotation served the regular periods. His conduct, while in a state of probation for future honours, was such as to warrant a well-founded opinion of his gallantry and bravery, at the same period that his eccentricities exposed him to repeated disadvantages, without any evil intentions, through the natural impetuosity of his temper, joined to his very high sentiments of honour, he involved himself in a variety of disputes, and in some cases with those, whose superior years and rank in their country's service did not justify such proceedings. At the same period it is equally true, that on many occasions a knowledge of his irritability has frequently induced unthinking persons to offer affronts which they well knew his Lordship neither could or would submit to; and it is a question which deserves the most serious consideration, whether knowing his habitual failing it would not have reflected more honour to themselves to have slightly passed over, or neglected to take notice of his momentary passion, than by a contrary conduct compel him, in vindication of his own honour, to have recourse to a mode of conduct which, in his cooler moments, he condemned.

At an early age his Lordship entered into the naval service of his country; and under the command of Captain Vancouver, of his Majesty's ship Discovery, sailed round the world: and there cannot exist a doubt, that if his Lordship could have conquered that irritability of temper, which involved him in such a variety of disputes, and ultimately ended in his death, he would have attained the highest naval honours. Unfortunately such was the violence of his temper, that on many occasions he totally forgot what was due to his rank, and in the moments of passion had recourse to the most violent measures.

The first act which served to draw the public attention towards him was the circumstance of his taking umbrage at some part of the conduct of Captain Vancouver, of the Discovery, which ship he quitted in the India seas, and entered on board the Resistance, Captain Sir Edward Pakenham, where his Lordship was appointed Lieutenant, and paid the strictest attention to his professional duties. On his return to this country, in October, 1796, his Lordship challenged Captain Vancouver for alledged ill treatment in the South Seas when under his command. The Captain, in reply, asserted, that his Lordship brought this disagreeable circumstance on himself by his own ill behaviour, and that what he did was necessary for the preservation of discipline. Under this conviction the Captain offered to submit the whole affair to the opinion and judgment of any one Flag Officer, and if he should think the Captain was liable, by the laws of honour, to be called upon, he would cheerfully give him satisfaction; but as fighting was more agreeable to his Lordship than expostulation, this mode of settling the dispute was declined, and threatened personally to insult the Captain: nor was he long deliberating, for seeing the Captain walking up Bond-street he attempted to strike him, and was only prevented by the interference of Captain Vancouver's brother warding off the blows. This affair was afterwards left to legal jurisdiction to settle.

The next affair of consequence was, the circumstance of his shooting Lieutenant Peterson, in English Harbour, Antigua, a measure which has been the subject of much conversation, and gave rise to a variety of disputes, the particulars of which are amply detailed in the subsequent statement, dated Antigua—"Lieutenant Peterson of his Majesty's ship Pedrix, has been lately shot by Lord Camelford, the circumstances of this new catastrophe in the naval annals of this country are as follows:—

Lord Camelford bore the rank of Master and Commander, and had the command of His Majesty's sloop Favorite. The Favorite and Pedrix were lying in English Harbour on Saturday the 13th January,—at which time Capt. Fahie of the Pedrix was absent at St. Kitts: Mr. Peterson was First Lieutenant of the Pedrix, and Lord Camelford, who was the Commanding Officer at that time, in English Harbour, ordered Lieutenant Peterson to row-guard for that night:—this order the Lieutenant refused to obey—Captain Fahie being Lord Camelford's superior Officer, and his Lordship having, in his opinion, no right to give such orders. Both ships were hauled alongside the Dock-yard repairing, and the companies of each ship collected round the parties in the Dock-yard when the altercation begun. High words ensued, but still Lieutenant Peterson refused to obey; and, in a few minutes afterwards, about twelve of the crew of the Pedrix came to the spot armed—Lord Camelford also brought six of his armed marine—Mr. Peterson now drew up his men in a line, and he stood at their head with his sword drawn by his side—Lord Camelford also drew up his six men, in a line fronting them, at about four yards distance; his Lordship then quitted the place about two minutes and returned with a pistol in his hand, which he borrowed of an Officer in the yard—Mr. Peterson was standing as before with his sword drawn, the point resting on the ground—Lord Camelford went up to him and said, do you still persist in refusing to obey my orders, to which Lieutenant Peterson replied, yes, I do persist, on which Lord Camelford immediately clapped the pistol to his breast and fired—Lieut. Peterson fell on his back immediately, and never spoke a word more or moved, as the ball went through his body. The armed part of the crew went quietly on board their ships, and Lord Camelford gave himself up as a prisoner to Captain Matson of the Beaver sloop of war, in which ship he

