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your parole. We will not incur the chance of a third refusal. We would fainer see that golden basnet near our own gonfalon than in the array against us; but of that, we fear, there is little hope. Gentlemen, we bid you receive your swords again and go free without any conditions whatsoever. Whatever counsels may prevail in the time to come, you will bestow a kindly thought now and again upon the King of Scots; and we pray you use your influence to put an end to this unhappy war, and that for the sakes of both our nations. Tell your king once more, as we have told him in the past, that it is our earnest desire that peace should be restored and maintained between us for evermore; but tell him also this, that he kicks in vain against the pricks; that so long as a hundred Scots remain to put shoulder to shoulder, they will never submit to England. We fight neither for glory nor for gain, but for the liberty we deem our right."

There remains little to be told of the fortunes of the Lily of Kendal and the Chevalier of the Splendid Crest. Marmion rejoined his wife at Kendal, and, seeing that King Edward made as little attempt at this time to bring the war to an end as to carry it on with vigour, they made their residence in Westmorland, whereby Sir Walter might the more readily use his forces in the defence of the Border. Truly the years to come were busy and stirring in the north, where the King of England abandoned to his lieutenants all the duty of guarding his realm. He himself fell into fresh discord with his nobles about the Dispensers and other matters. Berwick was taken by the Scots, and with that key of the eastern Marches disappeared the last hold upon the northern kingdom.