

his instant execution. The just and brave Judge Gascoigne, one of Yorkshire's noblest heroes, refused to pass sentence upon him. 'Neither you, my Lord, nor any of your subjects, can legally, according to the law of the realm, sentence any bishop to death.' But, 'Sir William Fulthorpe, Knight, learned in the laws' (Stow), hesitated not for a moment to obey the King's commands. Sentence was pronounced, and on the same day, mounted on a 'sorry nag' worth 40s., and clad in a blood-coloured garment with purple cord, he was taken to the river-bank at Clement-thorpe, in sight of his Cathedral Church. 'Son,' he meekly said to Thomas Almän, who was to be his executioner, 'may God forgive thee my death, as I forgive thee. But I pray thee that thou wilt give me with the sword five wounds in the neck, which I desire to bear for the love of my Lord Jesus Christ, who being for me obedient unto His Father until death, bore five principal wounds.' Then he three times kissed him, and kneeling down, with his hands joined and his eyes raised to heaven, prayed—'Into Thy hands, most sweet Jesus, I commend my spirit;' then, stretching out his neck, and folding his hands over his breast, the executioner at five strokes severed his head from his body. The Earl of Nottingham" (eldest son of Thomas de Mowbray, first Duke of Norfolk) "was condemned and executed in a similar summary manner, and the Earl of Northumberland, on receiving the intelligence, fled into Scotland.

"The next day following, four vicars choral of the Cathedral Church of York did unto the same church, five or more accompanying them, in fear and silence, not without fear and trembling, convey the body of the venerable prelate, where at the east end of the new work of the said Church, but with moderate ceremony, as the circumstances of the time permitted, that sacred body rests in the earth.' (*Barlow MS.*, *Brown's History*.) And there, when the grave was opened, March 28th, 1844, the remains were discovered and left undisturbed.

"It was a pious end to a holy life. It was an act of arbitrary power unique in the history of England: Becket had been murdered by obsequious courtiers; Simon Sudbury had been beheaded by the Wat Tyler's mob; and, in after days, Laud was condemned and executed by the supreme judicature of the land. But here the King himself usurped a power which the chief exponent of law told him he did not possess, and which, therefore, nothing could justify. Treacherously taken, unlawfully condemned—it was a cold-blooded murder.

"Life was lightly valued in those days, and '*sic volo sic jubeo*' often the policy of kings, but such an act as this could not be tamely submitted to. In vain were logs of wood laid upon the grave. The people flocked in numbers to offer