was carried to the Admiral in Fort Royal Bay. This event occasioned the most lively sensations at Antigua, especially so as Lieutenant Peterson was a native of Nevis, and quite a youth—belonged to a respectable family, and much esteemed. His two brothers employed themselves in collecting evidence to prosecute his Lordship in a civil court; and the populace of St. John were only prevented from acts of violence against his Lordship by the most solemn assurances of the affair being judicially enquired into. The Coroner's Jury brought in their verdict, "Lost his life in a mutiny."

Lord Camelford's personal appearance at that period was not unlike that of Lord George Gordon, when of the same age, and their whimism somewhat similar.

Lord Camelford always provided plenty of good fresh meat every day for the sick, was very severe in his professional duties, and by no means set an expensive example by wearing extravagant clothes. His Lordship, at that period, wore no swabs (gold shoulder knots) all the hair was shaved off his head, on which he wore a monstrous large gold laced cocked hat, which from its appearance one would think had seen service with Sir Walter Raleigh.—His dress consisted of a Lieutenant's plain coat, the buttons green with verdigrease as the ships bottom, and the rest to correspond.

As soon as the necessary forms would admit, his Lordship was brought to a Court Martial, and after several days being occupied in investigating the particulars, they came to the following determination :

"At a Court Martial, held on board His Majesty's ship Invincible, in Fort Royal Bay, Martinique, Jan. 20, 1798, and held by adjournment every day after (Sunday excepted) until the 25th:—Present William Cayley, Esq. Captain of His Majesty's ship Invincible, and Senior Captain of His Majesty's ships and vessels in Fort Royal Bay, Martinique

Martinique, Captains Jemmet, Mainwaring, Richard Brown, Charles Ekins, and Alexander S. Burrows. The Court being duly sworn according to act of Parliament, in pursuance of an order from Henry Hervey, Esq. Rear Admiral of the Red, and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's ships and vessels at Barbadoes, and the Leeward Islands, proceeded to try the said Right Hon. Lord Camelford, acting Commander of His Majesty's sloop Favorite, for the death of Lieut. Charles Peterson, of His Majesty's ship Pedrix, on the evening of the 13th of February, in the Naval Yard at Antigua; and having heard the whole of the evidence adduced on the occasion, and what the prisoner had to offer in his defence, and maturely and deliberately considered the same, and being fully sensible of the necessity of prompt measures, in cases of mutiny and disobedience of orders, are unanimously of opinion that the very extraordinary and manifest disobedience of Lieut. Peterson to the lawful commands of Lord Camelford, the senior officer at English Harbour at that time, and the violent measures taken by Lieut. Peterson to resist the same by arming the Pedrix's ship's company, were acts of mutiny highly injurious to His Majesty's service, the Court do therefore unanimously adjudge, that the said Lord Camelford be honorably acquitted, and he is hereby unanimously and honorably acquitted accordingly; signed as usual by all the Members of the Court. His Lordship afterwards returned and took the command of his ship, which he soon after resigned, and quitted the naval profession.

