

THE TRIAL OF NICHOLAS BAYARD FOR HIGH TREASON, NEW YORK CITY, 1702.

THE NARRATIVE.

Jacob Leisler fell a victim to the malignant feelings engendered by political contentions in the Provinces in 1691; and the passions, excited in his adherents by his melancholy fate, continued long to distract the public councils, and to embitter the social intercourse of the inhabitants of the province. His son, Jacob, unmindful of his father's dying request, made upon the gallows, could never forget or forgive his melancholy death, and lost no opportunity to vindicate his name, and to cast odium upon those who had been instrumental in the wrongs he suffered; nor was he unsuccessful.

The aristocratic party maintained their influence with those in power until the arrival of Lord Bellamont in 1698, as governor of the province. The sympathies of that nobleman had been excited in England by young Leisler, in favor of his adherents, who were thus favored by the governor's countenance and support. At the death of this nobleman, in 1701, the ancient animosities of the rival factions were revived with the utmost zeal and fury. Information being received that Lord Cornbury* was to succeed the Earl of Bella-

* CORNBURY, EDWARD HYDE. (1661-1724.) Third Earl of Clarendon, Second Lord Cornbury; born in England, son of Henry Hyde, Second Earl of Clarendon; M. P. for Wiltshire, 1685-1695; for Christchurch, 1695-1701; Captain General and Governor-in-Chief of New York and New Jersey, 1701-1708; was removed in 1708, and thrown into prison for debt before he returned to England; made Privy Councillor, 1711, and was Envoy Extraordinary to Hanover in 1714; died in London.