

tenant the conquest of Egypt, then forming a part of the Byzantine or Greek empire. Peleusium,<sup>1</sup> after a month's siege, opened to the Saracens the entrance to the country (638); the Coptic inhabitants of Upper Egypt joined the invaders against the Greeks; Memphis, after a siege of seven months, capitulated; Alexandria made a longer and desperate resistance, but at length, at the close of the year 640, the city was surrendered, a success which had cost the besiegers twenty-three thousand lives. When Amru asked Omar what disposition he should make of the famous Alexandrian library, the caliph replied, "If these writings agree with the Koran, they are useless, and need not be preserved; if they disagree, they are pernicious, and should be destroyed." The sentence was executed with blind obedience, and this vast store of ancient learning fell a sacrifice to the blind fanaticism of an ignorant barbarian.<sup>a</sup>

32. Four years after the conquest of Egypt, the dagger of an assassin put an end to the life and reign of Omar. (Nov. 6th, 644.) Othman, the early secretary of Mahom'et, succeeded to the caliphate; but his extreme age rendered him poorly capable of supporting the burden laid upon him. Various sects of Moslem believers began to arise among the people: contentions broke out in the armies; and Othman, after a reign of eleven years, was poniarded on his throne, while he covered his heart with the Koran. (June 18th, 655.)

33. The conquest of Cyprus and Rhodes,<sup>2</sup> and the subjugation of the African coast as far westward as Tripoli,<sup>3</sup> were the principal

1. *Peleusium*, an important city of Egypt, was at the entrance of the Pelusiac, or most eastern branch of the Nile. It was surrounded by marshes; and the name of the city was derived from a Greek word signifying *mud*. Near its ruins stands a dilapidated castle named *Tinch*, the Arabic term for *mir*.

2. *Rhodes*, a celebrated island in the Mediterranean, is off the south-west coast of Asia Minor, ten miles south from Cape Volpe, the nearest point of the main land. Its greatest length is forty-five miles; greatest breadth eighteen. The city of Rhodes, one of the best built and most magnificent cities of the ancient world, was at the north-eastern extremity of the island. The celebrated colossus of Rhodes,—a brazen statue of Apollo, about one hundred and five feet in height, and of the most admirable proportions,—has been deservedly reckoned one of the seven wonders of the world; but the assertion that it stood with a foot on each side the entrance to the port, and that the largest vessels, under full sail, passed between its legs, is an absurd fiction, for which there is not the shadow of authority in any ancient writer. The story originated with one Blaise de Vigenere, in the 16th century. (*Map No. IV.*)

3. *Tripoli*, a maritime city of northern Africa, is west of the ancient Barca and Cyrenáica, and about two hundred and seventy miles south from Sicily.

a. Sismondi, ii. p. 18, distrusts the common account of the loss of the Alexandrian library. Gibbon, vol. iii. p. 439, says, "For my own part, I am strongly tempted to deny both the fact and the consequences." But since Gibbon wrote, several new Moham'edan authorities have been adduced to support the common version of the story. See Note to Gibbon, iii. 522; also *Rechten s Arabia*, i. 355.

military events that distinguished the reign of Othman; but the political feuds and civil wars that distracted the reign of his successors, Ali and Moawiyah, suspended the progress of the western conquests of the Saracens nearly twenty years.<sup>a</sup> Gradually, however, the Saracens extended their dominion over all northern Africa; and in the year 689 one of their generals penetrated to the Atlantic coast; but Carthage, repeatedly succored from Constantinople, held out nine years longer, when being taken by storm, it was finally and utterly destroyed. From this epoch northern Africa became a section of the great Moham'edan empire. All the Moorish tribes, resembling the roving Arabs in their customs, and born under a similar climate, being ultimately reduced to submission, adopted the language, name, and religion, of their conquerors; and at the present day they can with difficulty be distinguished from the Saracens.

34. Scarcely had the conquest of Africa been completed, when a Vis'igothic noble, irritated by the treatment which he had received from his sovereign, the tyrant Roderic, secretly despatched a messenger to Musa, the governor of Africa, and invited the Saracens into Spain. A daring Saracen, named Taric, first crossed the straits in the month of July, 710, on a predatory incursion; and in the following spring he passed over again at the head of seven thousand men and took possession of Mount Calpe, whose modern name of Gibraltar (Gibel-al-Taric, or Hill of Taric), still preserves the name of the Saracen hero.

35. When Roderic was informed of the descent of the Saracens, he sent his lieutenant against them, with orders to bind the presumptuous strangers and cast them into the sea. But his lieutenant was defeated, and soon afterward, Roderic himself also, who had collected, on the banks of the Guadaléte,<sup>1</sup> his whole army, of a hundred thousand men. Roderic, a usurper and tyrant, was hated and despised by numbers of his people; and during the battle, which continued seven days, a portion of his forces, as had been previously

The *Guadaléte* is a stream that enters the harbor of Cadiz, about sixty miles north-west from Gibraltar. The battle appears to have been fought on the plains of the modern *Xeres de la Frontera*, about ten miles north-west from Cadiz. (*Map No. XIII.*)

a. Mahom'et had promised forgiveness of sins to the first army which should besiege the Byzantine capital; and no sooner had Moawiyah destroyed his rivals and established his throne, than he sought to expiate the guilt of civil blood by shedding that of the infidels; but during every summer for seven years (668—675) a Mussulman army in vain attacked the walls of Constantinople, and the tide of conquest was turned aside to seek another channel for its entrance into Europe.

arranged, deserted to the Saracens. The Goths were finally routed with immense slaughter, and Roderic avoided a soldier's death only to perish more ignobly in the waters of the Guadalquivir:<sup>1</sup> but the victory of the Saracens was purchased at the expense of sixteen thousand lives. Most of the Spanish towns now submitted without opposition; Merida,<sup>2</sup> the capital, after a desperate resistance, capitulated with honor; and before the end of the year 713 the whole of Spain, except a solitary corner in the northern part of the peninsula, was conquered. The same country, in a more savage state, had resisted, for two hundred years, the arms of the Romans; and it required nearly eight hundred years to regain it from the sway of the Moors and Saracens.

