

held at Placen' tia,¹ and Clermont,² and attended by a number as train of bishops and ecclesiastics, and by thousands of the laity, the multitude, harangued by the zealous enthusiasts of the cause, caught the spirit of those who addressed them, and pledged themselves, and all they possessed, to the crusade against the infidel possessors of the Holy Land. The flame of enthusiasm spread so rapidly throughout Christian Europe, that although the council of Clermont was held in November of the year 1095, yet in the following spring large bands

of the crusaders, gathered chiefly from the refuse and dregs of the people, and consisting of men, women, and children—of all ages and professions—and of many and distinct languages,—were in motion toward Palestine.

IV. THE
FIRST
CRUSADE

16. Walter the Penniless, leading the way, was followed by Peter the Hermit; but the ignorant hordes which they directed, marching without order and discipline, and pillaging the countries which they traversed, were nearly all cut off before they reached Constantinople; and the few who passed over into Asia Minor fell an easy prey to the swords of the Turks. Immense bands that followed these hosts, mingling the motives of plunder, licentiousness and vice, with a foul spirit of fanatical cruelty, which proclaimed the duty of exterminating all, whether Jews or Pagans, who rejected the Saviour, were utterly destroyed by the enraged natives of southern Germany and Hungary, through whose dominions they attempted to pass. The loss of the crusaders in this first adventure is estimated at three hundred thousand men.^a But while these undisciplined and barbarous multitudes were hurrying to destruction, the flower of the chivalry of Europe was collecting—the genuine army of the crusade—under six as distinguished chiefs as knighthood could boast, headed by Godfrey of Bouillon,³ one of the most celebrated generals of the age. In six separate bands they proceeded to Constantinople, some

1. *Placen' tia*, now *Piazza*, was a city of northern Italy, near the junction of the *Trebia* with the *Po*, thirty-seven miles south-east from Milan. When colonized by the Romans, 213 B. C., it was a strong and important city; and it afforded them a secure retreat after the unfortunate battles of *Ticinus* and *Trebia*. (*Map No. XVII.*)

2. *Clermont*, a city of France, in the ancient province of *Auvergne*, is eighty-two miles west from *Lyons*, and two hundred and eight south from *Paris*. (*Map No. XIII.*)

3. *Bouillon* was a small, woody, and mountainous district, nine miles wide and eighteen long, now included in the duchy of *Luxembourg*, on the borders of France and Belgium. The town of *Bouillon* is fifty-miles north-west from the city of *Luxembourg*. *Bouillon*, when in the possession of Godfrey, was a dukedom. In order to supply himself with funds for his expedition to the Holy Land, Godfrey, who was likewise duke of Lower *Lorraine*, (*note p. 276.*) mortgaged *Bouillon* to the bishop. (*Map No. XIII.*)

a. *Gibbon*, iv. 116—125.

by way of Italy and the Adriatic, and others by way of the Danube, but their conduct, unlike that of the first crusaders, was in general remarkable for its strict discipline, order, and moderation.

17. Alex' ius, the Greek emperor of Constantinople, had before craved, in abject terms, assistance against the infidel Turks; but now, when the Turks, occupied with other interests, no longer menaced his frontier, his conduct changed, and alarmed by the vast swarms of crusaders who crossed his dominions, he strove, by treachery and dissimulation, and even by hostile annoyances, to diminish their numbers, and thwart their designs, and to wring from their chiefs acts of homage to his own person. With some of the chiefs, the crafty Greek succeeded; but others spurned his proposals with indignation, and at the hazard of war resolved to maintain their independent position; and when at length the several detachments of the army of the crusaders passed into Asia, they left behind them in their treacherous auxiliaries, the Christians of the Byzantine empire, worse enemies than they had to encounter in the Turks.

18. It is said that after the crusaders had united their forces in Asia Minor, and had been joined by the remains of the multitude that had followed Peter the Hermit, the number of their fighting men, without including those who did not carry arms, was six hundred thousand, and that, of these, the number of knights alone was two hundred thousand.^a At *Nice*,¹ in *Bithyn' ia*,² the capital of the Sultany of *Róum*,³ they first encountered the Turks, and after a siege of two months compelled the city to surrender, in spite of the efforts of the Sultan, *Soliman*, for its relief. (A. D. 1097.) From *Nice* they set out for *Syria*; and after having gained a victory over *Soliman* near *Dorilæ' um*,⁴ in a march of five hundred miles they traversed Lesser Asia, through a wasted land and deserted towns, without finding a friend or an enemy.

19. The siege of *Antioch*, unparalleled for its difficulties and the

1. *Nice*, called by the Romans *Nicaea*, was the capital of *Bithyn' ia*. The Turkish town of *Isnik* occupies the site of the *Bithyn' ian* city. (*Map No. IV.*)

2. *Bithyn' ia* was a country of Asia Minor, having the *Euxine* on the north, and the *Propontide* and *Mysia* on the west. (*Map No. IV.*)

3. *Róum* (meaning the kingdom of the Romans), was the name given by *Soliman* sultan to the Turks, to the present *Natolia*, (the western part of Asia Minor,) when he invaded and became master of it in the 11th century.

4. *Dorilæ' um* was a city of Phrygia, on the confines of *Bithyn' ia*. The plain of *Dorilæ' um* is often mentioned in history as the place where the armies of the Eastern empire assembled in their wars against the Turks. (*Map No. IV.*)

a. *James's History of the Crusades*, p. 111

losses on both sides, was the next obstacle to the onward march of the crusaders, now reduced to half the number that had been collected at the capture of Nice; but when the enterprise seemed hopeless, the town was betrayed into their hands by a Syrian renegade, (June 1098.) A few days later, the victors themselves, suffering the extremity of privation and famine, were encompassed by a splendid Turkish and Persian army of three hundred thousand men; yet the Christians collecting the relics of their strength, and urged on by a belief of miraculous interposition in their favor, sallied from the town, and in a single memorable day annihilated or dispersed the host of their enemies.

