

anner, from whom  
following guarded

ce, if men had a right  
your grace's honour to be  
ragged. And I am in such  
r had a better opinion in  
t she should not be cul-  
t, next unto your grace, I  
efore I most humbly be-  
e's law, nature, and her  
e's favour) wish and pray  
only mere goodness, took  
not your grace's faithful  
not desire the offence to be  
And as I loved her not a  
and his holy gospel, so, if  
d and his gospel that will  
nd the more they love the  
r was creature in our time  
t her this punishment for  
uth, and not in her heart  
hath deserved never to be  
th manifoldly declared his

to the king not to  
The letter is dated  
a postscript, stating,  
his majesty's house  
d there declared such  
wn, which had made  
ved on the queen as

a letter from her to  
service. She was, at  
patience and despair.  
terly, "when he put  
Cosyns about her."  
on her in her doleful  
ositions we may pre-  
e any communication  
agston<sup>3</sup> and his wife,

s., Otho, c. x. f. 225.  
nger, p. 219. Ellis.

who slept at her chamber-door. Her other ladies slept in an apartment further off. Among the few faithful hearts whose attachment to Anne Boleyn survived the awful change in her fortunes, were those of Wyatt and his sister. Wyatt is supposed to have had a narrow escape from sharing the fate of the queen, her brother, and their fellow-victims. It is certain that he was at this period under a cloud, and in one of his sonnets he significantly alludes "to the danger which *once* threatened him in the month of May,"—the month which proved so fatal to queen Anne. Very powerful was the sympathy between them; for, even when a guarded captive in the Tower, Anne spake with admiration of Wyatt's poetical talents.<sup>1</sup> It was probably by the aid of his sister that Anne, on the fourth day of her imprisonment, found means to forward the following letter, through Cromwell's agency, to the king:—

"Your grace's displeasure and my imprisonment are things so strange unto me, that what to write, or what to excuse, I am altogether ignorant. Whereas you send to me (willing me to confess a truth, and so obtain your favour,) by such a one, whom you know to be mine ancient professed enemy, I no sooner received this message by *him*,<sup>2</sup> than I rightly conceived your meaning; and if, as you say, confessing a truth indeed may procure my safety, I shall, with all willingness and duty, perform your command. But let not your grace ever imagine that your poor wife will ever be brought to acknowledge a fault, where not so much as a thought ever proceeded. And to speak a truth, never a prince had wife more loyal in all duty, and in all true affection, than you have ever found in Anne Bolen,—with which name and place I could willingly have contented myself, if God and your grace's pleasure had so been pleased. Neither did I at any time so far forget myself in my exaltation or received queenship, but that I always looked for such alteration as I now find; for the ground of my preferment being on no surer foundation than your grace's fancy, the least alteration was fit and sufficient (I knew) to draw that fancy to some other subject.

"You have chosen me from a low estate to be your queen and companion, far beyond my desert or desire; if, then, you found me worthy of such honour, good your grace, let not any light fancy or bad counsel of my enemies withdraw your princely favour from me; neither let that stain—that unworthy stain—of a disloyal heart towards your good grace ever cast so foul a blot on me, and on the infant princess your daughter, [Elizabeth].

"Try me, good king, but let me have a lawful trial, and let not my sworn

<sup>1</sup> Letter of sir W. Kingston; Cotton. MS., Otho, c. x.

<sup>2</sup> This enemy has been supposed to be lady Rochford, but the relative *him* cannot apply to her. It is possible it was the duke of Suffolk, who always came ostentatiously forward to help to crush any victim Henry was sacrificing. He was one of her judges, and pronounced her guilty; and he witnessed her death, being on the scaffold with no friendly intention.