36. After the conquest of Spain, Mussulman ambition began to look beyond the Pyrenees:<sup>3</sup> the disunited Gallic tribes of the Southern provinces soon began to negotiate and to submit; and in a few years the south of France, from the mouth of the Garonne to that of the Rhone,<sup>4</sup> assumed the manners and religion of Arabia. But these narrow limits were scorned by the spirit of Abdelrahman, the Saracen governor of Spain, who, in the year 732, entered Gaul at the head of a host of Moors and Saracens, in the hope of adding to the faith of the Koran whatever yet remained unsubdued of France or of Europe. An invasion so formidable had not been witnessed since the days of Attila; and Abdelrahman marked his route with fire and sword; for he spared neither the country nor the inhabitants.

37. Everything was swept away by the overpowering torrent, until Abdelrahman had penetrated to the very centre of France, and

1. The river *Guadalquivir* (in English *gau-d'l-quiv-er*, in Spanish *gwad-al-ke-ve-er*), on which stands the cities Seville and Cordova, enters the Atlantic about fifteen miles north from Cadiz. Its ancient name was *Bætis*: its present appellation, *Wady-al-kebir*, signifying "the great river," is Arabic. (Map No. XIII.)

2. *Merida*, the *Augusta Emerita* of the Romans, whence its modern name, was founded by Augustus Caesar 25 B. C. It is in the south-western part of Spain, on the north bank of the Guadiana, and in the province of Estremadura. It is now a decayed town; but the architectural remains of the power and magnificence of its Roman masters render it an object of great interest. It remained in the hands of the Saracens from 713 to 1228, when it opened its gates to Alphonso IX., after his signal victory over the Moors; and from this period downward, it has been attached to the kingdoms of Castile and Leon. (Map No. XIII.)

3. The *Pyrenees* mountains, which separate Spain from France, extend from the Atlantic to the Mediterranean, a distance of about two hundred and seventy miles; with an average breadth of about thirty-eight miles. (Map No. XIII.)

4. For the territory thus embraced under the Saracen sway, see Map No. XIII. The Garonne, rising near the Spanish border, runs a north-westerly course. From its union with the Dordogne, forty-five miles from its entrance into the Bay of Biscay, it is called the *Gironde*—from which the noted "department of the Gironde" takes its name.

pitched his camp between Tours<sup>1</sup> and Poitiers.<sup>2</sup> His progress had not been unwatched by the confederacy of the Franks, which, torn asunder by intrigues, and the revolts of discontented chiefs, now united to oppose the common enemy of all Christendom. At the head of the confederacy was Charles Martel, who, collecting his forces, met Abdelrahman on the plains of Poitiers, and, after six days' skirmishing, engaged on the seventh in that fearful battle that was to decide the fate of Europe. In the light skirmishing the archers of the East maintained the advantage; but in the close onset of the deadly strife, the German auxiliaries of Charles, grasping their ponderous swords with "stout hearts and iron hands" stood to the shock like walls of stone, and beat down the light armed Arabs with terrific slaughter. Abdelrahman, and, as was reported by the monkish historians of the period, three hundred and seventy-five thousand<sup>a</sup> of his followers, were slain. The Arabs never resumed the conquest of Gaul, although twenty-seven years elapsed before they were wholly driven beyond the Pyrenees. Europe to this day owes its civil and religious freedom to the victory gained over the Saracens before Poitiers, by Charles, the *Hammer*<sup>b</sup> which shattered the Saracen forces.

38. About the time of the conquest of Spain, the Saracens made a second unsuccessful attempt to reduce the Byzantine capital; but farther east they were more successful, and extended their dominion and their religion into Hindostan,<sup>3</sup> and the frozen regions

1. *Tours* is situated between the rivers Cher and Loire, near the point of their confluence, one hundred and twenty-seven miles south-west from Paris. Tours was anciently the capital of the *Turonnes*, conquered by Cæsar 55 B. C. After many vicissitudes it fell into the hands of the Plantagenets, and formed part of the English dominions till 1204, when it was annexed to the French crown. (Map No. XIII.)

2. *Poitiers*, or *Poitiers*, (anciently called *Limónum*, and afterward *Pictavus*), sixty miles south-west from Tours, is the capital of the department of Vienne. It is one of the most ancient towns of Gaul; and the vestiges of a Roman palace, an aqueduct, and an amphitheatre, are still visible. Besides the celebrated defeat of the Saracens in 732, Poitiers is memorable for the signal victory obtained in its vicinity Sept. 19th, 1356, by an English army commanded by Edward the Black Prince, over a vastly superior French force commanded by king John. (See p. 300. Map No. XIII.)

