

3/3/92

a

If the queen's partisans should collect many people in the king's name at the time when all the nobles lived in perfect concord and thought of nothing but his coronation and honour, their act would certainly cause ~~the~~ fear and suspicion on the part of their old foes. For those latter would think that her men, sitting at naught their late ^{reconciliation} ~~attonement~~ mustered those people for their destruction and not for the king's ^{advantage} interest of the king whom no one ^{threatened} ~~impugned~~. But they would not hesitate then to use their ~~for~~ ^{own} ~~reacted~~ influence in collecting their retainers for self defence. Thus the whole realm would fall a prey to an internal broil. And of all the harms which would ensue out of it and which were likely ^{to be} disastrous, even where the queen did not wish anything ill, she and her kinsmen must bear the whole load of reproach. For all the world would then turn upon them as the sole object of censure and declare that they had most foolishly & treacherously broken the peace and amity which the king, her husband, ^{had} so prudently brought about in

his death-bed, while the other party faithfully observe his injunction.

K. Natsume

2nd Yr. Lit.

Atonement means literally union or the bringing together of those who have been separated. The word has been wrested from its ~~own~~ original meaning by the theological use to which it has been put, Christ by his death is said to have made an atonement between God and man. Here the notion of punishment & sacrifice comes in & so the modern word always implies something suffered because of wrong inflicted in order to propitiate outraged Justice.