On his return to this country in 1799, finding there existed the greatest animosity between this country and France; his Lordship formed the design of personally attacking the French Rulers, and for this purpose hired a boat to go to France, with two of his companions; but a suspicion arising, he was taken into custody. His appear-

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ance was such as to bear evident marks of insanity—he was closely cropped, wore an old round hat, blue coat, white fustian breeches, and boots splashed all over. His Lordship was taken to the Duke of Portland's Office to be examined; but it being evident he was actuated by some mad project in no shape hostile to the interests of this country, he obtained his discharge. He told the boatmen at Dover, that Turnbull, who robbed the Mint, was a fool, and knew not how to set about getting to France. On their questioning him respecting his name, he replied Camelford; but they not dreaming of having in their custody a Peer of great fortune, and allied to some of the first families in the kingdom, possessed no other idea from the information, than that they held in their hands a Mr. Camelford, and were not undeceived in this particular until they arrived at the Secretary of State's Office.

Of a similar strange turn were most of his actions: at one time, when there was a general illumination for the return of peace, no threats could induce him to permit lights to be exhibited in the windows of his apartments in Bond Street; in vain the landlord of the house represented to him that the windows would be broken, his Lordship continued inexorable; and when the mob assailed the house with the usual cry of lights! lights! he ran into the street, followed by his servants, and entered into a sharp contest with the mob, until overpowered by numbers, he was forced to relinquish the field, and next day employ a glazier to repair the damage the windows had sustained.

At the close of the year 1803, his lordship had been engaged in such a variety of disputes, quarrels, and duels, that it became a matter of course to hear of his being engaged in affrays. Constant in his attendance on the amateurs of the boxing art, he was welcomed by them for the beneficence of his purse. His attachment to scenes of

love

low life frequently occasioned many to boast their acquaintance with his Lordship, and among the rest Mr. King and his partners in the Portland Place Bank, in their advertisements, boasted of his friendship, and quarrelled as to the best means of turning it to their individual advantage. It cannot be supposed his Lordship sanctioned such a proceeding; but it clearly evinces that the Peer ought not to become a companion to the Porter.

As an instance of the eccentricity of his character, we give the following account of one of the many grand rows with which his Lordship frequently diverted himself.

As his Lordship, accompanied by Captain B. of the Royal Navy, concerned in a late fatal duel at Chalk Farm, was returning home, about one o'clock in the morning, through Cavendish Square, they began to chastise the guardians of the night, conceiving they were not exercising due vigilance at the then most momentous crisis. Four watchmen, who had been dead asleep, were soon awoke to the lively impression made upon their shoulder by the assailants; they started up, but two of them were soon knocked down; they fell with a great noise, the half-pence jingled out of their pockets, and what remained in the gin-bottle was spilt on the pavement. The other two sprung their rattles, and soon collected a posse of the fraternity, who, after a contest of one hour, succeeded in taking the fashionable assailants into their custody. Divers blows and bruises were received on both sides; but Captain B. was the greatest sufferer, having received a contusion on the head. The captive heroes, strongly guarded by at least sixteen watchmen, all armed, were conveyed to the watch-house, where his Lordship seemed to feel himself quite at home—not so the Captain, he by no means liked his birth, or relished the treatment he had received. He threatened furiously to commence hostilities, and to cut a port hole through the cabin side, and was proceeding

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to carry his menace into execution, when a second scuffle ensued, and the captain of the guard at length succeeded in seizing his arm, and being assisted by the effects of the liquor they had been drinking, prevented any farther mischief. The next day they were brought in triumph to Marlborough Street, where the watchmen were gratified with a present of one guinea each; and his Lordship and the Captain, after refitting the damage their rigging had sustained, retired home in order to recover from their fatigue in sufficient time to be present at the next boxing match which took place.

We come now to that part of his history, which requires us to record an event of the most melancholy nature. His Lordship had been for sometime intimate with a Lady, said to have been formerly the kept mistress of a Mr. B. an acquaintance of his Lordships; and it being represented to him that Mr. B. had said something to his prejudice to her at the Opera House, it so incensed him that on Tuesday, the 6th of March, at the Prince of Wales's Coffee-House, where they usually dined, he went up to Mr. B. and said, loud enough to be heard by all the company, "I find, Sir, that you have spoken of me in the most unwarrantable terms." Mr. B. replied, that he was utterly unconscious of having deserved such a charge. Lord Camelford replied that he was not ignorant of what he had reported to Mrs. S. and pronounced him to be "a scoundrel, a liar, and a ruffian." Mr. B. said, these were epithets which admitted but of one course, and a meeting was immediately proposed for the next morning. The place was not fixed. Lord Camelford desired the Hon. Mr. D. son to Lord H. to arrange with Mr. N. who was named by Mr. B. as his second, the time and place.