3. *Hindostan*, a vast triangular country beyond the Indus, and south of the Himalaya mountains—the country of the Hindoos—has no authentic early history, although there is evidence to show that it was one of the early seats of Eastern civilization. The incursion of Alexander (325 B. C.) first made Hindostan known to the European world. In the early part of the 11th century it was repeatedly invaded by the Moham' medans of Afghanistan, who, in

a. This was probably the whole number of the Mussulman force, not the number slain. See Crichton's *Arabia*, i. 409, Note.

b. Charles wielded a huge mace; and the epithet of "le martel," or "the Hammer" is expressive of the resistless force with which he dealt his blows.

of Tartary. But the animosities of contending sects, domestic broils, revolts, assassinations, and civil wars, had long been weakening the central power which held together the unwieldy Saracen empire; and before the close of the eighth century, the civil power of the central caliphate had broken into fragments, although the spiritual power of the religion of the Prophet still maintained its ascendancy in all the regions that had once adopted the Moslem faith.

39. We have thus briefly traced the history of the rise and establishment of the civil power and the religion of the Saracens, and their progress until effectually checked by the arms of the Franks and their confederates on the plains of Poitiers. The power which thus obtrudes upon our view, as the bulwark and defence of Christendom, is the one that next prominently occupies the field of History, while that of the Saracens, weakened and distracted by its divisions, declines in historical interest and importance.

40. The origin of the monarchy of the Franks is generally traced back nearly two centuries and a half prior to the defeat of the Saracens by Charles Martel, about the era of the downfall of the Western empire of the Romans. It is said that the Germanic tribes of the Franks or Free-  
 VII.  
 MONARCHY  
 OF THE  
 FRANKS.  
 ren, occupied, at this early period, four cities in north-eastern or Belgic Gaul, viz.:—Tournai,<sup>1</sup> Cambrai,<sup>2</sup> Terouané,<sup>3</sup> and Cologne,<sup>4</sup> which were governed by four separate kings, all of whom ascribed their origin to Merovæus, a half fabulous hero, whose rule is dated back a century and a half earlier. Of the four kings of the Franks,

<sup>1</sup>193, made Delhi their capital. In 1225 the country was conquered by Baber, the fifth in descent from "Timour the Tartar;" and with him began a race of Mogul princes. Arungzebe, who died in 1707, was the greatest of the Mogul sovereigns. The discovery of a passage to India, by way of the Cape of Good Hope, opened the country to a new and more formidable race of conquerors. The Portuguese, the Dutch, and the French, obtained possession of portions of the Indian territory; but in the end they were overpowered by the English, who have established beyond the Indus a great Asiatic empire.

1. *Tournay*, a town of Belgium, on the river Scheldt, (skelt) forty-five miles south-west from Brussels, and one hundred and thirty north-east from Paris, is the *Civitas Nerviorum* taken by Julius Cæsar. It has since belonged to an almost infinite number of masters. (Map No. XV.)

2. *Cambrai* on the Scheldt, (skelt) is thirty-three miles south from Tournay. It was a city of considerable importance under the Romans, and has been the scene of many important events in modern history. It was long famous for its manufacture of fine linens and lawns; whence all similar fabrics are called, in English, *cambrics*. (Map No. XV.)

3. *Terouané* (tr-oo-an') appears to have been west from Brussels, near Dunkirk.

4. *Cologne* is in the present Prussia, on the left bank of the Rhine, one hundred and twelve miles east from Brussels. A Roman colony was planted in Cologne by Agrippina, the daughter of Germanicus, who was born there. Hence it obtained the name of *Agrippina Colonia*: afterwards it was called *Colonia*, or "the colony," whence the term *Cologne*. (Map No. XVII.)

the ambitious Clovis,<sup>a</sup> who ruled over the tribe at Tournai was the most powerful. Being joined by the tribe at Cambrai, he made war upon the last remains of the Roman power in Gaul; enlarged his territory by conquest, and established his capital at Soissons.' (A. D. 484.) At a later period he transferred the seat of sovereignty to Paris;<sup>2</sup> (A. D. 494) and at the time of his death, in 511, nearly the half of modern France, embracing that portion north of the Loire, was comprised in the monarchy of which he is the reputed founder.<sup>b</sup>

41. Clovis, like many of the barbarian chiefs of that period, was a nominal convert to Christianity; and being the first of his nation who embraced the orthodox faith, he received from the Gaulish clergy the title of *most Christian king*, which has been retained by his successors to the present day. But his religion, a matter of mere form, seems to have exerted no influence in restraining the natural ferocity and blood thirstiness of his disposition, as all the rival monarchs or chieftains whom he could conquer or entrap were sacrificed to his jealousy and ambition. He put to death with his own hand most of his relations, and then, pretending to repent of his barbarity, he offered his protection to all who had escaped the massacre, hoping thus to discover if any survived, that he might rid himself of them also.

42. The descendants of Clovis, who are called Merovingians, from their supposed founder, reigned over the Franks for nearly two centuries and a half; but the repulsive annals of this long and barbarous period are one tissue of perfidy and crime. It was usually the first act of a monarch, on ascending the throne, to put to death his brothers, uncles, and nephews; and thus consanguinity generally led to the most deadly and fatal enmity. These murders so thinned the race of Clovis as often to produce the reign of kings under age;

1. *Soissons*, (sooah-song) now a fortified town on the river Aisne, sixty-eight miles north-east from Paris,—anciently *Noviodunum*,—was a city of the *Suessones*, in Belgic Gaul, which submitted to Julius Cæsar. Here Clovis extinguished the last remains of the Western empire by his victory over the Roman general Syagrius. The town then became the capital of the Franks, and, afterwards, of a kingdom of its own name, in the sixth and seventh centuries. (Map No. XIII.)