20. While the siege of Antioch was progressing, the Turkish princes consumed their time and resources in civil wars beyond the Tigris; and the caliph of Egypt, embracing the opportunity of weakness and discord to recover his ancient possessions, besieged and took Jerusalem. The Egyptian monarch offered to join his arms to those of the Christians, for the purpose of subduing all Palestine; but it was evident that he purposed to enjoy the fruits of victory without participation; and the answer of the crusading chiefs was firm and uniform: "the usurper of Jerusalem, of whatever nation, was their enemy, and they would conquer the holy city with the sword of Christ, and keep it with the same."

21. With an army reduced to less than fifty thousand armed men, the crusaders, in the month of May, 1099, proceeded from Antioch towards Jerusalem. Marching between Mount Lib'anus¹ and the sea-shore, they obtained by treaty a free passage through the petty Turkish principalities of Trip'oli,² Sidon, Tyre,³ Acre,⁴ and Cæsaræa,⁵

1. To the four chains of mountains running parallel to the sea-coast through northern Syria or Palestine, the name *Lib'anus* has been applied. To a chain farther east the Greeks gave the name *Anti-Lib'anus*. (Map No. VI.)

2. *Trip'oli*, at this day one of the neatest towns of Syria, is a seaport, seventy-five miles north-west from Damascus. It was one of the most flourishing seats of ancient literature, and contained an extensive library, numbering, it is said, one hundred thousand volumes, which was destroyed by the crusaders in the year 1108. On this occasion the crusaders displayed the same fanatical zeal of which the Saracens have been accused, though some think unjustly, in the case of the Alexandrian library. A priest having visited an apartment in the library in which were several copies of the Koran, reported that it contained none but impious works of Mahomet; and the whole was forthwith committed to the flames. (Map No. VI.)

3. *Tyre and Sidon*, see p. 61, and Map No. VI.

4. *Acre* is a town of Syria on the coast of the Mediterranean, at the north-eastern limit of the bay of Acre. Mount Carmel terminates on the south-western side of the bay. This town is rendered famous in modern history by its determined and successful resistance to the arms of Napoleon in 1799. See p. 471. (Map No. VI.)

5. *Cæsaræa* was an ancient Roman town on the sea-coast of Palestine, thirty miles south-west from Acre. It was a flourishing city till A. D. 635, when it fell into the hands of the Saracens.

which promised to remain, for the time, neutral, and to follow the example of the capital. When at length the holy city broke upon the view of the Christian host, a sudden enthusiasm of joy filled every bosom; past dangers, fatigues, and privations, were forgotten; the name Jerusalem was echoed by every tongue; and while some shouted to the sky, some knelt and prayed, some wept aloud, and some cast themselves down and kissed the earth in silence. But to the excess of rejoicing succeeded the extreme of wrath at seeing the city in the hands of the infidels; and in the first ebullition of rage, a simultaneous attack was commenced on the town; but a vigorous repulse taught the necessity of more judicious methods of assault.

22. Passing over the details of the siege which followed, it is sufficient to state, that, within forty days, Jerusalem was taken by a desperate assault, and that the blood of seventy thousand Moslems washed the pavements of the captured city; for the soldiers of the cross believed that they were doing God good service in exterminating the blasphemous strangers; and that all mercy to the infidels was an injury to religion. When the bloody strife was over, the leaders and soldiers, washing the marks of gore from their persons, and casting off their armor, in the guise of penitents and amid the loud anthems of the clergy, ascended the Hill of Calvary¹ on their knees, and proceeding to the holy sepulchre, with tears of joy kissed the stone which had covered the Saviour, and then offered up their prayers to the mild Teacher of that beautiful religion whose principles are "peace and good will to men." Peter the Hermit, whose preaching had excited the crusade, had followed the army through all its perils; and when he entered the city with the conquerors, the Christians of Jerusalem recognized the poor pilgrim who had first spoken to them words of hope, and promised them deliverance from the oppression of their Turkish masters. The reception which he now met with from the enthusiastic multitude, who in the fervor of their gratitude attributed all to him, and casting themselves at his feet, invoked the blessings of heaven on their benefactor, more than a thousand fold repaid the Hermit for all the anxiety, the toils, and dangers, which he had endured. The ultimate fate of this extraordinary individual is unknown.

In 1101 it fell into the hands of the crusaders, when it sunk to rise no more. Cæsaræa was the place where Peter converted Cornelius and his house, (Acts, x. 1.) and where Paul made his memorable speeches to Felix and Agrippa. (Acts, xxiv., xxv., xxvi.)

1. *Hill of Calvary*. See description of Jerusalem p. 164, and Map No. VII.)

23. Jerusalem was now delivered from the hands of the infidels; the great object of the expedition was accomplished; and the feudal institutions of Europe were introduced into Palestine in all their purity. Godfrey of Bouillon was chosen the first sovereign of Jerusalem; and the Christian kingdom thus established continued to exist nearly a century. Several minor States were established in the East by the crusaders, but as they seldom united cordially for mutual defence, and were continually assailed by powerful enemies, none of them were of long duration. Even during the sovereignty of Godfrey, the kingdom of Jerusalem, owing to the return of many of the crusaders, and their losses in battle, was left for a time to be supported by an army of less than three thousand men. But the spirit of pilgrimage was still rife; and it is estimated that, between the first and second crusade, five hundred thousand people set out from Europe for Syria, in armed bands of several thousand men each; and although the greater portion of them perished by the way, the few who reached their destination proved exceedingly serviceable in supporting the Christian cause, and in re-peopleing the devastated lands of Palestine. The period between the first and second crusade is remarkable for the rise, at Jerusalem, of the two most distinguished orders of knighthood—the Hospitallers, and the Red-Cross Knights, or Templars. The valor of both orders became noted: the Hospitallers ever burned a light during the night, that they might always be prepared against the enemy; and it is said that any Templar, on hearing the cry "to arms," would have been ashamed to ask the number of the enemy. The only question was, "where are they?"