In the course of the evening Mr. B. conveyed to Lord Camelford the strongest assurances, that the information he had received was unfounded; and that believing he had acted

acted under a false impression he would be satisfied if his Lordship would retract the expressions he had used. This Lord Camelford refused to do.

Mr. B. left the Coffee-House much agitated; and shortly after a note was delivered to his Lordship, which the people of the House suspected to contain a challenge. With a truly laudable anxiety they accordingly gave notice to the Bow-street Office, from whence several Officers were immediately dispatched. Before their arrival, however, his Lordship had gone away. The Officers then stationed themselves before his lodgings in Bond-street, and Mr. B.'s house in Wimpole-street, where they waited all night without success, as neither of the parties returned home, nor was any thing further heard until a quarter before eight the next morning.

Meanwhile, his Lordship and Mr. B. met in the morning at a Coffee-House in Oxford-street, agreeable to the appointment which their Seconds had made; and here again Mr. B. made an effort to prevail on his Lordship to retract the epithets he had used. He went up to him, and said, "Camelford, we have been friends, and I know the unsuspecting generosity of your nature. Upon my honour you have been imposed upon by a strumpet. Do not insist in expressions under which one of us must fall." Lord Camelford answered, "B. this is child's play, the thing must go on." And yet we can state, from undoubted authority, that the Noble Lord, reflecting on the whole matter, had in his heart acquitted B. and had confidentially stated to his second that he knew he was in the wrong; that B. was a man of honour—but that he could not bring himself to retract words which he had once used. He afterwards said,—“Feeling that I am in the wrong, I shall not fire at B.” No remonstrance, however, could prevail on him to retract his words. An inveterate adherence to false punctilio made him resolute in error, and the duel unhappily took place.

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On the morning of Wednesday, the 7th of March, his Lordship and Mr. B. were observed riding upon the road to Kensington, followed by a post-chaise, in which were two gentlemen, followed by their servants on horse-back, who rode at a distance from each other. Upon their arrival at the Horse and Groom, leading to the fields at the rear of Holland House, Kensington, the parties dismounted. The seconds stepped out the ground, when they took their stations. His Lordship fired first, and without effect. A space of several seconds intervened before Mr. B. returned his Lordship's fire; and from his attitude and manner, the people at a distance supposed he had been asking whether his Lordship was satisfied. Mr. B. fired, when his Lordship fell instantly at full length. Mr. B. and the two seconds ran up to his assistance, as did a gardener of Lord Holland's, and some persons who had been looking on from behind the hedges. The ground being very swampy, the water had run into his half-boots; and his Lordship was endeavouring to support himself upon his arm, and expressed great reluctance to receive any assistance. A chair was procured with all possible expedition, and he was carried to the house of a Mr. Ottey, and a surgeon immediately sent for.

His Lordship most unequivocally declared, that from the evening of Saturday the 25th of February, (the night on which Mr. B. explained his conduct at the Opera,) to the period of the duel, Mrs. S. did not send him any letter, or in any other manner urge him to the steps he took, so that all the reports of the unfortunate affair having originated in the conduct of that lady are wholly unfounded, especially so, as from the 25th till the duel she had not been at the Opera, and consequently could not have addressed the threatening words she is reported to have used.

