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ROBERT PERREAU:
APOTHECARY HANGED FOR COINING

DR. T. D. WHITTET has sent us the following interesting item which may be regarded as a footnote to Professor Trease and Mr. J. H. Hodson's article 'The Inventory of John Hexam, a fifteenth-century apothecary', *Medical History*, 1965, **9**, 76-81:

I read with interest the article by Professor Trease and Mr. Hodson, on the apothecary who was hanged for coining, as it had a sequel 351 years later.

Among the notes collected by the late Dr. Cecil Wall at the Apothecaries' Hall is the following extract from a letter in the *Sunday Times* of 27 July 1930 by E. V. Lucas:

'Robert Perreau, an apothecary of Golden Square was with his twin brother Daniel hanged for forgery in 1776. Such was their fraternal love that they stood hand in hand while the ropes were adjusted and remained in that position for half a minute after the drop.'

A Robert Perreau is in the Yeomanry list of 1757 in Oxenden Street and in the Livery list of 1769 in St. Albans' Street. He is reported to have died on 17 January 1776, so this is presumably the person.