2. *Paris*, the metropolis of France, is situated on the river Seine, (sane) one hundred and ten miles from its mouth, and two hundred and ten miles south-east from London. When Gaul was invaded by Julius Cæsar, Paris, then called *Lutetia*, was the chief town of the Belgic tribe of the *Paris'ii*,—whence the city derives its modern name. It was at Lutetia that Julian the Apostate was saluted emperor by his soldiers. (Map No. XIII.)

a. The Roman corruption of Chlodwig, or, in modern German, Ludwig: in modern French *Louis*.—*Sismoxdi*, i. 175, Note.

b. See *Neust-ia*, Note, p. 272.

and eventually the custom was established of electing regents or guardians for them, who, by exercising the royal functions during the minority of their wards, acquired a power above that of the monarch himself. At the time of the Saracen invasion of France, Charles Martel the guardian of the nominal sovereign, governed France with the humble title of mayor or duke. His son Pepin succeeded him, and during the minority of his royal ward, the imbecile Childeric III., wielded the power, without assuming the name and honors of royalty; but at length, in 752, he threw off the mask, obtained a decree of pope Zachary in his favor, dethroned the last of the Merovingian kings, and caused himself to be crowned in the presence of the assembled nation, the first monarch of the Carolingian dynasty. It was upon this occasion that the popes first exercised the authority of enthroning and dethroning kings.<sup>1</sup>

43. Of the reign and the character of Pepin we know little, except that he exhibited a profound deference for the priesthood, and was engaged in a long struggle with the former German allies of the Franks; and that at the time of his death, in 768, there was no portion of Gaul that was not subject to the French monarchy. He divided his kingdom between his two sons, Charles the elder, usually called Charlemagne, and Carloman the younger; to the former of whom he bequeathed the western portion of the empire, and to the latter, the eastern; but as Carloman died soon after, Charles stripped

1. The frequent allusions made in history to papal authority and papal supremacy, render necessary some explanation of the growth of the papal power.

The word *pope* comes from the Greek word *papa*, and signifies *father*. In the early times of Christianity this appellation was given to all Christian priests; but during many centuries past it has been appropriated to the Bishop of Rome, whom the Roman Catholics look upon as the common father of all Christians.

Roman Catholics believe that Jesus Christ constituted St. Peter the chief pastor to watch over his whole flock here on earth—that he is to have successors to the end of time—and that the bishops of Rome, elected by the *cardinals* or chief of the Romish clergy, are his legitimate successors, popes, or fathers of the church, who have power and jurisdiction over all Christians, in order to preserve unity and purity of faith, doctrine, and worship.

During a long period after the introduction of Christianity into Rome, the bishops of Rome were merely *fathers of the Church*, and possessed no temporal power. It was customary however, to consult the pope in temporal matters; and the powerful Pepin found no difficulty in obtaining a papal decision in favor of dethroning the imbecile Childeric, and inducing the pope to come to Paris to officiate at his coronation. Soon after, in 755, Pepin invested the pope with the exarchate of Ravenna; and it is at this point—the union of temporal and spiritual jurisdiction—that the proper history of the papacy begins. Charlemagne and succeeding princes added other provinces to the papal government; but a long struggle for supremacy followed, between the popes and the German emperors; and under the pontificate of Gregory VII., towards the close of the eleventh century, the claims of the Roman pontiffs to supremacy over all the sovereigns of the earth, were boldly asserted as the basis of the political system of the papacy.

his brother's widow and children of their inheritance, which he added to his own dominions.

44. The first acts of the reign of Charlemagne showed the warrior eager for conquest; for, advancing with an army beyond the Loire,<sup>1</sup> he compelled the Aquitanians, who had been subdued by Pepin, but had since revolted, to submit to his authority. His next enemies were the Saxons, who bounded his dominions on the north-east, and whose territories extended along the German ocean from the Elbe<sup>2</sup> to the Rhine. While all the other German tribes had adopted Christianity, the Saxons still sacrificed to the gods of their fathers; and it was both the desire of chastising their repeated aggressions, and the merit to be derived from their conversion to Christianity, that led Charlemagne to declare war against these fierce barbarians. (A. D. 772.)

45. His first irruption into the Saxon territory was successful; for he destroyed the pagan idols, received hostages, and on the banks of the Weser<sup>3</sup> concluded an advantageous peace. But the free spirit of the Saxons was not quelled: again and again they rose in insurrection, headed by the famous Witikind, a hero worthy of being the rival of Charlemagne; and the war continued, with occasional interruption, during a period of thirty-two years. At length, however, peace was granted to Witikind, who received baptism, Charlemagne himself acting as sponsor; and Saxony submitted to the Frankish institutions, as well as to those of Christianity. A few years later the Saxon youth, who had taken no share in the previous conflicts, arose in rebellion, but they were eventually subjugated, (A. D. 804,) when ten thousand of their number were transported into the country of the Franks, where they were gradually merged into the nation of their conquerors. It was in the midst of the ravages of these Saxon wars that the north of Germany passed from barbarism to civilization; for monasteries, churches, and bishoprics, immediately sprung up in the path of the conquerors; and although

1. The *Loire*, (looar) (anciently *Liger*), is the principal river of France, through the central part of which it flows, in a W. direction to the Atlantic. Its basin comprises nearly one-fourth part of the kingdom. The Loire was the northern boundary of the country of the *Aquitani*ans. The early seat of the empire of Charlemagne was therefore north of the Loire. (Map No. XIII.)