24. During nearly two centuries after the council of Clermont, each returning year witnessed a new emigration of pilgrim warriors for the defence of the Holy Land, although but six principal crusades followed the first great movement; and all these were excited by some recent or impending calamity to Palestine. A detailed account of these several crusades would only exhibit the perpetual recurrence of the same causes and effects; and would appear but so many faint and unsuccessful copies of the original. Avoiding detail, we shall therefore speak of them only in general terms.

25. Forty-eight years after the conquest of Jerusalem, the loss of the principal Christian fortresses in Palestine led to a second crusade, which was undertaken by Conrad III., emperor of Germany, and Louis VII., king of France (A. D. 1147.) The Pope Eugenius abetted the design, and com-

V. THE
SECOND
CRUSADE.

missioned the eloquent St. Bernard to preach the cross through France and Germany. A vast army under Conrad took the lead in the expedition; but not a tenth part ever reached the Syrian boundaries. The army of French and Germans was but little more fortunate; and the poor remains of these mighty hosts, still led by the emperors of France and Germany, after reaching Jerusalem, joined the Christian arms in a fruitless siege of Damascus, which was the termination of the second crusade.

26. Forty years after the second crusade, Jerusalem was taken by Saladin, the Sultan of Egypt, whose authority was acknowledged also by the greater part of Syria and Persia. (A. D. 1187.) The loss of the holy city filled all Europe with consternation; and new expeditions were fitted out for its recovery. France, Germany, and England, joined in the crusade; and the armies of each country were headed by their respective sovereigns, Philip Augustus, Frederic Barbarossa, and Richard I., surnamed the lion-hearted. Frederic, after defeating the Saracens in a pitched battle on the plains of Asia Minor, lost his life by imprudently bathing in the river Orontes;^a and his army was reduced to a small body when it reached Antioch. The French and English, more successful than the Germans, besieged and took Acre, after a siege of twenty-two months (July, A. D. 1191); but as Richard and Philip quarrelled, owing to the latter's jealousy of the superior military prowess of the former, Philip returned home in disgust; and Richard, after defeating Saladin in a great battle near Ascalon,¹ and penetrating within sight of Jerusalem, concluded a three years truce with his rival, and then set sail for his own dominions. (A. D. Oct. 1192.)

VI. THE
THIRD
CRUSADE.

27. The fourth crusade^b was undertaken at the beginning of the thirteenth century, (A. D. 1202,) at the instigation of pope Innocent III. No great sovereign joined in the enterprise; but the most powerful barons of France

VII. THE
FOURTH
CRUSADE.

1. *Ascalon*, a very ancient city of the Philistines, was a sea-port town of the Mediterranean, forty-five miles south-west from Jerusalem. Its ruins present a strange mixture of Syrian, Greek, Gothic, and Roman remains. There is not a single inhabitant within the old walls, which are still standing. The prophecy of Zechariah, "Ascalon shall not be inhabited," and that of Ezekiel, "It shall be a desolation," are now actually fulfilled. (*Map No. VI.*)

a. Some authorities say the *Cydnus*. See James's *Chivalry and the Crusades*, p. 239.

b. Several important expeditions that were made to the Holy Land a short time previous to this, and that were promoted by the exhortations of pope Celestine III., are represented by some writers as the fourth crusade. In this way some writers enumerate nine distinct crusades some more, while others describe only six.

took the cross, and gave the command to Boniface, marquis of Montserrat.¹ They hired the Venetians to transport them to Palestine, and agreed to recapture for them the city of Zara,² in Dalmatia; and this object was accomplished, while the pope in vain launched the thunders of the church at the refractory crusaders. Instead of sailing to Palestine, the expedition was then directed against the Greek empire, under the pretence of dethroning a usurper; and the result was the conquest of Constantinople by the Latins, and the founding of a new Latin or Roman empire on the ruins of the Byzantine. (A. D. April 1204.) The new empire existed during a period of fifty-seven years, when the Greeks partially recovered their authority. The fourth crusade ended without producing any benefit to Palestine.

28. The fifth crusade, undertaken fourteen years after the fall of the Byzantine empire, was at first conducted by Andrew, monarch of Hungary. The Christian army, after spending some time in the vicinity of Acre, sailed to Egypt;

but after some successes, among which was the taking of Damietta,³ ultimate ruin was the issue of the expedition. A few years later, (A. D. 1228), Frederic II., emperor of Germany, then arrayed in open hostility with the pope, led a formidable army to Palestine, and after he had advanced some distance from Acre towards Jerusalem, concluded a treaty with the sultan Melek Kamel, whereby the holy city and the greater part of Palestine were yielded to the Christians. After the return of Frederic to Europe, new bands of crusaders proceeded to Palestine: the sultan Kamel retook Jerusalem, but the Christians again obtained it by treaty.

29. While these events had been passing in Palestine a new dynasty had arisen in the north of Asia, which for a time threatened a complete revolution of all the known countries of the world. In the early part of the thirteenth century Gengis Khan, the son of a petty Mongol prince, had raised himself to be the lord of all the pastoral nations throughout the vast plains of Tartary. After desolating China,⁴ and adding its five

1. *Montserrat* was an Italian marquise in western Lombardy, now included in Piedmont. The marquises of Montserrat, rising from small beginnings in the course of the tenth century, and gradually extending their territories, acted, during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, one of the most brilliant parts allotted to any reigning house in Europe.

