

by those English students... who beyond seas gathering virtue and sufficient knowledge for the purpose are determined never to give you [the persecutors] over but either to win you heaven or to die upon your pikes... to the end we may at last be friends in heaven when all injuries shall be forgotten'.



WORDS OF THE MARTYRS

THOMAS MORE (Martyred at Tower Hill, 1535):

Serve God for love, then, not for hope of meed;
 What service may so desirable be
 As where all turneth to thine own speed?
 Who is so good, so lovely eke as he
 Who hath already done so much for thee,
 As he that first thee made, and on the rood
 Eft thee redeemed with his own precious blood:

ROBERT SOUTHWELL, s.j. (Martyred at Tyburn, 1595):

My chiefest delight is to be used as God wills, and to have his pleasure and providence fully accomplished in me, which is the end for which I was created and for which I do live. To attain this resignation, it is a very fit way to debate and discourse with myself, what thing there is could happen to me, though never so much against my liking, which if it should fall out would trouble me, or make me lose that indifferency which I ought to have, in most willingly yielding myself to whatsoever God shall lay upon me; and if I find anything which I think should not well digest, nor accept with due patience, let me endeavour to overcome myself in it, and by prayer and meditation seeke to win the difficulty thereof, that there may be nothing which I could not willingly accept at God's hands, how contrary soever it were to my inclination.