

denounced as hypocrites, and compared to wolves and vipers and what not; our free-thinking brethren are informed that they are profoundly ignorant of the Scriptures; whilst our highly respectable friends, who use their influence with the Government for the good of our common cause, may judge of the esteem in which they are held by the name bestowed upon their illustrious patron. Besides, the public excitement is reaching such a height that the Romans are becoming jealous; and, if things go much further, they will take the first opportunity of calling us to a severe account, and we cannot be responsible for the consequences. It is *expedient* that *one man should die for the people.*"

Now let us keep in mind that the Council was called *under the pressure of this tremendous miracle*. This made it utterly impossible to pursue any longer a snubbing, ignoring, would-be contemptuous policy. They must either let His name sweep over the land,—ay, and over the world, in uncontrollable majesty; or He must be got rid of at once, and for ever. But one thing stood in the way: the multitude of country people, and especially of Galileans, in the city. "Let us wait until this week of convocation is past; and then, with all decorum, and with as little fuss as possible, let us have him tried, condemned, and executed." But here comes in the unconscious action of the sister of him who was raised from the dead. The demonstration of her gratitude, and the unqualified encomium pronounced upon her act, exasperated one of the twelve to such a degree that he leaves the company, and hastens to the Council, or its executive, with the astounding offer to effect, for a consideration, the speedy and undisturbed arrest of the great Object of their dread and hatred. They were glad, and agreed to give the betrayer a sum of money. Yet they drove a hard bargain with him. A goodly price! said the prophet: looking at it in the dawn-light of prophecy; a price which burned in the hand of the recipient; which rang on the floor of the chamber in which these grave men met to consider the result of their action; and which at last found fitting investment in the field of blood.

Now let us once more connect this whole concurrence of events. Because Lazarus was raised, the Council becomes all but unanimous; and, because a sister was felicitous in her gratitude,