2. The *Elbe*, (anciently *Albis*), rising in the mountains of Bohemia, flows north-west through central Europe, and enters the German ocean, or North sea, at the southern extremity of Denmark. This stream was the easternmost extent of the Germanic expeditions of the Romans. (Map No. XVII.)

3. The *Weser*, (anciently *Visurgis*), a river of Germany, enters the north sea between the Elbe on the east and the Ems on the west. (Map No. XVII.)

the religion which they planted was superficial and corrupt, they at least diffused some respect for the arts of civilized life.

46. Soon after the commencement of the Saxon wars, Charlemagne found another, but less formidable enemy, in the Lombards of Italy. The Lombard king had given protection to the widow of Carloman, the deceased brother of Charlemagne, and had required pope Adrian to anoint her sons as kings of the Franks; and upon Adrian's refusal, he threatened to carry war into his little territory of a few square miles around Rome. The pope demanded aid from Charlemagne, who, assembling his warriors at Geneva,<sup>1</sup> crossed the Alps into Italy and compelled the Lombard king, Desidérius, to shut himself up in his capital at Pávia,<sup>2</sup> which, after a siege of six months, surrendered. Desidérius became prisoner, and was sent to end his days in a monastery, while Charlemagne, placing the iron crown of the Lombards upon his head, caused himself to be proclaimed king of Italy. (774.)

47. A few years after the overthrow of the kingdom of the Lombards, Charlemagne carried his conquering arms into Spain, whither he had been invited by the viceroy of Catalónia,<sup>3</sup> to aid him against the Moham' medans. (677-8.) Pampelúna<sup>4</sup> and Saragos' sa<sup>5</sup> were dismantled, and the Arab princes of that region swore fealty to the conqueror, but on the return of Charlemagne across the Pyrenees, his rear guard was attacked in the famous pass of Roncesvalles,<sup>6</sup> and

1. *Geneva*, described by Cæsar as being "the frontier town of the Allobrogians," retains its ancient name. It is on the Rhone, at the south-western extremity of the Lake of Geneva, (anciently *Leman' nus*), and is the most populous city of Switzerland. In the year 426 it was taken by the Burgundians, and became their capital. It afterwards belonged, successively, to the Os' trogoths and Franks, and also to the second kingdom of Burgundy. On the fall of the latter it was governed by its own bishops; but at the time of the Reformation the bishops were expelled, and Geneva became a republic. (Maps No. XIV. and XVII.)

2. *Pávia*, (anciently *Ticinum*), is situated on the Ticino (anciently *Ticinus*), north of the Po, and twenty miles south from Milan. Pávia has sustained many sieges, but is principally distinguished for the great battle fought in its vicinity Feb. 24th, 1525. See p. 327. (Map No. XVII.)

3. *Catalónia* was the north-western province of Spain. It was successively subject to the Romans, Goths, and Moors; but in the 8th and 9th centuries, in connection with the adjoining French province of Roussillon, it became an independent State, subject to the counts or earls of Barcelona. (Map No. XIII.)

4. *Pampelúna*, a fortified city of Spain, supposed to have been built by Pompey after the defeat of Sertorius, (see p. 176,) is a short distance south of the Pyrenees, and forty miles from the Bay of Biscay. It was the capital of the kingdom, now province, of Navarre. (Map No. XIII.)

5. *Saragos' sa*, (anciently *Cæsar Augusta*) situated in a fine plain on the Ebro, (anciently *Iberus*), is eighty-seven miles south-east from Pampelúna. It is a very ancient city, and is said to have been founded by the Phœnicians or Carthaginians. Julius Cæsar greatly enlarged it, and Augustus gave it the name of Cæsar Augusta, with the privileges of a free colony. (Map No. XIII.)

6. *Roncesvalles* (*Ron'sa-val*) is about twenty miles north-east from Pampelúna. (Map No. XIII.)

entirely cut to pieces. Poesy and fable have combined to render memorable a defeat of which history has preserved no details.

48. After Charlemagne had extended his empire over France, Germany, and Italy, minor conquests easily followed; and many of the other surrounding nations, or rather tribes, fell under his power, or solicited his protection. Thus the dominion of the Franks penetrated into Hungary, and advanced upon the Danube as far as the frontiers of the Greek empire. A conspiracy in Rome having forced the pope to seek the protection of Charlemagne, in the year 800 the latter visited Rome in person to punish the evil doers. While he was there attending services in St. Peter's Church, at the Christmas festival, the gratified pontiff placed upon his head a crown of gold, and, in the formula observed for the Roman emperors, and amid the acclamations of the people, saluted him by the titles of Emperor and Augustus. This act was considered as indicating the revival of the Empire of the West, after an interruption of about three centuries.

