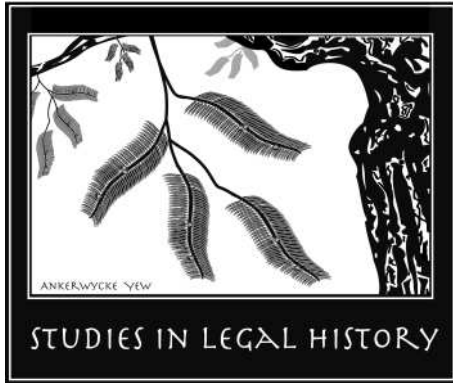


Execution, State and Society in England, 1660–1900

This book provides the first comprehensive account of execution practices in England and their extraordinary transformation from 1660 to 1900. Agonizing execution rituals were once common. Male traitors were hanged, disembowelled while still alive, then decapitated and quartered. Female traitors were burned alive. And common criminals slowly choked to death beneath wooden crossbeams erected at the margins of towns. Some of their bodies were either left to rot on roadside gibbets or dissected by anatomy instructors. Two centuries later, only murderers and traitors were executed – both by hanging – and they died alone, usually quickly, and behind prison walls. In this major contribution to the history of crime and punishment in England, Simon Devereaux reveals how urban growth, and the unique public culture it produced, challenged and largely displaced those traditional elites who valued the old “Bloody Code” as an instrument of their rule.

Simon Devereaux is Associate Professor of History at the University of Victoria.



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UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
 978-1-009-39215-0 — Execution, State and Society in England, 1660–1900
 Simon Devereaux
 Frontmatter
[More Information](#)



Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,
 New Delhi – 110025, India

103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment,
 a department of the University of Cambridge.

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 education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781009392150

DOI: 10.1017/9781009392129

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First published 2023

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

NAMES: Devereaux, Simon, 1966– author.

TITLE: Execution, state, and society in England, 1660–1900 / Simon Devereaux,
 University of Victoria, British Columbia.

DESCRIPTION: Cambridge, United Kingdom ; New York, NY : Cambridge
 University Press, 2024. | Series: Studies in legal history | Includes bibliographical
 references and index.

IDENTIFIERS: LCCN 2023018210 | ISBN 9781009392150 (hardback) | ISBN

9781009392105 (paperback) | ISBN 9781009392129 (ebook)

SUBJECTS: LCSH: Capital punishment – England – History. | Criminal justice,
 Administration of – Social aspects – England – History. | Executions and
 executioners – England – History. | Crime – England – History.

CLASSIFICATION: LCC KD7885.C3 D48 2024 | DDC 364.660941–dc23/eng/20230724
 LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2023018210>

ISBN 978-1-009-39215-0 Hardback

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978-1-009-39215-0 — Execution, State and Society in England, 1660–1900

Simon Devereaux

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Acknowledgments

Like life, this book happened while I was busy making other plans. In 2015 Pascal Bastien invited me to contribute a chapter to a volume of historiographic surveys of execution in various countries. I rashly believed that I could keep such a project within a relatively short span of words, and I am grateful to Pascal for his patience and enthusiasm as my draft kept bursting each set of bounds set for it. In the end 35,000 words were written, and the desire of the “chapter” to be a book had become apparent even to me. Nevertheless, some readers may feel that, in trying to cover so broad a timespan, this account sometimes oversimplifies complex subjects and entirely omits other important ones. One of my objectives, indeed, is to draw attention to aspects of the subject that demand deeper consideration.

I am grateful to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada for the award of a Standard Research Grant in 2008–10, as well as the University of Victoria for several Internal Research Grants and funding under the Work Study Program. These funds enabled me to employ students to help with detailed surveys of digitized newspapers. My thanks to Brishti Basu, Chantelle de Montmorency, Emily Hansen, Patricia Kidd, Marri Knadle, Lindy Marks and Erin Travers for their contributions. I am especially grateful to Christine Fritze and Ashley Vandepol for their particularly intensive work.

I owe a joyous debt to our dear friends in London, Presley Warner and Berna Hudson. For two decades now, they have refused to allow us to stay anywhere during our research trips except in their beautiful home in Highgate, where we have had the added pleasure of seeing their wonderful children – Scott, Alexia, Christina and Katya – grow up.

