



Friday the Four and twentieth day of December, 1652.

*Resolved by the Parliament,*



That the Markets be kept to Morrow, being the Five and twentieth day of December; And that the Lord Major, and Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, and the Iustices of Peace for the City of Westminster and Liberties thereof, do take care, That all such persons as shall open their Shops on that day, be protected from Wrong or Violence, and the Offenders punished.

*Resolved by the Parliament,*

That no Observation shall be had of the Five and twentieth day of December commonly called Christmas-Day; nor any Solemnity used or exercised in Churches upon that Day in respect thereof.

*Ordered by the Parliament,*

That the Lord Major of the City of London, and Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, and the Iustices of Peace of Middlesex respectively, be Authorized and Required to see this Order duly observed within the late Lines of Communication, and weekly Bills of Mortality.

*Hen: Scobell, Cleric. Parliamenti.*

London, Printed by John Field, Printer to the Parliament of England. 1652.

*The Puritans in power: resolutions of Parliament during the Commonwealth directed against the 'superstition' of observing Christmas Day as a holiday, 1652.*

Baildon, J. O. Halliwell-Phillipps, Bloom, Edmond, Steele and Rye and the popularisers like Ashton, John Payne Collier, Charles Hindley, Leslie Shepard and Robert Collison has been successful in enumerating and describing the street literature, especially the ballads, and making it popular with collectors. The assortment acquired by the Turnbull is certainly light in most of the categories now sought after by collectors. This relative absence of collectors' pieces, no doubt a substantial factor in determining the modest