Before Lord Camelford left his lodgings on Tuesday night the 6th March, he inserted the following paper in his will: Being written in a moment of perturbation it is not so elegant as his writings generally were, but it bears strong marks of the nobleness of his disposition:

“ There are many other matters which at another time I might be inclined to mention, but I will say nothing more at present, than that in the present contest I am fully and entirely the aggressor, as well in the spirit as in the letter of the word. Should I therefore lose my life in a contest of my own seeking, I most solemnly forbid any of my friends or relations, let them be of whatsoever description they may be, from instituting any vexatious proceedings against my antagonist; and should, notwithstanding the above declaration on my part, the laws of the land be put in force against him, I desire that this part of my will may be made known to the king, in order that his royal heart may be moved to extend his mercy towards him.”

Previous to the fatal meeting, several overtures were made to Lord Camelford to effect a reconciliation, which he rejected from an idea that as his antagonist was the best shot in England, he was extremely fearful his reputation would suffer if he made any concession, however slight, to such a person.

This was the probable cause of the violent language which he is reported to have used, and the principal cause of the meeting.

After he fell, he is said to have expressed on the spot that he was the sole aggressor.

As soon as circumstances would admit; information of the tragical event was sent to Lord Grenville; and his Lordship, accompanied by Lady Grenville, arrived at Mr. Ottey's on Thursday afternoon. The surgeons, however, thinking, from the distress of Lady Grenville, that a meeting between them might be attended with dangerous consequences, prudently forbade it.

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Lord Camelford continued in agonies of pain during the first day, towards the evening he grew rather better, and by the help of laudanum he got some sleep during the night, and in the morning found himself much relieved. His hopes revived considerably during the second day, and he conversed with some cheerfulness. The surgeons, however, would never give his friends the slightest hopes.

From that time till Saturday the 10th, his Lordship suffered great pain, and frequently exclaimed to his servant, "this is suffering indeed." He wrote several letters to Sir Sydney Smith, requesting him to come to town to fulfil a few commissions, one of which was to send his body to Berne in Switzerland, to be interred in a particular spot between three trees in the Canton of Berne, the place where he was educated.

It affords much consolation that he was attended in his latter moments by his cousin the Reverend William Cockburne, to whom he expressed his hope in the goodness and mercy of God, and that the agonies he then suffered might expiate the sins he had committed.

During Saturday, his Lordship shewed no symptoms that could be considered favourable: at eight o'clock in the evening a mortification commenced, which induced the medical gentlemen who attended him to pronounce his recovery impossible, and an express was sent to that effect to the Marquis of Buckingham. His Lordship, nevertheless, had strong hopes of recovery, and repeatedly asked the medical gentlemen who attended him, why they did not begin the proposed operation, adding, I am ready to undergo it whenever you please.

A little after eight o'clock, the servant, and those who attended him, believed him dead, his Lordship, however, breathed till within a quarter of nine, when he expired, apparently without sense of pain. The time of his decease agreed within a short time with that stated by the surgeons. The ball was extracted after his death, and about four o'clock

o'clock the next day, the body was opened in order to give satisfactory information to the coroner's jury.

Thus died Thomas Lord Camelford, in the prime of life. His real character was little known, while his imperfections and follies were often brought before the public. He was passionately fond of science, and though his mind when a sailor had been little cultivated, yet he had of late years acquired a fund of information upon almost every subject connected with literature. In his youth he was fond of puzzling the chaplains of ships, and to enable him to do this, had read all the sceptical books he could procure; as, however, his judgment encreased, he became convinced of the importance of religion, and a few days before his death observed, "No sensible and well informed man can presume to assert that christianity is false, I do not yet venture, said he, to assert positively that it is true, but I confess the probabilities are in its favour."

So little did he expect his dissolution, that he had been for some time employed in preparations for the disposal of his property in this country, and had sent persons to value the timber on his estates in Cornwall and Dorset.

During his illness, he made a bequest to a chemist, who had assisted him in his laboratory, and to Captain Berrie he left an annuity with a sum to pay his debts.

An inquest was taken the following morning, at the White Horse, Kensington, before George Hodgson, Esq. his majesty's coroner for the county of Middlesex, on view of the body of the Honourable Thomas Pitt Lord Camelford.

