

and estate, that I may be rich in heaven. I am not afraid of death, since it will procure me a better life." This he said with a courage which showed that God spoke in him.

The judge had him bound and led out as it were to execution but in private he gave orders that they should only frighten him. The holy youth was placed before a great fire, and was threatened to be cast into it; yet he was not daunted. He was then led back to the judge, who said to him, "My child, you have seen both the fire and the sword: be wise, and return to your house and fortune." The martyr made answer,—“You have done me an injury in calling me back: I fear not the fire nor the sword. God will receive me. Put me to death without delay, that I may the sooner go to him.”—All that stood by, wept to hear him speak in this manner. But he said to them, “You ought rather to rejoice: you know not what is my hope, nor what kind of kingdom I am going to possess.” He was then put to death, and he suffered it with joy.