

human kindness have taught Mr. Symms a lesson of humanity—

‘To feel another’s woe?’

He was bound by the law of nature to afford protection and assistance to his fellow men in their distress; the law of God is still more imperative, and enjoins the discharge of this duty. These laws, however, and their mandates he equally disregarded, and although filling a high official station in society, he steeled his heart against the piteous supplications of men reduced to the lowest abyss of human wretchedness. We paid dearly for life, by the suffering in which our lives were preserved and protracted while we were on the wreck. Was the sympathy of Mr. Symms in accordance with his duty as a magistrate, or creditable to his reputation as a man? Or could he suppose that, although we were in a state of perfect misery, that we were unworthy his protection, or deserving such stern severity, such unexampled, and unpardonable cruelty? Happily for our national character, happily for mankind too, there are but few such persons as Mr. Symms vested with magisterial authority. In England Mr. Symms would be compelled to retire from the bench in compliance with the powerful and united voice of a humane people, who would despise and condemn such a character as unworthy their respect and attention. Wealth may have placed him above many of the inhabitants of