49. Charlemagne, a king of the German Franks, was thus seated on the throne of the Cæsars. Nor was the circumstance of his receiving the imperial crown unimportant, as by the act he declared himself the representative of the ancient Roman civilization, and not of the barbarism of its destroyers. In Italy, Charlemagne sought teachers for the purpose of establishing public schools throughout his dominions: he encouraged literature, and attempted to revive commerce; and his capital of Aix-la-Chapelle<sup>1</sup> he so adorned with sumptuous edifices, palaces, churches, bridges, and monuments of art, as to give it the appearance of a Roman city. By the wisdom of his laws, and the energy which he displayed in executing them, he established order and regularity, and gave protection to all parts of his empire. But with all the greatness of Charlemagne, his private life was not free from the stain of licentiousness; and where his ambition led him he was unsparing of blood. He caused four thousand five hundred imprisoned Saxons to be beheaded in one day, as a terrible example to their countrymen, and as an act of retribution for an army which he had lost; and as a right of conquest he denounced the penalty of death against those who refused baptism, or who even eat flesh during Lent. Still his long reign is a brilliant

1. *Aix-la-Chapelle* (*a-la-shappel'*) the favorite residence of Charlemagne, is an old and well-built city of Prussian Germany, west of the Rhine, and seventy-eight miles east from Brussels. (Map No. XIII. and XVII.)

period in the history of the middle ages;—the more interesting, from the preceding chaos of disorder, and the disgraces and miseries which followed it;—resembling the course of a meteor that leaves the darkness still more dreary as it disappears.

50 The posterity of Charlemagne were unequal to the task of preserving the empire which he had formed, and it speedily fell asunder by its own weight. To the mutual antipathies of different races,—the German on the one side, including the Franks, knit together by their old Teutonic tongue,—and the nation of mingled Gallic, Roman, and Barbarian origin, on the other, which afterwards assumed the name of Franks, and gave to their own country the appellation France,—was added the rivalry of the Carlovingian princes; and about thirty years after the death of Charlemagne (A. D. 814), at the close of a period of anarchy and civil war, the empire was divided among his descendants, and out of it were constituted the separate kingdoms,—France, Germany, and Italy (A. D. 843).<sup>a</sup>

51. The motive that led the Carlovingian princes to put an end to their unnatural wars with each other, was the repeated invasion of the coasts of France and Germany by piratical adventurers from the north, called Northmen or Danes, a branch of the great Teutonic race, who, issuing from all the shores of the Baltic, annually ravaged the coasts of their more civilized neighbors,—and, by hasty incursions, even pillaged the cities far in the interior. During more than a century these Northern pirates continued to devastate the shores of Western Europe, particularly infesting the coasts of Britain, Ireland, and France.

52. In the meantime central Europe became a prey to the Hungarians, a warlike Tartarian tribe, whose untamed ferocity recalled the memory of Attila. The Saracens also, masters of the Mediterranean, kept the coasts of Italy in constant alarm, and twice insulted and ravaged the territory of Rome. Amid the tumult and confusion thus occasioned, European society was undergoing a change, from the absolutism of imperial authority to the establishment of numerous dukedoms, having little more than a nominal dependence upon the reigning princes. Power was transferred from the palace of the king to the castle of the baron; and for a time European history,—that of France in particular—is occupied with the annals of an intriguing, factious, aspiring nobility, rather than

a. By the treaty of Verdun, Aug. 11th, 843.

with those of monarchs and the people. From the confusion incident to such a state of society we turn to the neighboring island of Britain, where, a few years after the dissolution of the empire of Charlemagne, the immortal Alfred arose, drove back the tide of barbarian conquest, and laid the foundation of those laws and institutions which have rendered England the most enlightened and most powerful of the nations of Europe.

53. We have mentioned that, towards the close of the sixth century, the Saxon tribes from the shores of the Baltic had made themselves masters of the southern and more fertile provinces of Britain. After having extirpated the ancient British population, or driven it into Cornwall and Wales on the western side of the island, the kindred tribes of the Angles and Saxons, under the common name of Anglo Saxons, established in England seven independent kingdoms, which are known in history as the Saxon Heptarchy. The intricate details, so far as we can learn them, of the history of these kingdoms, are uninteresting and unimportant; and from the period of the first inroads of the Saxons down to the time of the coronation of Alfred the Great in 872, the chronicles of Britain present us with the names of numerous kings, the dates of many battles, and frequent revolutions attended with unimportant results;—the history of all which is in great part conjectural, and gives us little insight into individual or national character.

54. It appears that about the year 597 Christianity was first introduced into England by the monk Augustine, accompanied by forty missionaries, who had been sent out by pope Gregory for the conversion of the Britons. The new faith, such as it pleased the church to promulgate, being received cordially by the kings, descended from them to their subjects, and was established without persecution, and without the shedding of the blood of a single martyr. The religious zeal of the Anglo Saxons greatly exceeded that of the nations of the continent; and it is recorded that, during the Heptarchy, ten kings and eleven queens laid aside the crown to devote themselves to a monastic life.

55. In the year 827 the several kingdoms of the Saxon Heptarchy were united in one great State by Egbert, prince of the West Saxons, an ambitious warrior, who exhibits some points of comparison with his illustrious cotemporary Charlemagne, at whose court he had spent twelve years of his early life. The Saxon union, under the firm administration of Egbert, promised future tranquillity to the in

habitants of Britain; but scarcely had a regular government been established when the piratical Scandinavians, known in France under the name of Normans, and in England by that of Danes, landed in the southern part of the island, and after a bloody battle with Egbert at Charmouth in Dorsetshire, made good their retreat to their ships, carrying off all the portable wealth of the district. (A. D. 833.) This was the beginning of the ravages of the Northmen in England; and they continued to plunder the coasts for nearly two centuries.