The jury, after having attended to the coroner's charge, proceeded to Mr. Ottey's, Litt's Holland House, where the deceased lay. Upon examining the body, there appeared immediately below the right shoulder, a wound; which was evidently the cause of his Lordship's death. The jury returned to hear the evidence.

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James Sheers, gardener to Lord Holland, stated, that previous to the transaction he was about to relate, he had no personal knowledge of the deceased. On Wednesday morning last, he was at work at Lord Holland's, digging in the shrubbery, when he heard the report of two pistols. He told the man at work with him (one John Murray) that he thought it was a duel. He ran down to the pales adjoining the field, and saw the smoke in the second field, about ten yards distance from the hedge, and nearly three hundred yards from him. He observed the deceased (Lord Camelford) lying on the ground, and a person, his second, supporting him. The witness ran down, and there were two other gentlemen coming from Lord Camelford. He went to the gap, and saw the deceased lying—he was then only fifteen yards from him: the same gentleman was still supporting him, and begging of the witness to come to his assistance. The witness called through the hedge to the rest of the men, his fellow labourers, and desired them to stop the gentlemen. They went in pursuit of them, but did not stop them. The deceased begged very hard of the witness to assist him: accordingly he took hold of the cape of his coat, and the gentleman who had been supporting him ran for a surgeon, and left him with the deceased. Soon after surgeon Thompson came, the deceased asked the witness why he called out to stop the gentlemen? to which he replied, that he wished to stop them, as he did not know what had been the matter. Lord Camelford observed, that he did not wish to have them stopped—that he was the aggressor—that he forgave the gentleman who had shot him, and hoped God would forgive him too.—In five or six minutes, John Irons, and several other persons came to his assistance. The witness asked the deceased, whether he knew his friend, or any of the opposition party? and the answer was, "That he knew nothing, for he was a dead man." The remainder of Lord Holland's gardeners, with

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Mr. Johnson, the head gardener, and Mr. Thompson's son, came up: a chair was sent for, and the deceased was put in it, and carried to Mr. Ottey's. The witnesses got the deceased up stairs, and helped to put him to bed; his neck-cloth was taken off, and his shirt pulled over, when he appeared to have received a wound in his right shoulder. The witnesses went to town to call Mr. Holmes, the surgeon, of Sackville Street, Piccadilly. He saw no pistols, or any fire-arms at all.

George Robinson, chief gardener at Holland House, said, he had no knowledge of the deceased, or any of the parties. He saw the gentlemen walking in the field where Lord Camelford fell on Wednesday morning last, about a quarter before eight o'clock; they were at the top of the field; there were four gentlemen between three and four hundred yards distance from him. Several persons were with the witness. At first they saw them walking in the field; then they heard the report of one pistol, and afterwards of another, at the interval of two or three seconds. They saw the smoke, and perceived one gentleman fall. Two of the gentlemen ran up to him. The witness met those two gentlemen coming up the field. They spoke to him, and desired him for God's sake to go and assist the wounded gentleman. He went to the ground, and found Lord Camelford on the ground, and Sheers lifting him up. He assisted in taking him to Mr. Ottey's. He could distinguish from the situation in which they stood, that the deceased fired first. They stood at the distance of thirty paces, which on being measured, proved to be exactly twenty-nine yards. It was easy to ascertain the distance, because he saw where Lord Camelford fell, and twenty-nine yards off could plainly observe the mark of his antagonist's heels in the dew. The deceased did not say any thing about the affair in the hearing of the witnesses. He knew nothing of the gentlemen present, never having seen them before.

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Mr. Simon Nicholson, surgeon, of Sackville Street, stated, that on Wednesday morning last, he was called on to attend the deceased, who had received a small wound on the right side of his chest, near the shoulder, which appeared to have been made by the ball of a gun or pistol. The deceased complained of considerable pain in his chest, and violent shooting pains from his chest to his back, particularly when he spoke. He also complained of a pain in his lower extremities, from which the witness supposed the ball had passed through the lungs, and lodged in the spine. The deceased never recovered the use of his lower extremities, but languished till Saturday evening last, about eight o'clock, when he expired. The witness opened his body, and discovered that the ball had fractured the fifth rib, and had passed through the right lobe of the lungs, and lodged in the passage of the spinal marrow, through the sixth vertebra of the back bone. In the chest, there were more than six quarts of extravasated blood, which had compressed the lungs so as to prevent them from performing their functions.

