

I cannot tell—	41
But I am faint; my gashes cry for help.	42
Duncan. So well thy words become thee as thy wounds;	43
They smack of honour both.—Go get him surgeons.	44
Who comes here?	45
Enter ROSS. (<i>Folio—Enter Ross and Angus.</i>)	
Malcolm. The worthy thane of Ross.	45
Lennox. What a haste looks through his eyes! So	46
should he look	
That seems to speak things strange.	47
Ross. God save the king!	47
Duncan. Whence camest thou, worthy thane?	48
Ross. From Fife, great king;	48
Where the Norwegian banners flout the sky,	49
And fan our people cold. Norway himself,	
With terrible numbers,	51
(Assisted by that most disloyal traitor	52
The thane of Cawdor), began a dismal conflict;	53
Till that Bellona's bridegroom, lapp'd in proof,	54
Confronted him with self-comparisons,	55
Point against point rebellious, arm 'gainst arm,	56
Curbing his lavish spirit: and, to conclude,	57
The victory fell on us;—	58

44. The sergeant remains, and his presence has a marked effect upon the speech of Ross.

45-46. Contrast this sarcastic introduction with the welcome received by the truthful sergeant. Lennox tells us that the warlike courage of Ross is in the expression of his eyes. He comes up, not covered with blood from honourable warfare but full of a startling story. "Seems" is precisely the best word to show the insinuating loquacity of Ross.

47. "God save the king." Contrast the blunt commencement of the sergeant. Of course the Thane should be more ceremonious.

48. "Whence camest thou?" Duncan had no need of asking the sergeant this question.

48-58-62. This long speech, broken only at line 58 by two words from Duncan, gives token of careful preparation: it is framed with the perfect subtlety of a thorough intriguer. So skilfully are the names of Cawdor and Norway mixed in it that at a single reading it is impossible to say which statements refer to the foreign king and which to the Scotch Thane. There is