2. *Zara*, still the capital of Dalmatia, is a seaport on the eastern coast of the Adriatic, one hundred and fifty miles south-east from Venice.

3. *Damietta* is on the Damietta, or principal eastern branch of the Nile, six miles from its mouth.

4. *China*, a vast country of eastern Asia, may be almost said to have no history of any in

northern provinces to his empire, at the head of seven hundred thousand warriors^a he invaded and overran the dominions of the sultan of Persia. His successor Octai directed his resistless arms westward, under the conduct of his general Batou, who, in the course of six years, led his warriors, in a conquering march, from east to west, over a fourth part of the circumference of the globe. The inundating torrent, passing north of the territories of the Byzantine empire, left them unharmed; but it rolled with all its fury upon the more barbarous nations of Europe. A great part of Russia¹ was desolated; and both Kiev² and Moscow,³ the ancient and modern capital, were reduced to ashes: the Tartars penetrated into the heart of Poland,⁴ and as far as the borders of Germany, whence they turned to the south and spread over the plains of Hungary. Already the remote nations of the Baltic trembled at the approach of these barbarian warriors; and Germany, France, England, and Italy, were on the point of arming in the common defence of christendom, when Batou and the five hundred thousand warriors who still accompanied him were recalled to Asia by the death of their sovereign. (A. D. 1245.)

30. Among the many tribes and nations that had been driven from their original seats by the great Tartar inundation, were the Corasmins, embracing numerous hordes of Tartar origin, that had attached themselves to the fortunes of the sultan of Persia. They now precipitated themselves upon Syria and Palestine, and massacred indis-

terest to the general reader, it has so few revolutions or political changes to record. The authentic history of the Chinese begins with the compilations of Confucius, who was born B. C. 550. From that period the annals of the empire have been carefully noted and preserved in an unbroken line to the present day—forming a series of more than five hundred volumes of uninteresting chronological details.

1. *Russia*, the largest, and one of the most powerful empires, either of ancient or modern times, extends from Behring's straits and the Pacific on the east, to the Gulf of Bothnia on the west,—a distance of nearly six thousand miles, with an average breadth of about fifteen hundred miles. In this immense empire about forty distinct languages are in use, having attached to them a great number of different dialects. In the year 1535 the extent of the Russian dominions was estimated at thirty-seven thousand German square miles; but in the year 1850 it had increased to ten times that amount. (For early history of Russia see p. 309.)

2. *Kiev*, or *Kiow*, the capital of the modern Russian province of the same name, is on the Dnieper, two hundred and twenty miles north of Odes'sa, the nearest port on the Black Sea. Kiev was the former residence of the grand dukes of Russia—the earliest seat of the Christian religion in Russia—and for a considerable period the capital of the empire. (Map No. XVII.)

3. *Moscow*, still one of the capitals of the Russian empire, and the grand entrepôt of its internal commerce, is situated on the navigable river Moskwa, a branch of the Volga, four hundred miles south-east from St. Petersburg. It was founded in the year 147. (Map No. XII.)

4. *Poland*, see p. 311.

a. Gibbon, iv 251.

criminally Turks, Jews, and Christians who opposed them. Jerusalem was taken; and it is said every soul in it was put to the sword; but at length the Turks and Christians, uniting their forces, utterly defeated the Corasmins, and thus delivered Palestine from one of the most terrible scourges that had ever been inflicted on it.

31. The ravages of the Corasmins in Palestine called forth the sixth crusade, which was led by Louis IX., king of France, commonly called St. Louis. He began by an attack on Egypt; but after some successes he was defeated, made prisoner when enfeebled by disease, and forced to purchase his liberty by the payment of an immense ransom. (A. D. 1250.) Twenty years later St. Louis embarked on a second crusade—the last of those great movements for the redemption of the Holy Land. The fleet of Louis being driven by a storm into Sardinia, here a change of plans took place, and it was resolved to attack the Moors of Africa. The French landed near Carthage, and took the city; but a pestilence soon carried off Louis and the greater portion of his army, when the expedition was abandoned.

32. From this time the fate of the Eastern Christians grew daily more certain; and in the year 1291 a Turkish army of two hundred thousand men appeared before the walls of Acre, the last stronghold of the crusaders in Palestine. After a tedious siege the city was taken; and thus the last vestige of the Christian power in Syria was swept away. The crusades had occupied a period of nearly two centuries, and had led two millions of Europeans to find their graves in Eastern lands; and yet none of the objects of these expeditions had been accomplished;—a sad commentary upon the folly and fanaticism of the age. The effects of these holy wars upon the state of European society will be referred to in a subsequent chapter.^a

III ENGLISH HISTORY.—1. Our last reference to the history of

1. ENGLAND
AFTER THE
DEATH OF
ALFRED.

England was to that period rendered brilliant by the reign of Alfred the Great, the real founder of the English monarchy; and we now proceed to give a brief but connected outline of the continuation of English history during the central period of the Middle Ages, which has just passed in review before us.

2. After the death of Alfred, in the first year of the tenth century, (A. D. 901,) England, still a prey to the ravages of the Danes,

a. See Part III. ch. ix. of the University Edition.

and intestine disorder, relapsed into confusion and barbarism; and under a succession of eight sovereigns,^a from the time of Alfred, its history presents little that is important to the modern reader. During the reign of Ethelred II., the last of these rulers, the Danes and Norwegians, led by Sweyn king of Denmark,¹ acquired possession of the greater portion of the kingdom; and on several occasions Ethelred purchased a momentary respite from their ravages by large bribes, which only increased their avidity, and insured their return. At length the weak and cruel monarch ordered the massacre of all the Danes in the Saxon territories. (A. D. 1002.) The execution of the barbarous mandate occasioned the renewal of hostilities: the English nobles, in contempt of their sovereign, offered the crown to Sweyn; while Ethelred fled for refuge to the court of Richard, duke of Normandy, whose sister he had married. On the death of Sweyn, in the year 1014, the Danish army in England chose his son Canute to succeed him; while the Saxon chiefs, with their wonted inconstancy, recalled Ethelred. On the death of the latter, his son Edmund, surnamed Ironside, from his hardihood and valor, was chosen king by the English; but by his death, (A. D. 1016,) after a few months, Canute, in accordance with a previous treaty, was left in undisturbed possession of the whole of England.

