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According to a curious manuscript by the learned John Gregory, a peculiar species of "Will with the Wisp," called "The Wat," used occasionally to visit Aylesbury Gaol, and was then prophetic of evil; the night before the arrival of the Judges at the Assizes was the fatal period of its visit. It would then make its appearance like a small flame (*flammulam*), and the unfortunate person, to whom it was visible, had nothing to look forward to but certain death. "This," adds Gregory in the simplicity of his soul, "I cannot affirm of my own knowledge, but I learnt it from the inhabitants of Aylesbury themselves—from persons worthy of belief." Why Aylesbury Gaol was distinguished by this peculiar and fatal omen, is no where explained.

