

Richard III abbreviated

Act 5, Scene 5

Statesmanship

Situation: After Richard III has given his troops an uplifting but modest call to arms, the battle at Salisbury begins, but Richard III's horse is soon killed, Richard III then famously crying "A horse, a horse, my kingdom for a horse." Richmond slays Richard III. Stanley soon "offers Richmond the crown," an offer accepted and soon followed with Richmond's announcement that he plans to marry Elizabeth of York, Queen Elizabeth's (the Lady Grey's) daughter.

Richmond to his soldiers, No. 2

Proclaim a pardon to the soldiers fled,
Those we acknowledge were men poorly led.
Now, may heaven smile on this fair union
That will unite the white rose and the red,
Having 'oft frowned behind a hidden sun,
York and Lancaster so long divided.
Let Richmond and Elizabeth, the true
Succeeders of each house, be joined one to
One, and let their issue no longer wait
To enrich the future with smooth-faced peace;
With smiling, fair, prosperous days. Abate
Traitors that they may share this land's increase.
Now civil wounds are stopped, peace lives again.
May she here live long, far from what has been.

RICHMOND: God say amen.