3. Canute, surnamed the Great, proved to be the most powerful monarch of the age. By marrying Emma, the widow of Ethelred, he conciliated the vanquished Britons, and disarmed the hostility of the duke of Normandy; while the earl of Godwin, the most powerful of the English barons, was gained to his interests, by receiving the hand of the king's daughter. In the year 1025 he subdued Sweden, and Norway² two years later, and on his death (Nov. 1036) he left his vast possessions of Denmark, Sweden, Norway, and England, to be divided among his children. His administration of the government of England was at first harsh, but he gradually emerged from his original barbarism, embraced Christianity, encouraged literature, and adopted some wise institutions for the benefit of his Anglo-Saxon subjects.

4. After the death of Canute, two of his sons, Harold and Hardicanute, reigned in succession over England; after which, in 1041,

¹. Denmark, Sweden, and Norway;—see p. 308.

². Sweden and Norway. See Denmark, p. 308.

a. Edward I. the Elder, 901. Athelstan, 925. Edmund I., 941. Edred, 946. Edwy, 955. Edgar, 959. Edward II., the Martyr, 975. Ethelred II., 978.

the crown returned to the ancient Saxon family, in the person of Edward the Confessor, a younger son of Ethelred. The mild character of Edward endeared him to his Saxon subjects, notwithstanding the partiality which he showed to his Norman favorites; but his reign of twenty-five years was weak and inglorious, and it was disturbed by the rebellion of the earl of Godwin, by occasional hostilities with the Welsh and Scotch, and by intrigues for the succession. On his death, (1066,) Harold, son of Godwin, took possession of the throne; but scarcely had he overcome his brother Tostig, who disputed the supremacy with him, when he found a more formidable competitor in William, duke of Normandy, to whom the late king had either bequeathed or purposed the succession. On the 25th of September, 1066, Harold gained a great victory over his brother; but, three days later, William landed in Sussex,¹ at the head of sixty thousand men, and on the fourteenth of October fought

with Harold the bloody battle of Hastings,² which terminated the Saxon dynasty, and put William the Norman in possession of the throne of England. Harold was killed in battle; the English army was nearly destroyed, and a fourth part of the Normans slain. The victory gave to William the title of the Conqueror; and the subjugation of the realm by him is termed, in English history, the Norman conquest.

5. This conquest, however, was gradual, for the immediate results of the battle of Hastings gave to William less than a fourth part of the kingdom; and his wars for the subjugation of the West, the North, and the East, were protracted during a period of seven years. William treated the English as rebels for appearing in the field against him, and distributed their lands among his Norman followers. To this distribution, the titles and revenues of many of the English nobility owe their origin.^a The northern Saxons made a vigorous resistance, and William treated them with a severity in proportion to the valor and pertinacity of their defence—laying waste the country with fire and sword, until, in some countries, the danger of rebellion was removed by a total dearth of inhabitants.

¹ is a southern county of England, on the English channel, west of Kent.

² Hastings, now a town of ten thousand inhabitants, is fifty-four miles south-east from London. It is pleasantly situated in a vale, surrounded on every side, except toward the sea, by hills and cliffs. On a hill east of the town are still to be seen banks and trenches, supposed to have been the work of the Normans at the time of the invasion. (Map No. XVI.)

^a See Notes, *Warwick, Richmond, &c.*, p. 306.

6. The foundations of the feudal system had existed in England before the conquest; but the distribution of the conquered lands among the Norman followers of William, gave that prince the opportunity of fully establishing the system as it then existed, in its maturity, on the continent. Preparatory to the introduction of the feudal tenures, William caused a survey to be made of all the lands in the kingdom, the particulars of which were inserted in what is called the Domesday Book, or Book of Judgment, which is still in being. Under the iron rule of the conqueror the Anglo Saxons became vassals of their Norman lords; the name *Saxon* was made a term of reproach; and the Saxon language was regarded as barbarous; while the Norman-French idiom was employed in all the acts of administration.

7. On the death of William, in the year 1087, his second son, William Rufus, took possession of the throne, to the prejudice of his elder brother Robert, then absent in Normandy. His reign, and that of his brother and successor, Henry I., are distinguished by few events of importance; but both plundered the kingdom: an ancient Saxon chronicle says that the former was "loathed by nearly all his people, and odious to God;" and of the latter it is said that "justice was in his hands a source of revenue, and judicial murder a frequent instrument of extortion."

8. Henry had married a Saxon princess; and to his daughter Matilda, by this marriage, he designed to leave the crown; but his nephew Stephen defeated his intentions by immediately seizing the vacant throne on the death of Henry. (1135.) A long civil war that followed was terminated by a general council of the kingdom which adopted Henry Plantagenet,¹ Matilda's son, as the successor of Stephen. One year later the boisterous life and wretched reign of Stephen were brought to a close, when Henry II., the first of the Plantagenet dynasty, ascended the throne of England. (A. D. 1154.)

9. By inheritance and marriage, Henry possessed, in addition to the duchy of Normandy, the fairest provinces of north-western

¹ *Plantagenet* is the surname of the kings of England from Henry II. to Richard III. inclusive. Antiquarians are much at a loss to account for the origin of this name; and the best derivation they can find for it is, that Fulk, the first earl of Anjou of that name, being stung with remorse for some wicked action, went in pilgrimage to Jerusalem as a work of atonement; where, being soundly scourged with broom twigs, which grew plentifully on the spot, he ever after took the surname of *Plantagenet*, or *broomstalk*, which was retained by his noble posterity. (Encyclopedia.)

