

raised money for him, enlisted men for his armies? Did not a Bishop head the attack at Stirling? Did not Bishop Bek head another at Falkirk? Who was it arrogated the right to bestow the crown of Scotland on whom-so-ever he chose? Was it not Pope Boniface?

*Bishop*—Stay thy blasphemy! Holy Church can do no wrong. Confess and I will absolve thee, even thy outrages on holy vessels, relies and sanctuaries. The mercy of the church has no limit to the penitent sinner. You know you robbed convents and monasteries.

*Wallace*—I did smother monks out for they were sent by Edward to supplant our Scottish priests and their houses were nests to smother his cause.

*Bishop*—Edward was called by his Holiness to be your King and fealty to him was your due. In what he did, he was within his right.

*Wallace*—Answer me. What right had the Pope to declare Scotland was his heritage and his to bestow as he deemed fit?

*Bishop*—Wretched man, you are persevering in thy sin. You have only a few brief hours to live. Listen to my exhortation that you may be counted among the blessed. It is a fearful thing to die under the censure of Holy Church. Even now, if thou wilt promise to swear him fealty, I will plead with the King to spare your life, and, mayhap, show you kindness.