

grave clothes, walking behind his coffin, which was covered by a pall, and carried by four men. The troops under arms marched slowly before—the music followed, playing dirges suited to the occasion, and a vast concourse of spectators attended. When this affecting procession had reached the place of execution, and the convict had prepared himself to suffer, declaring to the last that he was innocent of the crime laid to his charge, and when the critical moment was arrived that was to have launched him into eternity, he was thus addressed by Prince Edward:—

“Draper,—you have now reached the awful moment, when a few minutes would carry you into the immediate presence of the Supreme Being. You must be conscious of the enormity of your guilt, and that you have not the least right to expect mercy. I, as your commanding officer, am entirely prevented from making any application whatever in your favor, there being, from various circumstances of the case, no one opening that could justify me in that station in taking such a step. However, as the son of your Sovereign, whose greatest prerogative is the dispensation of mercy, I feel myself fortunately able to do that, which, as your Colonel, the indispensable laws of military discipline rendered it impossible for me even to think of. In this situation, I have presumed to apply to the King’s representative here, for your pardon; and I am happy to be authorized to inform you that my application has been successful. Major-General Clark, in consequence of my warm prayers and entreaties, has had the goodness, by his acquiescence with my wishes, to enable me to prove both to you and the public, that though your atrocious machinations were chiefly directed against my person, I am the first to forgive you myself, and to obtain for you His Majesty’s mercy. May you take warning by this awful scene, and so conduct yourself, that by the remainder of your life you may atone for your past crimes; and that I may not hereafter have occasion to repent having now been your advocate.

“The effect produced on the mind of the unhappy man, who could then have had nothing but death in view, as well as on the feelings of the spectators, may be easier conceived than expressed.”

We turn with pleasure from this distressing scene, to relate acts more congenial.