No further evidence was offered to the jury.

Mr. Hodgson, the Coroner, said, his duty called upon him to make but very few observations. It was evident the deceased had been killed by a shot fired at him by some persons of whose identity the Jury had no direct or admissible proof. The law of this country admitted of no excuse for one man killing another in a private duel; but supposing the person who had slain the deceased to be able, before a superior tribunal, to offer circumstances and facts in palliation of his offence, they could not have any weight on this inquest. He had, strictly speaking, been guilty of murder, and to that effect must necessarily be the verdict of the Jury. In the present case there was no doubt of the deceased having been feloniously killed; but there was no evidence who was the principal, or who were the seconds. In point of fact, all were equally

equally guilty; for in the crime of murder, accessories before the fact were considered as principals. He did not see how it was possible to refer the death of Lord Camelford to accident, for there was positive proof that he had fallen by the hand of some person; therefore the jury had no alternative but that of saying, he had been killed by some person or persons unknown. There was hardly a doubt but the expressions and avowal of the deceased, so honourably made in favour of his opponent, would, if the latter were arraigned in a superior court, induce his acquittal; but that was a consideration which ought not to operate on the minds of those whom he was addressing. Had the parties been in a room, and upon a sudden quarrel, the deceased, having given the first provocation, had been killed, it might have been justifiable homicide; but, on the contrary, it appeared they had deliberately gone out to commit an unjustifiable act. Had it been proved who the person was who fired the shot at the deceased, the jury would have been bound to have returned an identical charge of murder against him, and those who were present aiding and abetting him; but as the case stood, they could only pronounce the verdict to which he had alluded.

The jury declared themselves perfectly satisfied.

Mr. Wilson, the Secretary of the Lord Chancellor, and Solicitor for the noble relatives of the deceased, declared on their part, that he was as well satisfied as the jury with the impartiality of the investigation, and the very candid and honourable manner, in which the Coroner had pointed out their duty to them on the occasion.

The jury unanimously returned a verdict of wilful murder, or felonious homicide, by some person or persons to the jurors unknown.

About eight o'clock of the following Saturday, his Lordship's body was removed to the vault in St. Anne's church, Soho, there to remain till arrangements can be formed for its conveyance to Switzerland.

The procession proceeded slowly, and was in the following order:

Ten outriders with white feathers and bands

A plume of white feathers and two pages

The hearse and six horses adorned with white plumes

A coach and six containing mourners

Captain Berrie

Mr. Wilson formerly his Lordship's solicitor

Two of the principal domestics

The deceased's carriage

With two servants behind in mourning, and the coachman seated on a black velvet hampercloth.

The coffin was covered with rose-coloured velvet, with a profusion of silver clasps. There were two plates, the top one contained the arms coloured, and underneath the following lines, "The Right Hon. Lord Camelford died the 19th March, 1804, aged 29 years." The bottom plate contained the coronet only.

When arrived at the church, they proceeded along the west aisle to the vault, where the body was deposited.

His Lordship has bequeathed the principal part of his fortune to his sister, Lady Grenville, who is the sole executrix, with the family estates nearly 20,000*l.* per annum, and afterwards, in default of issue, to the Earl of Chatham's family, who are next in the entail. The title is extinct. Among the principal legacies is the sum of 1000*l.* for the purchase of a particular spot of ground in the Canton of Berne, situated between three trees, where he wished to be buried; his Lordship in his will observing, that it is usual for persons to wish to be interred near the spot where they spent their youthful days; and preparations are now making to carry it into execution.—Exclusive of his bequests to Captain Berrie and to the chemist, who assisted him in his laboratory, his Lordship has left considerable sums to be devoted to charitable purposes.

