

William's weak and delicate frame ; but to his latest day the flashing of his eagle eye and the compression of his firmly-cut lips told at once that bodily anguish had never tamed the iron soul within.

Feeling that his days were numbered, he dictated, with the greatest care, plans both political and military which made his rival feel his power when he lay silent in the tomb.

On the 21st February, 1702, his horse fell under him, breaking his collar-bone. Medical skill soon told the world that the greatest man of his age had but a few days to live. Through these days every sound of hope and fear was listened to with unparalleled eagerness. The nation, like one great family, moved in solemn silence, as round the couch of a dying parent. Calm, clear and firm in the faith to the end, William III., the Hero of the Boyne, breathed his last on Sunday, the 8th of March, 1702.

When his remains were laid out, it was found that he wore round his neck a piece of black silk ribbon containing a gold ring and a lock of hair of his beloved Mary.

Bishop Burnet, who for 13 years was admitted to the closest intimacy with him, says : " He had a thin and weak body, was brown haired, and of a clear and delicate constitution. He had a Roman eagle nose, bright and sparkling eyes, a large front, and a countenance composed to gravity and authority. His designs were always great and good. He believed the truths of the Christian religion very firmly, and expressed a horror at Atheism and blasphemy. He was most exemplary, decent and devout in the public exercise of the worship of God, and was constant in his private prayers and in reading the Scriptures." What a noble example he has left for those to imitate who love and honor his immortal memory !

Whether we view King William as the saviour of Holland, the Champion of Truth, the powerful and persevering enemy of French ambition, the patron and centre of the celebrated men of his time, or the glorious deliverer of Britain from the most despicable and intolerant tyrant that ever mocked at human liberty, we are compelled to place him, with one