56. From the death of Egbert in 838, to the accession of Alfred the Great in 871, the throne of England was occupied by four Saxon princes;<sup>a</sup> and the whole of this period, like the corresponding one in French history, is filled with the disastrous invasions of the Danes.<sup>b</sup> In the course of a single year nine sanguinary battles were fought between the Saxons and their invaders; and in the last of these battles king Ethelred received a wound which caused his death (871-2.) His brother Alfred, then only twenty-two years of age, succeeded to the throne. He had served with distinction in the numerous bloody battles fought by his brother; but on his accession he found nearly half the kingdom in the possession of the Danes; and within six years the almost innumerable swarms of these invaders struck such terror into the English, that Alfred, who strove to assemble an army, found himself suddenly deserted by all his warriors.

57. Obligated to relinquish the ensigns of royalty, and to seek shelter from the pursuit of his enemies, he disguised himself under the habit of a peasant, and for some time lived in the cottage of a goatherd, known only to his host, and regarded by his hostess as an inferior, and occasionally intrusted by her with the menial duties of the household. It is said that, as he was one day trimming his arrows by the fire-side, she desired him to watch some cakes that were baking, and that when, forgetting his trust, he suffered them to burn, she severely upbraided him for his neglect. Afterwards, retiring with a few faithful followers to the marshes of Somersetshire, he built there a fortress, whence he made occasional successful sallies upon the Danes, who knew not from what quarter the blow came. While his very existence was unsuspected by the enemy, under the

a. Ethelwolf, Ethelbald, Ethelbert, and Ethelred.

b. As the term *Normans* was at a later period exclusively appropriated to that branch of the Scandinavians which settled in Normandy, we shall follow the English writers and apply the term *Danes* to those barbarians of the same family who so long ravaged the English coasts. It should not be forgotten by the reader that the Saxons also were of Scandinavian origin.

disguise of a harper he visited their camp, where his musical skill obtained for him a welcome reception, and an introduction to the tent of the Danish prince, Guthrum. Here he spent three days, witnessed the supine security of the enemy, thoroughly examined the camp and its approaches, and then went to meet his countrymen, for whom he had appointed a gathering in Selwood forest.<sup>a</sup>

58. The Saxons, inspired with new life and courage at the sight of their beloved prince, whom they had supposed dead, fell upon the unsuspecting Danes, and cut nearly all of them to pieces. (A. D. 878.) Guthrum, and the small band of followers who escaped, were soon besieged in a fortress, where they accepted the terms of peace that were offered them. Guthrum embraced Christianity; the greater part of the Danes settled peaceably on the lands that were assigned them, where they soon intermingled with the Saxons; while the more turbulent spirits went to join new swarms of their countrymen in their ravages upon the French and German coasts. The shores of England were unvisited, during several years, by the enemy, and Alfred employed the interval of repose in organizing the future defence of his kingdom. In early life he had visited Italy, and seen the Greek and Roman galleys, which were greatly superior to the Danish unarmed vessels, that were fitted only for transport. Alfred now formed a navy; and his vessels never met those of the Danes without the certain destruction of the latter.

59. The Danes, however, who had settled in England, still occupied the greater part of the country, so that the acknowledged sovereignty of Alfred did not extend over any of the countries northward of the city of London,—and fifteen years after the defeat of Guthrum, Hastings, another celebrated Danish chief, threatened to deprive the English king of the limited possessions which he still retained. After having plundered all the northern provinces of France, Hastings appeared on the coast of Kent with three hundred and thirty sail, and spreading his forces over the country, committed the most dreadful ravages. (A. D. 893.) The Danes in the northern parts of England joined him; but they were everywhere defeated, and eventually Hastings withdrew to his own country, taking back with him the most warlike portion of the Danish population, from the English channel to the frontiers of Scotland, after which the whole of England no longer hesitated to acknowledge the authority of Alfred, although his power over the Danish population in the northern

a. At Brixton, on the borders of the forest, in Wiltshire. Wiltshire is east of Somerset.

part of the kingdom was still little more than nominal. He died after a reign of twenty-nine years and a-half, having deservedly attained the appellation of Alfred the GREAT, and the title of founder of the English monarchy. (A. D. 901.)

60. To Alfred the English ascribe the origin of many of those institutions which lie at the foundation of their nation's prosperity and renown. As the founder of the English navy, he planted the seeds of the maritime power of England: with him arose the grandeur and prosperity of London, the place of the assembling of the national parliament or body of prelates, earls, barons, and burghers, or deputies from the English burghs, or associations of freemen: he made a collection of the Saxon laws, to which he added others framed or sanctioned by himself; he reformed the Saxon division of the country into counties and shires; divided the citizens into corporations of tens and hundreds, with a regular system of inspection and police, in which equals exercised a supervision over equals; and in the mode which he adopted of settling controversies, we trace the first indications of the glory of the English judiciary—the trial by jury. The cultivation of letters, which had been interrupted at the first invasion of the then barbarous Saxons, was revived by Alfred, who was, himself, the most learned man in the kingdom: he founded schools at Oxford—the germ of the celebrated university of that name; and he set aside a considerable portion of his revenues for the payment of the salaries of teachers. The character of Alfred is almost unrivalled in the annals of any age or nation; and in the details of his private life we cannot discover a vice, or even a fault, to stain or sully the spotlessness of his reputation.

## SECTION II.

GENERAL HISTORY DURING THE TENTH, ELEVENTH, TWELFTH, AND THIRTEENTH CENTURIES: A. D. 900 TO 1300 = 400 YEARS.

