

against the accused, which would make the punishment inflicted appear fair and just as possible, had thus lengthened the proceedings.

When within a few days following the sentence of imprisonment, it came to the knowledge of the judges that Jeanne had resumed in prison her male attire, and again expressed her belief in her visions, they allowed very little time indeed for deliberation before handing her over to the tender mercies of the English whose vengeance impatiently awaited her. During that short interval she was exhorted and admonished by the Bishop and his assistants but always on the assumption that she was an incorrigible sinner. Even on the morning before pronouncing the fatal words of the final sentence, the Bishop of Beauvais renewed these counsels for the benefit of the Maid who could not bring herself to believe that those who judged her so severely spoke the voice of God through the Church Militant as explained to her. On the 30th of May was read and carried into execution the final sentence which, after reciting the many opportunities given the accused to repent, repeated a string of general and indefinite accusations to which she had become so accustomed to listen. These charges were always devoid of any mitigating qualification, such as Jeanne furnished by her answers in defence, which was utterly ignored. The sentence after declaring the Maid "Ex-communicate, and Heretic", and that she is abandoned to the "Secular Authority", ends thus: "Praying this same power that as concerns death and the mutilation of the limbs, it may be pleased to moderate judgment; and if true signs of penance should appear in thee that the Sacrament of Penance may be administered to thee." Jean Lemaitre, the associate judge, acted as such, it seems, contrary to his inclinations, and it is fair therefore to assume that his judgment was not entirely free.

The beautiful story of her real character is learned from the official inquiries made during the progress of the Rehabilitation. The Bishop of Beauvais deemed it outside his duty as judge to order that a report of what took place at the burning of Jeanne should be included in the "Process", or record of the trial. The story of the execution has, however, been sufficiently preserved by the sworn testimony of many witnesses who saw what happened and heard what was said at the burning of the Maid of Orleans.

As regards the trial itself, the opinion of many leading jurists is in effect that it was worthless for several reasons, and if so, the judgment which followed it was therefore valueless, irrespective of