

S. D. Ascending the steps of the gallows,
Here I see all things ready for the execution :
The beam is firm, to which is tied the rope
Of regulation length, also here the trap
Upon which the prisoner stands, awaiting:
The time he bids farewell to all things earthly
And here the cord by which his hands are pinioned,
To prevent him struggling for his existence.
Yonder stands the gaping crowd, now watching
With levity and heartlessness, for the awful end
Of the man condemned, who will shortly stand
Upon this gallows, to answer to the law's decree,
As a dread example to all evil doers.
Now then will I for the prisoner call,
And get me through with this dreadful task:
As procrastination is the thief of time.
Ho! Master Jailor, send to me the prisoner.

(The prisoner is brought.)

Ah! Now Dardanus, hast thou come here to meet
Thy doom, in just punishment for thine offence,
The foul and awful murder of John Fisher,
Whom, with malice aforethought, thou didst slay,
By casting him headlong into a river,
From whence he never again appeared.
Hast thou yet partaken of the delicious viands,
Which, on yestern night, I did order for thee,
As will also, the bottle of Guiniss's stout,