Research in archives is the most exciting and pleasurable part of a historian's work: but not always perhaps for the many people who make such glories of civilization function, sometimes under difficult circumstances. I am particularly grateful to the staff of the National Archives of the United Kingdom and the British Library for their unfailing assistance during the many happy months I have worked in their collections over three decades.

I am delighted that this book is appearing in the ASLH Studies in Legal History series. Michael Lobban has been constantly encouraging and supportive from the moment I first contacted him. Lisa Ford made many helpful comments and suggestions, particularly for putting the earlier chapters in order. For similarly helpful comments, I am grateful to the two anonymous readers of the manuscript. At the press, Cecelia Cancellaro, Victoria Phillips, Preethika Ramalingam and Steven Holt have seen the manuscript through production with unfailing patience and consideration. And a big thank you to Molly Robson for compiling the index.

Early drafts were not inflicted upon my many friends and colleagues in the field. My obligations to them and their insights are, I hope, properly acknowledged in the notes. This book would surely have been better had John Beattie been here to read it: I will always regret that he was not. Every page of it has been improved by Andrea McKenzie's sharp analytical and editorial insights. My debts to her work will be apparent in the notes. What I owe her for everything else that makes life worthwhile is acknowledged on another page.

Abbreviations

Unless otherwise indicated, the place of publication is London.

Add MS	Additional Manuscript
AHR	<i>American Historical Review</i>
AJLH	<i>American Journal of Legal History</i>
BCN	Seventeenth- and Eighteenth-Century Burney Newspapers Collection (Gale)
BJC	<i>British Journal of Criminology</i>
BL	The British Library
BLN	British Library Newspapers (Gale)
CCOB	Capital Convictions at the Old Bailey https://hcmc.uvic.ca/project/oldbailey/index.php
CPUK	Capital Punishment UK www.capitalpunishmentuk.org
CJH	<i>Criminal Justice History</i>
CSPD	Robert Lemon <i>et al.</i> (eds.), <i>Calendar of State Papers: Domestic Series, 1547–1706</i> (94 vols., London and Woodbridge, 1856–2006)
ECCO	Eighteenth Century Collections Online (Gale)
EEBO	Early English Books Online (ProQuest)
Eng Rpts	<i>The English Reports</i> (Edinburgh and London, 176 vols.)
Gatrell	V. A. C. Gatrell, <i>The Hanging Tree: Execution and the English People, 1770–1868</i> (Oxford, 1994)
Hansard	T. C. Hansard <i>et al.</i> (eds.), <i>The Parliamentary Debates, from the Year 1803 to the Present Time</i> (5 series to date)
HeinOnline	HeinOnline (legal history database)

HCSP	House of Commons Sessional Papers
<i>HJ</i>	<i>Historical Journal</i>
HMC	Reports of the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts
HPC	<i>The History of Parliament: The House of Commons</i> (text available online at www.historyofparliamentonline.org)
<i>JBS</i>	<i>Journal of British Studies</i>
<i>JHC/JHL</i>	<i>Journal of the House of Commons/Lords</i>
<i>JLH</i>	<i>Journal of Legal History</i>
<i>LCH</i>	<i>Law, Crime and History</i>
<i>LHR</i>	<i>Law and History Review</i>
<i>LJ</i>	<i>London Journal</i>
LMA	London Metropolitan Archives
London Lives	London Lives, 1690–1800: Crime, Poverty and Social Policy in the Metropolis www.londonlives.org
OBPO	The <i>Proceedings</i> of the Old Bailey, 1674–1913 www.oldbaileyonline.org
ODNB	Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (database)
OED	Oxford English Dictionary (database)
<i>P&P</i>	<i>Past & Present</i>
<i>Parl. History</i>	William Cobbett (ed.), <i>The Parliamentary History of England, from the Earliest Period to the Year 1803</i> (36 vols., 1806–20)
Radzinowicz	Leon Radzinowicz, <i>A History of English Criminal Law and Its Administration from 1750</i> (5 vols., 1948–86; fifth volume co-authored with Roger Hood)
State Trials	T. B. Howell (ed.), <i>A Complete Collection of State Trials and Proceedings for High Treason and Other Crimes and Misdemeanours</i> (34 vols., 1809–26)
<i>The Times</i>	<i>The Times</i> of London (newspaper)
TNA	The National Archives (UK)
E	Exchequer Papers
HO	Home Office Papers
PC	Privy Council Papers
PRO	Domestic Records: Gifts, Deposits, Notes and Transcripts
SP	State Papers
T	Treasury Papers