

As the two heroic men were launched into eternity, many of the people witnessing the piteous spectacle, cried in grief and horror, not a few women fainted and others ran away wildly hysterical. It is also said that when the bodies of the dead patriots were taken from the gibbets they were beheaded, and the remains buried in a plot of ground belonging to Captain Leisler, lying east of the commons, near the corner of a short thoroughfare called Gray Street, between Spruce and Frankfort streets, not far from the site of the present Tribune building.

At a provincial council, held at Fort William Henry, on the day of the execution of Leisler and Milborne, "a bill for pardoning such as have been active in the late disorders," was "assented unto by the governor and council, and ordered to be enrolled and enacted." As disclosed by the last provision of the bill, the men who had been prominently identified with the administration of the government by Captain Leisler were not pardoned but were more effectively stigmatized by the enactment of the bill, as was desired by their rancorous enemies.

"Excepted, and always as for-prized out of this general pardon all and every the persons hereafter named and expressed: Jacob Leyster, Jacob Millbourn, Gharrardus Beckman, Abraham Gouverneur, Abraham Brasier, Thomas Williams, Minardt Coerten, Johannis Wermilisaen, already attainted of treason and murder; Nicholas Blank, Gerret Duykin, Henrick Jansin, John Coe, William Lawrance of East-Jersey, Cornelius Plevier, William Churchill, Joost Stoll, Samuel Staats, Jacob Mauritz, Robert Leacock, Michael Hauser, Richard Ponten, of the County of Westchester, Joseph Smith, John Baily, Roulous Swartwood, Anthony Swartwood, Johannes Provest, Jacob Mullein, Benjamin Blagg, Joachem Staates, and Richard Pretty."¹

The crime of treason having been legislatively imputed to Leisler and Milborne and six of their associates, the members of the families of these men consequently became attainted or stained with infamy, and under the law forfeited all rights to their property. Leisler's son having made an appeal to his majesty King William, the estates of Leisler and Milborne "were restored to their families." "Dissatisfied with this imperfect redress, the friends of Leisler," as Bancroft relates, "persevered till an act of Parliament * * * * * reversed the attainder."²

The act of Parliament reversing the attainder of Jacob Leisler, Jacob Milborne, Abraham Gouverneur, Gerardus Beckman, Johannes Vermillye, Mindert

¹ Journal of the Legislative Council of New York. 1691-1743, p. 9. Laws and acts of the General Assembly of New York. Bradford (1694), pp. 31-33.

² Documentary history of the state of New York. 8vo ed., vol. ii., pp. 422-424. History of the United States. 14th ed., vol. iii., p. 55.