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his fellow-sufferer, Latimer, saying, "Be of good heart, brother, for God will either assuage the fury of the flame or else strengthen us to abide it. So long as the breath is in my body," he went on, "I well never deny my Lord Christ and his known truth." Then lifting up his hands, he uttered the patriotic prayer for his country, which, although it so persecuted him, he loved to the end: "I beseech thee, Lord God, have mercy upon the realm of England, and deliver her from all her enemies."

Latimer soon died, but on Ridley's side the fire burned slowly, so that his torture was prolonged and dreadful. Yet was he "strengthened to abide it." His own brother-in-law, desiring to relieve his pain heaped on more faggots, which, however, kept the fire down still longer. Frequently he groaned in the bitterness of his anguish, "O Lord, have mercy upon me!" and urged the bystanders to let the fire reach his body. At length one understood him and pulled the faggots apart. The flames leaped up and caught the gunpowder hung around his neck. A sharp explosion followed, and he moved no more. •

By such constancy and courage and fiery pangs of martyrdom was the faith of Jesus confessed in those days of tribulation; and by such a costly sacrifice were the triumphs of the Gospel secured. And this testimony was not availing. Julius Palmer, a Fellow of Magdalen College, a bigoted Romanist, was present, and, convinced of the truth of the doctrines for which men die thus, became himself a convert to the Protestant faith, and soon sealed his testimony with his blood.