France; and these, in connection with his English dominions, rendered him one of the most powerful monarchs in christianity. He also reduced Ireland¹ to a state of subjection, and formally annexed it to the English crown, although the complete conquest of that country was not effected until nearly four centuries later. By a wise and impartial administration of the government, Henry gained the affections of his people; but he was long engaged in a kind of spiritual warfare with the pope, and the close of his life was clouded by domestic misfortunes. His sons, instigated by their mother, and aided by Louis VII., king of France, repeatedly rebelled against him; and he finally died of a broken heart, after a long reign of thirty-five years. (A. D. 1189.)

10. Henry was succeeded by his eldest son Richard, surnamed the Lion-hearted, who immediately on his accession, after plundering his subjects of an immense sum of money, embarked on a crusade to the Holy Land. After filling the world with his renown, being wrecked in his homeward voyage, and travelling in disguise through Germany, he was seized and imprisoned, and only obtained his liberty by an immense ransom, which was paid by his subjects. The

1. Ireland is a large island west of England, from which it is separated by the Irish Sea and St. George's Channel. Its divisions, best known in history, are the four great provinces, Ulster in the north, Leinster in the east, Connaught in the west, and Munster in the south.

Irish historians speak of Greek, Phœnician, Scotch, Spanish, and Gaulic colonies in Ireland, before the Christian era; for which, however, there is no historical foundation. The oldest authentic Irish records were written between the tenth and twelfth centuries; but some of them go back, with some consistency, as far as the Christian era. The early inhabitants of Ireland were evidently more barbarous than even those of Britain. In the fifth century Christianity was introduced among them by St. Patrick, a native of North Britain, who in his youth had been carried a captive into Ireland; but the new faith did not flourish until a century or two later; and it appears that, even then, the learning of the Irish clergy did not extend beyond the walls of the monasteries. In the ninth and tenth centuries the Danes made themselves masters of the greater part of the coasts of the island, while the interior, divided among a number of barbarous and hostile chiefs, was agitated by internal wars, which no sense of common dangers could interrupt. In the early part of the eleventh century, Brian Boru, king of Munster, united the greater part of the island under his sceptre, and expelled the Danes; but soon after his death, A. D. 1014, the kingdom was again divided; and sanguinary wars continued to rage between opposing princes until the invasion by Henry II. of England, in the year 1169. So early as 1155 Henry had projected the conquest of Ireland, and had obtained from pope Adrian IV. full permission to invade and subdue the Irish, for the purpose of reforming them. The grant was accompanied by a stipulation for the payment to St. Peter, of a penny annually from every house in Ireland,—this being the price for which the independence of the Irish people was coolly bartered away. Henry, however, conquered only the four counties Dublin, Meath, Louth, and Kildare, being a part of Leinster, on the eastern coast. In 1315 Edward Bruce, brother of the king of Scotland, being invited over by the Irish, landed in Ireland, and caused himself to be proclaimed king; but not being well supported, he was finally defeated and killed in the battle of Dundalk, in the year 1318, after which the Scotch forces were withdrawn. It was not until the time of Cromwell that English supremacy was fully established in every part of the island. (Map No. XVI.)

reign of this famous knight is chiefly signalized by his deeds in Palestine, and is of little importance in English history.

11. Richard was succeeded by his profligate brother John, surnamed Lackland. (A. D. 1199.) In a long struggle with Philip Augustus of France, John lost most of his continental possessions: by stripping the church of its treasures he made the pope his enemy; and after a vain attempt to brave the storm of his vengeance, he made a cowardly submission, swore allegiance to the pope, and agreed to hold his kingdom tributary to the holy see. The barons, provoked by the tyranny and vices of their sovereign, next took up arms against him: they received with indignation the pope's declaration in favor of his vassal,—took possession of London,—and finally compelled the king to yield to their demands, and to sign the *Magna Charta*, or Great Charter of rights and liberties, which laid the first permanent foundation of British freedom.^a John attempted to annul the conditions imposed, and, being absolved by the pope from the oath which he had taken to the barons, he collected an army of mercenary soldiers from Germany, and proceeded to lay waste the kingdom; but the barons proffered the crown to Louis, the eldest son of the French monarch, who came over with a large army to enforce his claims, when the sudden death of John arrested impending dangers, and prevented England from becoming a province of France.

12. On the death of John, his eldest son, Henry III., then in the tenth year of his age, was acknowledged king by the nobility and the people. Henry was a weak and fickle sovereign; and during his long reign of more than half a century, the country was agitated by internal commotions, caused by the king's prodigality, favoritism, oppressive exactions, and continual violation of the people's rights in direct opposition to the principles of the Great Charter. Again the barons resisted, and called a parliament, when the king was virtually deposed. (A. D. 1258.) An attempt to regain his authority led to all the horrors of civil war. In another parliament, called by the barons, (A. D. 1265,) and embracing delegates from the counties, cities, and boroughs, we find the first germs of popular representation in England; and although, eventually, the baronial party, whose tyranny was found scarcely less than that of the king, was overthrown, yet their incautious innovation had already laid the basis of the future House of Commons.

a. The Great Charter was signed on the 19th of June, 1215, at Runnymede, on the Thames, between Staines and Windsor.

13. Henry was succeeded by his son, Edward I., who, at the time of his father's death, was absent on the last crusade to the Holy Land. (A. D. 1272.) The active and splendid reign of this prince, who left behind him the character of a great statesman and commander, was mostly occupied with the attempt to unite the whole of Great Britain under one sovereignty. When Llewellyn, prince of

IV. SUBJUGATION OF WALES. Wales,¹ refused to perform the customary homage to the English crown, Edward declared war against him, overran the country, and subdued it, after a brave resistance. (1277—1283.)