### I. COMPLETE DISSOLUTION OF THE BONDS OF SOCIETY.

ANALYSIS. 1. Causes of the CONFUSION OF HISTORIC MATERIALS at this period.—2. STATE OF THE SARACEN WORLD. [Bagdad. Cordova. Khorassan.]—3. THE BYZANTINE EMPIRE. Turkish invasions and conquests. [Georgia.]—4. The divisions of the Carolingian empire. CONDITION OF ITALY. Berenger duke of Friuli. Prince of Burgundy. Hugh count of Provence. Surrender of the kingdom to Otho. [Friuli. Switzerland. Provence.]—5. Italy under the German emperors. Guelfs and Ghibellines. Dukes, marquises, counts, and prelates.

Petty Italian republics.—6. CONDITION OF GERMANY. Its six dukedoms. [Saxony. Thuringia. Franconia. Bavaria. Sclavia. Lorraine.] Encroachments of the dukes. Reign of Conrad Henry I. of Saxony. Powers of the Saxon rulers.—7. CONDITION OF FRANCE. Charles the Simple. Other princes. Deposition of Charles. [Transjuran Burgundy. Provence. Brittany.]—8. Settlement of the Normans in France. [Normandy.] Importance of this event.—9. The counts of Paris. Hugh Capet. [Rheims.] Situation of France for two hundred and forty years after the accession of Hugh Capet.

### II. THE FEUDAL SYSTEM; CHIVALRY; AND THE CRUSADES.

1. Europe in the central period of the Middle Ages. Origin of the FEUDAL SYSTEM. Its duration and importance.—2. Partition of lands by the Barbarians who overthrew the Roman empire. Conditions of the allotment. Gradations of the system.—3. Nature of the estates thus obtained. Crown lands—how disposed of. The word *feud*.—4. The feudal system in France. Charlemagne's efforts to check its progress. Effects upon the nobility. Growth of the power of the nobles after the overthrow of royal authority. Their petty sovereignties.—5. Condition of the allodial proprietors. They are forced to become feudal tenants.—6. Legal qualities and results that grew out of the feudal system. Reliefs, fines, escheats, aids, wardship and marriage.—7. The feudal government in its best state. Its influence on the character of society. General ignorance at this period. Sentiments of independence in the nobility.

8. Rise of CHIVALRY. Our first notices of it. Its origin.—9. Its rapid spread, and its good effects.—10. Its spirit based on noble impulses. Extract from Hallam: From James. Customs and peculiarities of chivalry. Who were members of the institution.—11. The profession of arms among the Germans. Education of a knight. The practice of knight-errantry.—12. Extent of chivalry in the 11th century. Its spirit led to the crusades.

ORIGIN OF THE CRUSADES.—13. Pilgrimages to Jerusalem. General expectation of the approaching end of the world.—14. Extortion and outrage practiced upon the pilgrims. Horror and indignation excited thereby in Europe. The preaching of Peter the Hermit. [Amiens.]—15. The councils of Placentia and Clermont. [Placentia and Clermont.] Gathering of the crusaders for the FIRST CRUSADE.—16. Conduct and fate of the foremost bands of the crusaders. The genuine army of the crusade. [Bouillon.]—17. Conduct of Alexius, emperor of Constantinople. His proposals spurned by the crusaders.—18. Number of the crusaders collected in Asia Minor. First encounter with the Turks. [Nice. Bithynia. Roum.] The march to Syria. [Dorilaum.]—19. The siege and capture of Antioch. The Persian and Turkish hosts defeated before the town.—20. Civil wars among the Turks. The caliph of Egypt takes Jerusalem. Proposal to unite his forces with the Christians rejected.—21. March of the crusaders to Jerusalem. [Mt. Libanus. Tripoli. Tyre. Acre. Caesarea.] Transports of the Christians on the first view of the city. Attack, and repulse.—22. Capture of Jerusalem. Acts of veneration and worship. Reception given to Peter the Hermit. His ultimate fate.—23. The new government of Jerusalem. Minor Christian States. Defenceless state of Jerusalem under Godfrey. Continued pilgrimages. Orders of knighthood established at Jerusalem. The noted valor of the knights.

24. Continued yearly emigration of pilgrim warriors to the Holy Land. Six principal crusades. Their general character.—25. THE SECOND CRUSADE. The leading army under Conrad. The army of French and Germans.—26. Jerusalem taken by Saladin. THE THIRD CRUSADE. Fate of the German emperor. Successes of the French and English. Return of Philip, Richard concludes a truce with Saladin. [Ascalon.]—27. THE FOURTH CRUSADE, led by Boniface. The crusaders take Zara, and conquer Constantinople. No benefit to Palestine. [Montserrat. Zara.]—28. THE FIFTH CRUSADE. Partial successes, and final ruin, of the expedition. [Damiatta.] Expedition of the German emperor, Frederic II. Treaty with the sultan, by which Jerusalem is yielded to the Christians. Jerusalem again taken by the sultan, but restored.

29. Cotemporary events in northern Asia. TARTAR CONQUESTS in Asia and in Europe. [China. Russia. Kiev. Moscow.] Alarm of the Christian nations of Europe. Recall of the conquering hordes.—30. The Corasmins. They overrun Syria and take Jerusalem, but are finally expelled by the united Turks and Christians.—31. THE SIXTH CRUSADE, led by Louis IX., who attacks Egypt. The second crusade of Louis. Attack upon Carthage. Result of the expedition.—32. Acre, the last stronghold of the Christians in Syria, taken by the Turks, 1291. Results of the Crusades.