

From *Letters and Papers, Foreign and Domestic, Henry VIII, vol. 8: January- July 1535*, edited by James Gairdner. London: Her Majesty's Stationary Office, 1885, pp. 365-66.

27 June [1535]
Cleop. E. iv. 129.
B. M.
Wright's Suppression of
the Monasteries, 34.

932. THE CHARTERHOUSE MONKS.

Statement of John Darlay, monk of the Charterhouse.

Had licence to say service with father Raby of our religion, a very old man, and when he lay on his death-bed after he had received the sacraments, and the convent had departed, said to him, "Good father Raby, if the dead ma[y] come to the quick, I beseech you to come to me." He said "Yea," and died the same night, "which was in the clansyng days last past, anno 1534." Never thought of him since till St. John Baptist's Day last, when he appeared at 5 p.m. in the entry in our sell, "and said to me, 'Why do ye not follow our father?'¹ And I said, 'Wherefore?' He said, 'For he is a martyr in heaven next unto angels.' And I said, 'Where be all our other fathers which died as well as he?' He answer and said, 'They be well, but not so well as he.' And then I said to him, 'Father, how do ye?' And he answered and said, 'Well enough.' And I said, 'Father, shall I pray for you?' And he said, 'I am well enough, but prayer both for you and other doeth good;' and so suddenly vanished away."

On Saturday next after, at 5 a.m., he again appeared in the same place with a long white beard, and a white staff in his hand, lifting it up; whereupon I was afraid. "And then, leaning upon his staff, said to me, 'I am sorry that I lived not to I had been a martyr.' And I said, 'I think ye be as well as ye were a martyr.' **And he said, 'Nay, for my lord of Rochester and [366] our father was next unto angels in heaven.'** And then I said, 'Father, what else?' And then he answered and said, 'The angels of peace did lament and murne without measure;' and so vanished away."

"Written by me, John Darly, monk of the Charterhouse, the 27th day of June, the year of our Lord God aforesaid."²

Hol., pp. 2.

1 Prior Houghton.

2 The only year "aforesaid" is 1534, but the reference is to "the cleansing days" (or Shrovetide) "last past," where 1534 certainly means 1535 by the modern computation, beginning the year in January.