14. The remainder of Edward's reign was filled with attempts to subjugate Scotland, to which country the English monarch laid claim as lord paramount, by the rights of fealty and succession. A Scotch king, taken prisoner by Henry II., had been compelled, as the price of his release, to do homage for his crown; and the same had been demanded of later princes, in return for lands which they held in England. By the death of Alexander III. of Scotland, in the year 1283, the crown devolved on his grand daughter the princess Margaret, who was a niece of Edward I. of England. This lady was soon after affianced to Edward's only son, the prince of Wales; and thus the prospect of uniting the crowns of the two kingdoms seemed near at hand, when the frail bond of union was suddenly destroyed by the untimely death of the princess.

15. The two principal Scotch competitors for the crown were now John Baliol and Robert Bruce, who agreed to submit their claims to the decision of Edward. The latter decided in favor of Baliol, on condition of his becoming a vassal of the English king. (A. D. 1292.)

1. *Wales*, anciently called *Cambria*, a principality in the west of Great Britain, having on the north and west the Irish Sea, and on the south and south-west Bristol Channel, is about one hundred and fifty miles in length from north to south, and from fifty to eighty in breadth. The Welsh are descendants of the ancient Britons, who, being driven out of England by the Anglo-Saxons, took refuge in the mountain fastnesses of Wales, or fled to the continent of Europe, where they gave their name to Brittany. In the ninth century Wales was divided into three sovereignties, North Wales, South Wales, and the intermediate district called Powis,—the reigning princes of which were held together by some loose ties of confederacy. In the year 933 the English king Athelstan compelled the Welsh principalities to become his tributaries; and upon the treaty then concluded with them, founded on the feudal relation of lord and vassal, the Normans based their claim of lordship paramount over all Wales. During the eleventh and twelfth centuries, South Wales was the scene of frequent contests between the Welsh and Normans. When Edward I. claimed feudal homage of Llewellyn, the duty of fealty was acknowledged by the latter; but he was unwilling, by going to London, to place himself in the power of a monarch who had recently violated a treaty with him; and hence arose a war which resulted in the death of Llewellyn, and the subjugation of his country. A. D. 1282-5. (*Map No. XVI.*)

The impatient temper of Baliol could not brook the humiliating acts of vassalage required of him; and when war broke out between France and England, he refused military aid to the latter, and concluded a treaty of alliance with the French monarch. (A. D. 1292.) War between England and Scotland followed; and Baliol, after a brief resistance, being defeated in the great battle of Dunbar,¹ was forced to make submission to Edward in terms of abject supplication. The victor returned to London, carrying with him not only the Scottish crown and sceptre, but also the sacred stone on which the Scottish monarchs were placed when they received the royal inauguration. (A. D. 1296.)

16. Scarcely, however, had Edward crossed the frontiers, when the Scots reasserted their independence, and under the brave Sir William Wallace, a man of obscure birth, but worthy to be ranked among the foremost of patriots, defeated the English at Stirling,² and recovered the whole of Scotland as rapidly as it had been lost. Again Edward advanced, at the head of a gallant muster of all the English chivalry, and the Scots were defeated at Falkirk.³ (A. D. 1298.) The adherents of Wallace mutinied against him; and a few years later the hero of Scotland was treacherously betrayed into the hands of Edward, and being condemned for the pretended crime of treason, was infamously executed, to the lasting dishonor of the English king. (A. D. 1305.)

17. The cause of Scottish freedom was revived by Robert Bruce, grandson of the Bruce who had been competitor for the throne against Baliol. In the spring of the year 1306 he was crowned king at Seone⁴ by the revolted barons. In the following year, Ed-

1. *Dunbar* is a seaport of Scotland, twenty-seven miles north-east from Edinburgh. The ancient castle of Dunbar, the scene of many warlike exploits, stood on a lofty rock, the base of which was washed by the sea. It was taken by Edward I. in 1296;—four times it received within its walls the unfortunate Queen Mary;—and it was in the vicinity of Dunbar that Cromwell defeated the Scots under General Leslie, in 1650. (*Map No. XVI.*)

2. *Stirling* is a river port and fortress of Scotland, on the Forth, thirty miles north-west from Edinburgh. Its fine old castle is placed on a basaltic rock, rising abruptly three hundred feet from the river's edge. (*Map No. XVI.*)

3. *Falkirk* is an ancient town of Scotland, twenty-two miles north-west from Edinburgh, and three miles south of the Frith of Forth. In the valley, a little north of the town, the Scotch, under Wallace, were defeated on the 22d of July, 1298. In this battle fell Sir John Stewart, the commander of the Scottish archers, and Sir John the Grahame, the bosom friend of Wallace. The tomb of Grahame, which the gratitude of his countrymen has thrice renewed, is to be seen in the churchyard of Falkirk. On a moor, half a mile south-west from the town, Charles Stuart, the Pretender, gained a victory over the royal army in 1746. (*Map No. XVI. F.*)

4. *Seone*, now a small village of Scotland, is a little above Perth, on the river Tay, eighteen miles west from Dundee, and thirty-five north-west from Edinburgh. It was formerly the real-

ward, assembling a mighty army, to render resistance hopeless, took the field against him, but he died on his march, and the expedition was abandoned by his son and successor, Edward II., in opposition to the dying injunctions of his father. (A. D. 1307.) Still the war continued, and the Scotch were generally successful; but after seven years Edward himself marched against the rebels at the head of more than a hundred thousand men; but being met by Bruce at the head of little more than a third of that number, he experienced a total defeat in the battle of 'Bannockburn,' which established the independence of Scotland. (A. D. June 24th, 1314.)

