

KING WILLIAM'S LAST PRAYER

"O Almighty God, the creator and preserver of men, from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God, but time and chance happeneth unto all that may move the ground in the midst of safety we are in danger. Yet O blessed God, it is still in Thee we live and move and have our being, and our times and lives are in Thy hands. A sparrow fall th not to the ground without Thy notice, much more are not the persons of Kings shut out of Thy religious government. I desire to adore Thee in the depths of Thy overruling providence which I am not able toathom. I have that affliction springeth not out of the east. I therefore submit to Thy fatherly discipline, for Thou correctest in mercy, and for my profit.

"Thou O God hast exercised me from my youth up until now with troubles and trials, and difficulties, and have hitherto carried me safely through the changes of this mortal life. O be Thou still my God and guide, preserve in me always a due sense of the instability of worldly things. Let my heart there be fixed where true and lasting joys are to be found. And grant that I may never be unprepared for death and judgment. Sanctify these afflictions in a particular manner this my present affliction. Give me patience under it and a happy issue out of it. Let Thy fatherly hand ever be over me, and Thy holy spirit ever with me. While I live give me grace to serve Thee faithfully in the high station in which Thou hast placed me, and when I have served my generation according to Thy will, vouchsafe me an easy passage to everlasting rest through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."