

THE CHRISTIAN HERO. 259

Tho' you've deserv'd to die, I've not deserv'd  
To be your executioner.

A M A S I E.

Just heaven!

Are you a christian prince, and will you spare  
A black apostate?

S C A N D E R B E G.

Heaven can right itself  
Without my aid, nor do I know on earth  
So great, so just an object of compassion.  
Live and repent.

A M A S I E.

I have and do repent,  
But cannot live. The court of Amurath  
Abhors a christian; ev'ry christian court  
Detests a traitor.

S C A N D E R B E G.

Miserable man!

[*Aside.*]

A M A S I E.

We're taught that heav'n is merciful and kind.

S C A N D E R B E G.

What wretch dares doubt of that?

A M A S I E.

Then why am I

Deny'd to sue for peace and pardon there,  
Since I must never nope for them on earth?

S C A N D E R B E G.

Have I the seeds of frailty in my nature?  
Am I a man, like him, and can I see,  
Unpitying and unmov'd, the bitter anguish,  
The deep contrition of his wounded soul?  
It will not be — O nature take your course,