18. The northern nations of Europe, during the tenth, eleventh, twelfth, and thirteenth centuries, were much less advanced in civilization than those which sprung from the wrecks of the Roman empire; and their obscure annals offer little to our notice but the germs of rude kingdoms in the early stages of formation. In the south-west of Europe, the wars between the Moors and Christians of the Spanish peninsula had already continued during a period of more than five centuries, with ever-varying results; but the overthrow of the Western caliphate of Cordova, in the year 1030, followed by the dismemberment of the Moham'edan empire of Spain, into several independent States, (A. D. 1238,) struck a fatal blow at the Saracen dominion. But, unfortunately, the Christian provinces also were little united, and it was not uncommon for the Christian princes to form alliances with the Moors against one another. The founding of the Moorish kingdom of Granada, in 1238, for a time delayed the fall of the Moslems; but the Christians gradually extended their power, until, near the close of the fifteenth century, Granada yielded to the torrent that had long been setting against it, and with its fall the supremacy of the Christian faith and power was acknowledged throughout the peninsula.^a

dence of the Scottish kings—the place of their coronation—and has been the scene of many historical events. The remains of its ancient palace are incorporated with the mansion of the earl of Mansfield. (Map No. XVI.)

1. *Bannockburn*, the name of which is inseparably connected with one of the most memorable events in British history, is three miles south-west from Stirling. About one mile west from the village James III. was defeated in 1468, by his rebellious subjects and his son James IV., and, after being wounded in the engagement, was assassinated at a mill in the vicinity. (Map No. XVI.)

a. See next Section, pp. 317-18, and Notes.

SECTION III

GENERAL HISTORY DURING THE FOURTEENTH AND FIFTEENTH CENTURIES.

I. ENGLAND AND FRANCE DURING THE FOURTEENTH AND FIFTEENTH CENTURIES.

ANALYSIS. 1. Continuation of the histories of France and England.—2. Defeat of Edward II. in the battle of Bannockburn. Edward offends the barons. [Gascony.] The Great Charter confirmed, and annual parliaments ordained.—3. Rebellion of the barons, and death of Edward I. Reign of Edward III. Invasion of Scotland. [Halidon Hill.]

FRENCH AND ENGLISH WARS.—4. Edward disputes the succession to the throne of France. Invasion of France, and battle of Cressy. [Cressy.] Defeat of the Scots, and capture of Calais. [Durham. Calais.]—5. Renewal of the war with France, and victory of Poitiers. (1356.) Anarchy in France. Treaty of Bretigny. The conquered territory. [Bretigny. Aquitaine. Bordeaux.]—6. Renewal of the war with France in 1368. Relative condition of the two powers. The French recover their provinces. [Bayonne. Brest, and Cherbourg.]—7. Death of Edward III. of England, and Charles V. of France. The distractions that followed in both kingdoms. [Orleans. Lancaster. Gloucester.] Wat Tyler's insurrection. [Blackheath.]—8. Character of Richard II. He is deposed, and succeeded by Henry IV. (1399.) The legal claimant. Origin of the contentions between the houses of York and Lancaster.—9. Insurrection against Henry. [Shrewsbury.]—10. Accession of Henry V., and happy change in his character. He invades France, and defeats the French in the battle of Agincourt.—11. Civil war in France, and return of Henry. The treaty with the Burgundian faction. Opposition of the Orleans party. [The States General. The dauphin.]—12. The infant king of the English, Henry VI., and the French king Charles VII. Joan of Arc. Her declared mission.—13. Successes of the French, and fate of Joan.—14. The English gradually lose all their continental possessions, except Calais. Tranquillity in France.

15. Unpopularity of the reigning English family. Popular insurrection. Beginning of the wars of the Two Roses. [St. Albans.]—16. Sanguinary character of the strife. First period of the war closes with the accession of Edward IV., of the house of York.—17. The French king. The reign of Edward IV. The earl of Warwick. Overthrow of the Lancastrians. The fate of Margaret, her son, and the late king Henry IV. [Warwick. Tewkesbury.]—18. The cotemporary reign of Louis XI. of France. The relations of Edward and Louis.—19. Fate of Edward V., and accession of Richard III. Defeat and death of Richard, and end of the "Wars of the Two Roses." [Richmond. Bosworth.]

20. REIGN OF HENRY VII. The impostors Simnel and Warbeck. [Dublin.]—21. Treaties with France and Scotland. The Scottish marriage.—22. Why the reign of Henry VII. is an important epoch in English history.

II. OTHER NATIONS AT THE CLOSE OF THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY.

1. DENMARK, SWEDEN AND NORWAY. Union of Calmar. [Calmar.]

2. THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE. Its early history. [Dnieper. Novogorod.] Divisions of the kingdom in the eleventh century.—3. Tartar invasions. The reign of John III. duke of Moscow. Russia at the end of the fifteenth century.—4. Founding of the OTTOMAN EMPIRE, on the ruins of the Eastern or Greek empire. [Emir.] The Turkish empire at the close of the fourteenth century. The sultan Bajazet overthrown by Tamerlane.—5. THE TARTAR EMPIRE OF TAMERLANE. Defeat of the Turks. Turks and Christians unite against the Tartars. Death of Tamerlane. [Samarcand. Angora.]—6. Taking of Constantinople by the Turks, and extinction of the Eastern empire.

7. POLAND. Commencement and early history of Poland. Extent of the kingdom at the close of the fifteenth century. [Poland. Lithuania. Teutonic knights. Moldavia.]—8. THE GERMAN EMPIRE at the close of the fifteenth century. Elective monarchs.—9. Causes that render the history of Germany exceedingly complicated. The three powerful States of Germany about the middle of the fourteenth century. [Luxemburg. Bohemia. Moravia. Silesia.]