

their dogs here. But surely if it had been so there would be some historical proof; in this case no one has pretended to adduce it. Therefore, this tradition must be for the present regarded as uncanonical and apocryphal. There is, however," he adds, "another story, which is thus given by Strype and Seymour:—'The next place to be noted on the Thames,' says the latter, 'is the Isle of Dogs, a low marshy ground, so called, as it is reputed, from a waterman's murdering a man in this place who had a dog with him, which would

reign of Elizabeth.'" Among other instances, he adduces the following:—

"In 1656, on the trial of James Naylor, the celebrated Quaker, for blasphemy, mention is made of the Isle of Dogs. The case of the prisoner was debated by the Parliament. 'The debate turned on the questions of slitting the tongue or boring it; of cutting off his hair; of whipping; of sending him to Bristol, the Isle of Scilly, Jamaica, *the Isle of Dogs*, the Marshalsea.' (See 'Footsteps of our Forefathers,' by J. G. Miall, p. 281, London, 1851.)



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not leave his master till constrained by hunger to swim over to Greenwich, and doing this frequently, it was observed by the watermen plying there, who, following the dog, by that means discovered the body of the murdered man. Soon after the dog, swimming over to Greenwich, snarled at a waterman who sat there, and would not be beaten off, which the other watermen perceiving, and knowing of the murder, they apprehended this strange waterman, who confessed the fact, and was condemned and executed for it."

Mr. Cowper, to whom we are mainly indebted for the material for this notice of the Isle of Dogs, writes:—"I have not met with any reference to or use of this name earlier than the close of the

"In Beaumont and Fletcher's *Thierry and Theodoret*, Act II., sc. 2 (Dyce's Edition, Vol. I., p. 154), this passage occurs:—

"*Theodoret*: 'There's something for thy labour.'

"*Bawdber*: 'Where could I wish myself now? In the *Isle of Dogs*, so I might 'scape scratching, for I see by her cat's eyes I shall be clawed wonderfully.'

"*Middleton and Dekker*, in the *Roaring Girl*, have this passage:—

"*Moll Cutpurse*: 'O, sir, he hath been brought up in the *Isle of Dogs*, and can both fawn like a spaniel and bite like a mastiff, as he finds occasion.'

"I am indebted to Cunningham's '*Murray's*